MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
LIBRARY BOARD

Chairperson – Georgia Knazovich - Wasilla	Karen Crandall – Big Lake	Sally Pollen - Palmer
Vice Chair – Kathy Kysar - Sutton	Mary Fischer - Talkeetna	Virginia Robson – Trapper Creek
Secretary – Chad Scott – At Large 1	Mark Spohn - Willow	Martha Kincaid – At Large 2

MEETING MINUTES

Talkeetna Public Library and Teams
Meeting ID: 289 421 144 590 Passcode: Zw9Cj63Y

REGULAR MEETING **1:00 PM** **SEPTEMBER 9, 2025**

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Called to order at 1:00 pm

II. ROLL CALL

A. Present: Georgia Knazovich, Kathy Kysar, Chad Scott, Mary Fischer, Mark Spohn, Virginia Robson, Karen Crandall @ 1:03 pm.

B. Absent: Sally Pollen, Martha Kincaid

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

A. Agenda approved unanimously

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. Pledge of Allegiance was conducted

V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

A. August 12, 2025 – Minutes approved unanimously

VI. STAFF REPORTS

A. Hugh Leslie – Recreation & Library Services Manager – Mr. Leslie thanked the board members for driving out to Talkeetna. He let the board know the budget calendar for FY27 will be provided at the next meeting and discussed the availability of notifications to parents from the library when a child checks out materials.

B. Librarians

1. Geri Denkewalter – Talkeetna Library – Ms. Denkewalter gave the summer reading statistics, they had their 10-year anniversary party and described some the building upgrades that had been done recently. This is library card month, breakfast book club starts 9/10, 100 books before Thanksgiving family reading event, there's a weekly spot on the radio station and other programs were described.
2. Zane Treesh – Wasilla Library – Mr. Treesh explained that the Wasilla City Council approved the Wasilla Library expansion, and they are able to put forth up to $1.3 million towards the project, he will be looking for other funding to help with this effort. He let the board know about their current job openings and gave circulation statistics. They have an open RFP for the RFID program and the Friends of the Wasilla Library are having a book sale.
3. Juli Buzby – Sutton Library – Ms. Buzby indicated that they had just finished an inventory of materials, and their school-year programming had begun. They will host a community garden harvest and potluck and the fiber arts group will begin meeting on Fridays.
4. Julie Mitchell – Willow Library – Ms. Mitchell explained that they are looking for mentors and mentees for the mentoring program that will begin in October and fall programs have begun to start.
5. Cassidy Drake – Big Lake Library – Ms. Drake explained that they too are starting their after school programming, they are having a STEAM take and make and other programs are ramping back up.

VII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – (3 Minutes Per Person)

A. Jeanne Troshynski – Ms. Troshynski thanked Talkeetna Library for hosting, spoke about last month's meeting minutes format and indicated that the letter of support for the LCAC should have had DRAFT across it since it was not approved yet. She gave a synopsis of the offerings from the Friends of the Wasilla Library at the library.

B. Ruth Wood – Ms. Wood spoke about the letter of support for the LCAC and the representation of district 7 on the LCAC. She gave her opinion on the book list presented for the board to review and approve.

C. Peg Voss – Ms. Voss thanked the board for their service and the library staff for their work. She gave her opinion on the new collection development policy for the libraries and her ideas on how it may work better.

D. Kim Adelia Leff – Ms. Leff spoke about the collection development policy, her background in social work and her opinion on how this new policy may be affecting parental rights.

E. Doug Smith – Mr. Smith spoke about the Naval Academy library pulling books and his feelings on the importance of sharing diverse opinions. He gave his opinion on the collection development policy.

F. Sue Gregoire – Me. Gregoire spoke about the Talkeetna Library and that she has books in the library. She has concerns about the collection development policy.

G. Jackie Goforth – Ms. Goforth spoke about the 1st amendment and the American Library Association. She gave her opinions on trans issues and court cases.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Letter of Support for LCAC

1. Mary Fischer made a motion to not send the letter, Kathy Kysar seconded - 4 votes for the motion and 3 nay. Motion passes and the letter will not be sent.

B. AI in libraries

1. Hugh Leslie – Mr. Leslie informed the board about the new Borough AI Policy for employees and we are developing an AI policy and information class for patrons that will be offered at the libraries.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. New Officer Voting

1. Virginia Robson nominated Mary Fischer for Chairperson. No other nominations were presented, Kathy Kysar motioned to close nominations and vote, Virginia Robson seconded. 4 votes for yes, 3 abstain. Motion carried.
2. Georgia Knazovich nominated Kathy Kysar for Vice-Chairperson, Mary Fischer seconded. No other nominations were presented, 4 votes for yes and 3 abstain. Motion carried.
3. Nominations were opened for Secretary; no nominations were presented. Mary Fischer motioned to postpone the secretary nominations to the October meeting, Kathy Kysar seconded. 4 votes for yes, 3 abstain.

B. September Library Book List

1. Hugh Leslie – Mr. Leslie informed the board that he misspoke at the last meeting about the outcome of materials pulled from the lists. Since they are an advisory board, their recommendation will be taken into consideration by administration. Clarification was given about meetings with no quorum or meetings not held during any given month, the lists for these missed meetings would be considered approved to order.
2. Mary Fischer motioned to approve the list as written, Kathy Kysar seconded. Discussion ensued, 3 votes for yes, 1 vote for no, 3 abstain. Motion carried.
3. Mr. Leslie presented the form that needs to be filled out if any materials are being pulled from the list for review.

C. Book challenge procedure

1. Mary Fischer presented her draft of how the book challenge procedure may work. Discussion ensued. Mary Fischer motioned to postpone this topic to the next meeting, Kathy Kysar seconded. 5 votes for yes, 2 abstain.

D. CDP suggestion (Mary Fischer)

1. Mary Fischer had no other action on this.

X. ADVOCACY

A. None

XI. CORRESPONDENCE

A. None

XII. MEMBER COMMENTS

A. Karen Crandall – Ms. Crandall expressed her concern on how to screen the books on the list from the librarians.

B. Kathy Kysar – Ms. Kysar informed the board that the next report to the Assembly will be December 2 and will be bringing a version to have approved at the October meeting. She also gave her opinion on the collection development policy,
C. Chad Scott – Mr. Scott explained that his preferred library is the Wasilla library due to proximity. He gave his opinion on some of the materials on the list to be purchased.
D. Mark Spohn – Mr. Spohn expressed his opinion on taxpayers voices being represented.
E. Virginia Robson – Ms. Robson gave her opinion on the collection development policy.
F. Mary Fischer – Declined to comment

XIII. NEXT MEETING

A. October 14, 2025 Sutton Library

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

A. Meeting adjourned at 2:46 pm

X Mary E Fischer X 10/14/25
Mary Fischer - Chair Date

ATTEST:

X Sarah Thomas X 10/14/25
Sarah Thomas - Staff Support Date