

Sainte Genevieve County Library
Open Meeting
Board of Trustees
January 12, 2026

Be it Remembered: An open meeting of the Sainte Genevieve County Library Board was called to order by Board President Jean Johnson on Monday, January 12, 2026 beginning at 12:00 p.m. at the Sainte Genevieve County Library located at 21388 Highway 32, Sainte Genevieve, MO 63670.

Roll Call: A quorum was established as Board President Jean Johnson, Vice-President Melissa Otto, Secretary Robert Bach, Treasurer Robin Reynolds, and Member-At-Large Cindy Nugent answered *aye* to a roll call vote. Library Executive Director Shawn Long was in attendance.

Approval of Agenda: Cindy Nugent made a motion to approve the agenda. Robin Reynolds voiced a second. All Board members present voted aye in a voice vote and the motion carried.

Public Comment: No member of the public was present.

Approval of Minutes: Melissa Otto made a motion to approve minutes from December's open and closed meetings. Cindy Nugent voiced a second. All Board members present voted aye in a voice vote and the motion carried.

Financial Report: Executive Director Shawn Long went over the Financial Reports and line items. Cindy Nugent made a motion to approve the Financial Report. Melissa Otto voiced a second. All Board members present voted aye in a voice vote and the motion carried.

Director's Report: Executive Director Shawn presented his Director's Report as follows;

Budget Approval: Director Long stated that he submitted a final library budget to the commissioners. Soon thereafter it became known that the salary increases approved by the library board for library executive employees at the December meeting had been removed. Extended discussion ensued and, after a robust and lengthy debate, future action was identified and shall unfold in a calculated sequence of events.

Little Free Libraries: Locations for this endeavor still need to be identified. The Catholic Church has respectfully declined a partnership but Director Long shall approach the fire districts seeking a potential liaison.

Prop 'L' Ballot & Future of Funding: This topic also received a robust and introspective discussion. Further examination of a disinterred Prop 'L' concluded that any attempt to seek a different outcome via a second vote would be met with equal disappointment. Thus, it was decided to postpone the political process for at least a year. Thinking futuristically, Director Long advocates the development of architectural plans for a new building that may be presented to voters later.

Library/YMCA Employee MOU: The document in question came with an attached job description. Director Long asked the board to read the documents and be able to discuss or advise.

YMCA Use Agreement/Limited Use Agreement: Director Long advised that the library is without any formal agreement with the YMCA or the county. He will forward anything he receives in this regard. The YMCA is allegedly working in this direction.

Library Concerns: Director Long introduced a thought process and the board listened, and agreed, to attach significance to a sequence of events that may see the library sever constraints questionably maintained by the county commission. This may be accomplished by the following *and more*: (1) a library employee shall take over library payroll, accounts receivables, accounts payable, etc., (2) the library shall seek required insurance coverage separate from the county, (3) the library shall forgo the county vehicle by obtaining one its own. The financial relationship that is current between the library and the commission would need to reach a new plateau. That in and of itself would require negotiation and sacrifice.

Upcoming Events: (1) Take your child to the Library Day on February 7th; (2) Rock and Roll Bingo on February 21st.

Grants: The library was unsuccessful at obtaining the Infinite Sums Rural Grant and the Small Libraries Cohort Grant. Director Long wrote a grant for three Nook Pods and the review process is ongoing.

Upcoming Training: MPLD in June; IPL Fundraising Conference in June; ARSL in September; ABOS in October; MPLD in December.

Terse discussion did revisit *Ageless Grace*, *Once Upon a Box*, and *Yours to Keep*.

Meeting Adjournment: There being no further business before the Board, Cindy Nugent made a motion to adjourn. Melissa Otto voiced a second. All board members present voted *aye* in a voice vote and the open meeting adjourned at 1:18 p.m. Next meeting is Monday, February 9, 2026 at noon.

Respectfully:

Jean Johnson
Board President
Sainte Genevieve County Library



Robert E. Bach
Board Secretary
Sainte Genevieve County Library