

SCOTT COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025
NOON

The agenda for this meeting was posted in public in all Scott County Library System Libraries in accordance with Iowa law. President Kristal Koberg Schaefer called to order the November 20, 2025, meeting of the Scott County Library Board of Trustees at noon at the Eldridge branch.

Board of Trustees present: Dan True, Kevin Cahill, Kristal Koberg Schaefer, Linda Tuftee (zoom), Marty O'Boyle, Angie Ehlers, Shelli Engelbrecht (zoom), and Director Tricia Kane.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was reviewed and approved by Marty O'Boyle; seconded by Kevin Cahill. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes: Kevin Cahill moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Dan True. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills and Receipts: The Accounts Payable Report for the meeting of Scott County Board of Supervisors for 10/20/25 – 11/14/25 were reviewed and discussed. Dan True moved to approve the bills and receipts; seconded by Marty O'Boyle. Motion carried.

Review of the Circulation and Budget: October's circulation is up from last year. Digital usage is very high, especially the Library Speakers Consortium.

Correspondence: Fall ad in the *North Scott Press* included programming information.

Director's Report:

- The new AI-powered chat system has been deployed on the website. One benefit is that patrons can use this when the library is closed and get answers to their questions, rather than waiting for a staff member to respond. Tricia and Christine are working on this to make sure it is providing accurate answers.
- Eldridge Lions Club gifted us a \$350 donation – will be used for programming expenses.
- The Bookmobile has started visiting North Scott Junior High, and it will be out at Hometown Holiday in Eldridge on Friday, December 5th.
- Tricia held a staff meeting on October 30th, and the annual Staff Holiday Potluck will be on Tuesday, December 9th.
- There is a new store for Scott County Library System shirts and tote bags at <https://scottcountylibrarysystem.threadless.com/>. Threadless allows us to offer more designs and shirt styles. This is a fundraiser with a portion of the sales going to support programs and services. A huge thank you to Emily Haage and Jeraca Fite for all of their work on this!
- Tricia is working with Scott County IT on a computer replacement project for staff computers and those for public use. The county has a seven-year plan, so that when computers are purchased, we receive the best price and our units are up to date on standards (we are at around year 8 now). They plan to place an order in the upcoming months and will work to deploy them. This is a large-scale project, so the timeline has not

been set. Because our usage of public computers has declined, Tricia will be dropping the number that we have at each branch. Cost of this project is estimated at \$45,000. As we have talked about in the past, this amount has to come from our reserve accounts. In the spring, Tricia may try to secure some grant funding for the public computers.

New Business:

- Display Policy – we have redrafted the “Bulletin Board” section after last month’s public feedback. Kevin Cahill moved to change the section to say, “When bulletin boards are available at our locations, informational flyers/posters will be accepted from non-profit groups or from individuals/groups holding events at a Scott County Library location, provided the flyer/poster includes a prominent statement indicating that the event is not sponsored or hosted by the Scott County Library System....” Seconded by Shelli Engelbrecht. Motion carried.
- Public Library Association Conference – this conference will be held in Minneapolis in spring 2026 and is an excellent learning experience. Marty O’Boyle moved to register Tabatha Baker for the conference; seconded by Kevin Cahill. Motion carried.
- FY27 Budget – Discussion was held on setting the FY27 budget. Kevin Cahill moved to accept the budget of \$1,416,705 with the amount to be raised by the levy at \$1,283,779. This represents a 3.5% increase in the per capita rate. Seconded by Dan True. Motion carried.

Marty O’Boyle moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Angie Ehlers. Our next meeting will be Monday, January 26, 2026 at noon.

Respectfully Submitted,
Angie Ehlers