

Director's notes for March

Grants: The library has a grant committee. It is made up of 3 ladies from the Foundation, Erica, and me. We are meeting on 3/11/26 to finalize a grant for Military Families. The grant will consist of the library purchasing books for Military families in four different age groups. The books will be displayed in the four areas of the library.

Athletes and Entertainers' funds: The Governor wants to cut the A&E from 4.5 million to 1.2 million. I have sent emails to Schmidt and Knight. I also took letters and hand-delivered them last Wednesday. This money is not in our budget, but it helps when we get the funds. We would go from around \$30,000 to just \$15,000.

Dates for meeting with Board, Foundation, and Friends: It is time for our meeting with everyone. It should be done in April. Let me know if there is a date that works for you. We can meet at 5:30, and I will get a room reserved. Light snacks will be provided.

Name Tags: This is something I would like for my Boards to have when we are out in the community. Bob and I wore ours to the Capitol. I feel they are a wonderful way for others to get to know us. How do you feel about this? I know the ones we wear in the library cost \$20.00 a piece. This is just an idea.

Website must be ADA-compliant by 2027: We had a meeting with Janet last week. This is the topic that was covered. We were given two names of companies that would review our website and make it ADA-compliant. We are having a 30 min meeting with our lawyer on 3/20/26. I will listen to the information Adam Sommer gives us. I will also reach out to the two companies to get the cost to be compliant. One of the things under Title II is words that should appear on pictures. People who are blind use an "alternative text" that reads to them.

Room Policies: Met with Christal twice since the last board meeting. One thing we want to change is to require people who pay for rooms to pay their fees before their event. This way, if they do not show up for their party, we will keep the money. People using our rooms must be ready to go 15 mins before we close. We are going to reach out to a company to see how much they would charge for room reservations. I have spoken to Christal. If the cost is around \$4,000, we will not be able to do the program because of the money we receive for our rooms.

Politics and Cole: We are facing times when we need someone to help us deal with politics. This is what Cole does. I have emailed him to ask him what the cost would be to represent our library. I know of three libraries that use him, and they are very pleased with him. As a director, I do not mind doing my job, but I must understand what a bill will do to our library.

Just an update if you want to include in numbers to board.

I've Cataloged about 381 items from Feb 1-March 10

And about 611 items for 2026.

Ally Dorris

Pam 428

Here's what I've got for February 2026:

Patron Visits

Route 66 Museum: 1,603

Outreach Numbers

Deliveries: 14

Books Delivered: 295

Events: 2

People Served: 450

Programming Numbers

Children's Events: 16

People Served: 226

Teen Events: 1

People Served: 13

Adult Events: 6

People Served: 443

Total Events: 23

Total People Served: 682

Erica Semsch

Inbound Ill's-1,233

Outbound Ill's-1,263

Number of Patrons that walked through the library doors- 6,229

Financials 2026

Museum Donation- \$96.03

Libby-

New Users-41

of items checked out on Libby- 2,902

of people that used meeting rooms- 985

Christal Haueter