

Alta Community Library Board Minutes from February 12, 2026 Meeting

Call to Order by Board President, Bruce Hinkeldey at 5:15 p.m.

Present: Director - Gigi Nelson, Board Members - Bruce Hinkeldey, Colleen Carlson-Konop and Willa Casstevens (by phone), Carol Lichtenberg

Absent: Anna Garcia, Anne Iehl, Colleen Schwanz - Board Members

Visitors: Pam Henderson - City Council, Lorinda Peterson, - Steering Committee Member, Laura Milliard - City Council Member, Desi Suter - Mayor, City of Alta

The agenda was unanimously approved following a motion by Carol Lichtenberg and seconded by Colleen Carlson-Konop.

Library Relocation Discussion covered the following items -

1. Bruce reported that the letters have gone out inviting potential Fundraising Committee (Friends of the Alta Community Library) members. All members of the public are welcome. Tim Moerman (Beck Engineering employee who works with communities to secure funds for projects) will be there. Lorinda has agreed to co-chair this committee and we will keep looking for another person or two. Possible fundraising activities mentioned were: Research and apply for Grants, Corporate Donations, Bank Donations, Alumni Donations.
2. With the council members and mayor in attendance it was again verified that there is no plan to move or seek a different location for a new library. The council will make this statement and look into having a sign showing the vision for the library and veterans memorial park put up at the park location.

Gigi led a discussion of the COULD section of the book that the board is reading and reviewing as a Board Education activity. In March we will discuss the Should section of the book "Could, Should, Might, Don't".

The January Board Minutes were approved following a motion by Colleen Carlson-Konop and seconded by Carol Lichtenberg. Willa Casstevens abstained as she was attending by phone.

The January Statistical Reports were reviewed and accepted. The numbers were consistent and up slightly for usage in January even with days closed due to weather. Gig noted that the STEAM programs are getting more popular.

The Revenue and Expense Reports were reviewed. The budget vs. expenses is still on track for the fiscal year showing about 41-42% of the budget dollars remaining. Gigi will attempt to get a dollar figure for the library's insurance cost from Lindsay Brown, City Clerk.

The January bills were reviewed and approved following a motion by Colleen Carlson-Konop and seconded by Carol Lichtenberg.

Old Business:

The FY27 Budget that was passed at the January meeting is awaiting approval by the City Council. Gigi passed out a copy of the Staff Positions and Salaries from the Policy Manual. After some discussion, it was proposed that the salary range for the Clerk and Page positions be updated. Currently the Clerk position range was set at \$10-\$13 per hour and Page position range was set at \$8-\$10 per hour. On a motion by Colleen Carlson-Konop and seconded by Carol Lichtenberg a new range for the Clerk position will be \$10-\$15 per hour and the range for the Page position will be \$8-\$12 per hour.

Laura Turnquist passed out the rough draft of the June and July library activities calendar. Programs are scheduled for almost every day of the week. These finalized calendars will go home with the Elementary students before the end of the school year. The Summer Program Kick-Off will be on Friday May 29th from 4:30-6:00 p.m.

New Business:

The director's report and City Council report was reviewed. Gigi also passed out notes from the various Iowa Library Online classes that she participated in.

Gigi asked the Board to review the Alta Community Library 2026-2029 Strategic Plan and let her know of any changes or corrections prior to the March meeting. This will be on the agenda for formal approval.

Gigi has received paperwork regarding a one time donation for our library of a Beneficiary Distribution from the Norma Jean Warner Revocable Trust. This donation was made to many smaller libraries in Iowa. Bruce and Gigi will complete the necessary paperwork for this.

Some discussion was held about some proposed legislation for Iowa libraries which would "police" the books that younger children are allowed to access in the public library and also some legislation that would mandate a clear separation from a school and public library.

The next regular monthly Board meeting will be at 5:15 p.m. on Thursday, March 12, 2026.

Following a motion by Willa Casstevens and seconded by Colleen Carlson-Konop, the meeting was adjourned.