



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2026 – 6:00 PM Regular Meeting
Washougal Community Center
1681 C Street
Washougal, WA 98671
Hybrid/In-Person

Megan Dugan, *Chair*, City of Vancouver
Marie Coffey, *Vice Chair/Secretary*, Clark County At-Large
Kristy Morgan, Clark County At-Large
Vacant, Skamania County
Vacant, City of Vancouver
Olga Hodges, Klickitat County
Irina Kakorina, Clark County At-Large

Present Board: Megan Dugan, Irina Kakorina (remote), Kristy Morgan

Absent: Marie Coffey, Olga Hodges

Present Staff: Jennifer Giltrop, Executive Director; Catrina Galicz, Finance Director (remote); Andrea Scherer, Human Resources Director; Alicia Gomori, Deputy Director; Miranda Holtmann, Executive Assistant; Lucien Kress, IT Director; Jason Reetz, Facilities and Fleet Director; Brett Auger, Strategic Initiatives and Public Records Officer; Zoe Nash, Branch Manager, Washougal Community Library

Remote Access: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88394696272> • Meeting ID: 883 9469 6272 • Passcode: 765500

Fort Vancouver Regional Library Business Meeting Minutes

AGENDA:

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Chair Dugan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **AGENDA APPROVAL** – At 6:00 p.m. Trustee Morgan made a motion to approve the agenda. Trustee Kakorina seconded. Motion approved with 3 out of 3 votes.
3. **CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Chair Dugan recognized National Library Week and expressed appreciation for the FVRL Library staff on behalf of the Board of Trustees.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – At 6:02 p.m. public comments began with the following speakers;
 - Kristen Buehner of Vancouver made a public comment about the new open hours.
 - Jamie Bair of Vancouver made a public comment about Board of Trustees conduct.
 - Quill Onstead of Portland made a public comment about drag queen story hour.
 - Jean Kent of Vancouver made a public comment about the commitment of Trustees.
 - Stephanie Sanchez of Vancouver made a public comment about the commitment of Trustees.
 - Dijana Katan of Vancouver made a public comment about the Strategic Plan.
 - Margo Logan of Portland made a public comment about donations and thanking Trustees.
 - Nancy Potter of Clark County made a public comment about thanking everyone for the support for the new Washougal library.
 - Jonna Hudson of Washougal made a public comment about the Friends of the Washougal Library.
 - Ann Bauer of Vancouver made a public comment about the Vancouver Mall Library.
 - Gary Wilson of Clark County made a public comment about Library Services and the Strategic Plan.
 - Marla Koch of Clark County made a public comment about libraries, the board and equity.
5. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**– At 6:25 p.m. Trustee Morgan made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Kakorina seconded. Motion approved with 3 out of 3 votes.
6. **REPORTS**
 - 6.1. **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS** – At 6:26 p.m. Catrina Galicz presented the financials for the month ending February 2026.

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Library locations: Battle Ground, Cascade Park, Goldendale, La Center, North Bonneville, Ridgefield, Stevenson, Three Creeks, Vancouver, Vancouver Mall, Washougal, White Salmon Valley, Woodland, Yacolt, Yale



Statement of Cash: Galicz highlighted that cash is going notably down, as expenses through February are outpacing revenues. This is to be expected at the beginning of every year as revenues from taxes come in April and October. With total cash at just under \$14 million, cash reserve expectations are being met.

Statement of Revenue: Galicz reported that property taxes have just barely been collected at 1%, as expected based on timing. Other revenues are meeting or exceeding expectations at 16% of the year's budget. The Other Taxes, Grants and Contracts line items are still at zero due to the timing of those contracts and when those revenues come in. Galicz highlighted the Miscellaneous revenue line item under Gifts and Contributions which reflects a \$20,000 unexpected gift to be used for capital projects. Giltrop provided more information about the Carnegie Foundation's gift which was made to every Carnegie Library in the nation in honor of the United States 250th anniversary.

Statement of Expenses: Galicz noted that generally expenses are trending as expected at this stage of the year with a couple of exceptions. In the Other Services and Charges section, the line item of Professional Services are at 21% in February based on some expenses paid in January, including but not limited to, the final payment of the strategic and master facilities plan professional service payment. The Intergovernmental Services line item is for the election costs for the levy lid lift. In 2026 FVRL will pay for Clark, Klickitat and Skamania Counties and those payments sit at 84%. In Capital Outlay, Galicz highlighted that \$162,000 of the \$173,000 expended in February is related to the Computer Room Air Conditioner (CRAC) units from the server room fire in July at the Vancouver Community Library. Galicz added that most of the insurance funding from that fire was received in 2025 to a revenue/expense mismatch on 2026 reports. Finally, Galicz noted the \$81,000 expended under Machinery and Equipment which reflects the purchase of two Subarus, as planned.

RECEIVE AND FILE FEBRUARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – At 6:34 p.m. Trustee Morgan made a motion to approve receiving and filing the February 2026 financial statements. Trustee Kakorina seconded. Motion approved with 3 out of 3 votes.

6.2. ORGANIZATIONAL REPORT – At 6:35 p.m. Alicia Gomori and Jennifer Giltrop were invited to present the Organizational Report. Giltrop opened by introducing the Board to Brett Auger, the new Strategic Initiatives and Public Records Officer. Gomori then presented the report which included the following highlights:

- **Battle Ground Community Library's** Kids Book Club read *Planet Omar – Accidental Trouble Magnet* and the kids found London and Pakistan on a globe and made Picasso-style art like the character in the book.
- **Goldendale Community Library's** Teen Hangout did a series Intro to Fiero Code, an online resource to FVRL card holders where students can learn to code and build websites.
- Kids at **La Center Community Library** watched a video about birds and made their own nests.
- Volunteers from Skamania County Sheriff's Search and Rescue gave a presentation at **Stevenson Community Library** about safely hiking in the gorge. The presentation was hybrid so they were able to get their message out to people from out of town interested in hiking in the area.
- **Three Creeks Community Library** held evening storytimes while the meeting rooms were being used heavily for patron tax preparation help. The evening storytimes were very well received, with the pajama storytime especially popular.
- **Woodland Community Library** successfully launched their seed library.
- The Red Cross hosted a program teaching kids about fire prevention at **Yale Valley Community Library**.
- **The Programming and Outreach Division** held Reading in Action at Isabella Court, an affordable housing apartment complex in Vancouver. The department also just refreshed the Read While You Wait

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bins, which provides books and activities at public places where one might find themselves waiting for long periods with children.

Giltrop added that the Reading and Action and Read While You Wait are programs funded by the Foundation and thanked the Foundation for their support. Giltrop added to Gomori's report the following events and updates;

- It's national Volunteer Month and two volunteer appreciation receptions were held, one in Stevenson and one in Vancouver, with support from the Foundation and Friends. In 2025, 862 people contributed close to 38,000 hours of time. Giltrop thanked Volunteer Services Coordinator Sherry Bragga for her work with the volunteers.
- Giltrop noted that it's also National Library Week and outlined the different ways to celebrate the many ways libraries bring meaning, connection, and inspiration to people's lives. From the freedom to read, to recognizing the contribution of library workers, to encouraging advocacy for libraries in the community, every day of National Library Week offers a way to celebrate the important role of libraries.
- Two new board members are in the process of their appointments; Richard Mahar from Skamania County for position 3, and Jaynee Cavaness from Vancouver for position 5.
- The new Washougal library building has completed the design development phase and are finishing up the re-costing of the project with the estimate of \$19.5 million. With the private giving from Foundation and the Friends of the Library groups, state grants, and philanthropy, the gap is closing towards having it all paid for. A community information session will be held on June 17 at the Washougal Community Center where more information will be presented including displays by the architects.
- The 2026 Community Reads book is *Tilt* by Emma Patee. Author events will be held in all three counties; May 6 in White Salmon, May 7 in Stevenson, and May 13 in the Vancouver Community Library. Stevenson Community Library will also have earthquake related programming related to the topic of the book.
- FRVL is participating for the first time in One Book, One Coast, a program where more than a hundred library systems across the west coast read a book and host a livestream author event. The book is George Takei's *They Called us the Enemy* which is available in print and digital format.
- Friends of the Washougal Library are hosting a night of story, song, and community on Thursday, April 30 from 6 – 8 p.m. This is a fun way to both fundraise for the library while celebrating the talent in our community.

6.3. BRANCH REPORT: WASHOUGAL COMMUNITY LIBRARY – At 6:50 p.m. Branch Manager Zoe Nash provided an update on library activities around the Washougal Community Library. In 2025 the library had 45,000 visitors, circulated over 83,000 items, and held 223 programs with 2,500 attendees. The library offers a variety of programming for youth and adults that foster imagination, creativity and offer inclusion. Nash relayed stories illustrating how the library offers an inclusive community space where everyone feels welcome and safe to make new connections. Popular programs such as the Creature Teacher Reptile Show for Summer at Your library and the Hula Ice Cream Social for the 75th Anniversary stood out with exceptional participation. The library attended over 70 events in the community and engaged with over 1,700 people in 2025. Nash highlighted how the Spanish Speaking Family Night showcased how excited kids and parents were to have the library come to school and offer books in Spanish. Nash recognized the dedicated work of the Friends of the Washougal Community Library, thanking them for their fundraising efforts and raising awareness about the library. Nash closed her report by highlighting the seed library, which is in its eighth year. The seed library was a response to a community need and its popularity has grown exponentially every year.

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7. BUSINESS

7.1. FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Staff Report 2026-08: Vancouver Community Library Deck Project – At 7:00 p.m. Jennifer Giltrop presented the staff report outlining the Vancouver Community Library’s deck replacement and structural upgrade. This project to replace the fifth-floor deck at the library has been discussed for over two years. Age (the building is now 15 years old) and the construction of the deck with joists spaced 2’ apart have caused sagging and tripping hazards. The project will involve removing the boards and rebuilding the understructure with the joists properly spaced and using materials that work better for the rainy climate. A formal invitation to bid was released, bids were reviewed and the lowest and most responsive bidder is Tikka Inc. \$750,000 was budgeted for the project, which the bid came under at \$491,300. There is a resolution before the board requesting authority to negotiate a contract over \$350,000.

The board asked when the work is estimated to begin and when it is expected to be completed. Jason Reetz, Facilities and Fleet Director was invited to answer. Staff anticipate work to begin in mid-June and be done by the end of July.

7.2 Resolution 2026-04: Authority to Negotiate a Contract for Vancouver Community Library Deck Project At 7:03 p.m. Trustee Morgan made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-04: Authority to Negotiate a Contract for Vancouver Community Library Deck Project. Trustee Kakorina seconded. Motion approved with 3 out of 3 votes.

8. **BOARD COMMENT** - at 7:04 p.m. the Chair opened the floor for Board comments.

- Chair Dugan thanked Sherry Bragga for her enthusiasm and support for volunteers.

9. **SETTING FOR NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** Monday, May 18 at 6:00 p.m. at Stevenson Community Library. It will be a hybrid (in-person/online) meeting.

10. **ADJOURNMENT** – At 7:05 p.m. the chair adjourned the meeting.