



Meeting Minutes
RIDGWAY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting
Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.
Ridgway Public Library
300 Charles Street

Roll Call: Trustees in attendance: Julie Duff, Alison Etheridge, Jared Coburn, Julie Herrmann, Sally Trapp, Library Director: Amy Baer
Absent: Dee Moore, Heather Patterson

Approval of Prior Minutes: from September 11, 2025 meeting, Julie Herrmann motioned to approve, seconded by Jared Coburn. All in favor.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.

Public Comments: None

Friends of the Library Update: Next meeting potentially scheduled for October 15, 2025 at 3:30 p.m. Amy will inform of any changes. There was discussion regarding ordering tote bags to sell and gift to library volunteers. Heather Patterson is looking into a canvas tote bag. More discussion at a future meeting.

Highlighted Topic:

- **Reading & Discussion Group to start on Tues Oct 14th. This will be a monthly event on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.**
 - **Lunchtime Book Club to start Thursday Nov 20th discussing The Correspondent. This will be a monthly event on the 3rd Thursday of the month.**
- Both events are being hosted by volunteers.**

Action and Discussion Items:

1. Three trustee term renewals to end in 2025. Heather Patterson, Julie Duff and Alison Etheridge terms all have agreed to serve another three-year term.
2. Julie Duff Presented the 2026 Budget for the Ridgway Public Library

- Sally opened up discussion for public comment. No public in attendance. No written comments from the public were received. The public was notified of the budget presentation through the bulletin board, Ridgway Library website and the local paper.
 - Thorough discussion of each line item in the budget identified opportunities for continued progress in adult programming, updating AV equipment for meeting rooms and a training workshop for the Library Board of Trustees to develop a 5-10 year strategic plan for the library.
3. 2025 Board, Director and Library Goals were reviewed. Most goals have been accomplished. A few in process will move forward into 2026.
 4. Executive Session 24-6-402(4) (f) C.R.S. personnel matter regarding annual evaluation of the executive director.

Treasurers Report

Budget update for 2025 was presented by Julie Duff.

Director's Report - Amy Baer

Statistic Highlights: patron visits and new cards remain high for the month of September. We did issue a number of cards to HS students. Our items pulled for the courier have gone back up with courier service 4 & 5 days a week. Total circulation of items at RPL is looking good with a nice balance of adult and children, YA items, even periodicals have remained high. Lego Club & Craft Time remain our highest programming numbers.

Fall upcoming activities and collaborations:

On-site adult activities will continue to include Mahjong on Tuesdays, Tech Help on Thursdays will resume November 13th. We had our first sewing classes on the first Thursday in October and offering a mending class on Thursday October 16th. Sewing classes will continue through the winter months.

A Hannah Arendt Reading Group will begin meeting on the second Tuesday of the month starting next week (Oct. 14th from 2:00-3:30 pm). A volunteer has expressed interest to begin this discussion group and the library will offer a meeting room as well as books to help with his endeavor.

A community lunch book club will begin the 3rd Thursday each month starting on November 20th from 12:00-1:00 pm. The first selection is The correspondent by Virginia Evans. We have copies of the book to pick up and borrow at the circulation desk.

The 9th and 10th grade English classes have BINGO cards from class which they have been informed can earn them prizes at the library. This opportunity will be offered through Thanksgiving Break.

Children's programming for homework club and chess club both have resumed on Mondays. Notices to the school have been sent as reminders to parents regarding these programs.

We will continue working with school teachers offering to visit or gather books for classroom projects or topics upon request.

Off-site collaborations: Kevin Fedarko event with the Sherbino was successful. The library is supporting the Ridgway Film Club, which hosts movies at the Decker Building as they needed funds to use the space. They have a volunteer to host and direct the movie nights. We have posted the event flyer on our library bulletin board, which includes the FORL logo. The library purchased two book titles (10 books total) to give away during RIFF.

The library will be collaborating with the food bank to gather socks for adults and socks and hats for children and teens. This endeavor will begin on Monday, Nov. 3rd. We will also have angel ornaments from Ouray County Cares which helps families and individuals in need during the holidays.

Future Agenda Items

- Review Mission Statement (coincide with strategic plan)
- Staff Appreciation - December
- Tech Update - Alison

Motion to adjourn at 12:30 p.m. by Jared Cobern and Sally Trapp seconded the motion.

Adjournment

The Board reserves the right to add or delete items of business and to change the order of business as needed. The Board welcomes public participation in the meetings. If specific accommodations are needed, please contact the Director, Amy Baer, (970)626-5252 or email abaer@ridgwaycolibrary.org at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.