

DOUGLAS COUNTY LIBRARIES
Board of Trustees Business Meeting
August 26, 2026
Lone Tree Library, Lone Tree, CO

President Nolan called the business meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

This meeting was held and was noticed in compliance with both Colorado Open Meeting Law and the Douglas County Libraries (DCL) Bylaws.

The following were present:

TRUSTEES: Pam Hampton, John Kennedy, Terry Nolan, Zach McKinney, Amy Windju, and Ted Vail

A quorum was present.

STAFF: Bob Pasicznyuk, Casie Cook, Crystal Bustillos, and Patti Owen-DeLay

STAFF PRESENT NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE MEETING: Jill Corrente, Amber DeBerry, Amy Fischer, Laura Kennedy, Brandon Forman, Sterling Sylvester, Becky Spilver, Robb Luinstra, Robin Warnke

LONE TREE POLICE OFFICER: Sergeant James Nunn

PUBLIC: Keri Beaumont, Dawn Caldwell, Nancy Student, Todd Warnke, Gary Wachter, Lynne Wachter, Candace Head-Dylla, Kim Carroll, Jo Ann Fannon, Kerry Bowman, Kathy Dannemiller, Steve D., Emily Suyat, Betsy Holweger, Jessica Byassee, Kim Turnage, John Soo, Ruth Moline, Allyson Neville

PUBLIC COMMENT

Keri Beaumont – Douglas County resident. Cited Colorado law and library policies in favor of not removing items and keeping broad ideas available to all.

Nancy Student – Douglas County resident. Enjoyed the Sterling Ranch groundbreaking and appreciated the library. Cited the line from the book *A Love Letter to My Library* read at the groundbreaking, “Thank you for bringing stories that look just like me.”

Dawn Caldwell – Douglas County resident. Doesn’t want to see change or book restrictions. Encourages board to follow processes they have had in place for years.

Gary Wachter – Not a Douglas County resident. Lived in community for 26 years; his synagogue is in Highlands Ranch. Spoke against the book *You Are the Color* as being antisemitic. Referred to similar issue with Boulder Valley School District and how they handled it.

Lynne Wachter – Not a Douglas County resident. Reiterated the importance of looking at the techniques of books coming to young children in the library. This book [*You Are the Color*] is not appropriate for children.

Candace Head-Dylla – Douglas County resident. Understands the law and cases with the ACLU, and now the Supreme Court saying that libraries choosing books are being a matter of government statement. Petition with 38 signatures against the library having the book *You Are the Color*.

Kim Carroll – Douglas County resident. In favor of the library's processes and stance. Doesn't see that cases cited are relevant to Colorado law. Trusts the library to cultivate the collection. Parents are the arbitrators of what the kids read.

Jo Ann Fannon - Decided not to speak.

Ruth Moline – Douglas County resident. Appreciates the library. Families and parents make the decision about what children read or not. The library process should continue to be used as it is.

Allyson Neville – Douglas County resident. Wants parental decisions and intellectual freedom to be the choice. Believes that parents should support and cultivate empathy and decide when to have those conversations with their children.

ADDITION TO THE AGENDA – Temporary Construction License

Sterling Ranch reached out to Douglas County Libraries requesting a “temporary construction license” on the land donation property so that liability is with the library and contractor during construction, and not Sterling Ranch LLC, until the land is transferred. Closing is scheduled the week of August 31, 2026.

Motion 26-08-01: Vail moved and the motion carried unanimously to add the Temporary Construction License to tonight's agenda. McKinney seconded the motion.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes of June 24, 2026, Business Meeting
- Staff Day Closure 2027
- 2027 Board Meetings
- Ratification of Email Poll – Method to Receive Legal Advice re: Citizen Review Request *You Are the Color*
- Watson Resignation from the Library Board

MOTION 26-08-02: McKinney moved and the motion carried unanimously to approve the June 24, 2026, minutes noting that Hampton's absence was an excused absence, the 2027 Staff Day Closure, 2027 Board Meetings, ratification of the *You Are the Color* Email Poll for legal counsel advice, and Watson's resignation from the Library Board. Hampton seconded the motion.

LIBRARY BUSINESS

No one declared a conflict of interest on any of the action matters below.

2027 Budget Direction to Staff

Nolan prefaced that the board received information about the frame staff are using to build the 2027 budget during the Study Session earlier this evening. There was no other discussion.

Motion 26-08-03: Windju moved and the motion carried unanimously to approve the proposed budget boundaries for fiscal year 2027, as presented. These boundaries include estimated revenue of \$44,202,676, and expenses totaling \$53,421,123 with \$9,218,447 in expenditures funded through reserves. The budget framework supports the library's strategic priorities by maintaining and enhancing library collections, funding the Sterling Ranch library project, investing in our employees, and modernizing the Integrated Library System. Kennedy seconded the motion.

Consolidating Banking Relationships

Cook shared how over time the library has had a number of banking accounts and that those accounts, while once local, have been bought up by national chains. This motion is to simplify banking relationships.

Motion 26-08-04: Windju moved and the motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution #26-08-01, which authorizes the transfer of the banking relationship from SouthState to Wells Fargo, and further authorize library officers and designated staff to take all necessary actions to establish accounts, transfer funds, and services, update authorized signed, and complete all related documentation required to effect the transition. The transfer shall occur at a time determined to be in the best interest of the library and in a manner that ensures continuity of operations and appropriate financial controls. Hampton seconded the motion.

Value Proposition

Windju suggested some wording changes. Other members did not want to edit by committee but rather accept it as presented.

Motion 26-08-05: Vail moved and the motion carried unanimously to adopt the Value Proposition as presented. Windju seconded the motion.

Douglas County Libraries is a vibrant network of welcoming spaces where people at every stage of life can read, explore, learn, and connect. Through exceptional collections, engaging events and services, and knowledgeable staff, DCL creates premium library experiences that go beyond basic services to foster exploration, discovery, lifelong learning, and meaningful connections.

By combining broad access with personal support, DCL helps customers discover new ideas, build skills, find resources to move forward, and create meaningful connections. Every interaction is designed to support and inspire growth, enrich individual lives, and elevate the Douglas County community.

DCL Class I Foundation Director Appointment

Nolan stated that with Watson resigning, the representative position on the Douglas County Libraries Foundation board is open.

Motion 26-08-06: McKinney moved and the motion carried unanimously to appoint John “Chip” Kennedy as the Class I Foundation Director. Windju seconded the motion.

Xcel Easement for the Sterling Ranch Library Project

This motion is necessary to allow utility lines to be run on the property. The current easement agreement is with Sterling Ranch LLC as the landowner. The library will wait until next week when the landownership is transferred and then execute the easement.

Motion 26-08-07: McKinney moved and the motion carried unanimously to authorize Board President Nolan to execute the utility line easement with Xcel Energy (Public Service Company of Colorado) once the land transfer for the Sterling Ranch library land has closed (scheduled September 2, 2026) and the easement has been amended to reflect Douglas County Libraries as the “grantor.” Windju seconded the motion.

Temporary Construction License Agreement – added agenda item

Nolan shared that Sterling Ranch is concerned about their risk with the library doing construction on land that they still own. This document transfers that risk to the library as the one doing the work and ultimately owning the library. Pasicznyuk said that this is an issue of closing taking longer than expected.

Motion 26-08-08: Vail moved and the motion carried unanimously to authorize Executive Director Bob Pasicznyuk to execute the Temporary Construction License Agreement for the Sterling Ranch land donation. Kennedy seconded the motion.

Executive Library Director Update

Pasicznyuk shared that today is the third anniversary of our library opening in Castle Rock. Pasicznyuk is grateful for the support of the community and the ability to continue to expand facilities.

Numbers with the Key Performance Indicator report show engagement with the community, and we continue to see good retention with staff, higher than national averages.

Two big projects coming up in 2027 are the new Integrated Library System – this is the background system for all our checkouts and customer base. The second big project is the opening of the new library in Sterling Ranch.

Summer reading and camps were at capacity this summer.

Windju asked about the Roxborough Town Hall. Pasicznyuk shared that there were two: one at Louviers, with about 70 of the 200+ residents attending, and a similar event at Roxborough, with 17 attendees. These events were to share information about the

Library Facilities Master Plan and the new Sterling Ranch library. Many people like their local library and don't want to see it go away.

Windju wants to know the impact on staff, services, and attendance for Louviers and Roxborough. Pasicznyuk will include this in his September report to the board, for prior consideration before the board considers closing the Louviers and Roxborough libraries at their October 2026 Business Meeting.

PARTNER REPORTS

Douglas County Youth Initiative (DCYI)

Windju reported that DCYI meetings have been moved to the 4th Thursday of the month and are being held in Englewood (a swath of which is in Douglas County), with a virtual option, and the next meeting is tomorrow.

Partnership of Douglas County Governments

No meeting this month. Vail is excited to be working with staff in developing a strategy for informing the partnership about the library in 2027.

Douglas County Libraries Foundation

DeBerry reported on the Foundation's annual gala. Sponsorship goals have been exceeded. Only 10 tickets remain. She also noted that the largest campaign for fundraising, Colorado Gives Day, will start in early December.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

McKinney asked about the Liane Moriarty event that is coming up with attendance of 1,000. DeBerry shared that this is one of our big author events. There are still some tickets available.

McKinney asked about anything that can be done to get the Highlands Ranch library elevator complete. Pasicznyuk responded that a phone line now has to be replaced/upgraded and, hopefully, that will be the end of repairs, leaving only inspections to complete.

McKinney thought the groundbreaking went really well, and the library will be a crown jewel for the county.

Hampton asked if changing the name of the Sterling Ranch library to the Northwest Library has been considered. The board, by policy, has to make any name change, otherwise libraries are named for the community they reside in, unless the board acts.

Windju asked if attendance at the Colorado Library Association and CliftonStrengths training are in the budget. Pasicznyuk shared that they are in the 2026 budget and expanded on what is being done with staff training on CliftonStrengths.

Windju asked about the Special Meeting on September 16, 2026, for legal advice on the Citizen Review Request concerning the book *You Are the Color*. The Special Meeting is public, and then the board moves to go into private executive session, as allowed by Colorado Open Meeting Law, for advice of legal counsel.

Windju appreciated that interest income was higher than expected. Cook stated that the locked-in rates may sometimes give smaller yield but overall should give us better yield.

Nolan echoed that the groundbreaking was an excellent event.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- September 16, 2026, Board Special Meeting, Castle Pines Library, Castle Pines, CO, 5:30 p.m.
- September 17, 2026, Executive Committee Meeting, Castle Pines Library, Castle Pines, CO, 8:00 a.m.
- September 30, 2026, Lone Tree Library, Lone Tree, CO
 - Board Study Session, 4:00 p.m. (Dinner at 5:00 p.m.)
 - Board Business Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURN

Nolan adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Vail, Board Secretary

Minutes prepared by Patti Owen-DeLay

Approved September 16, 2026, Motion: 26-09-01SP