

BEAUMONT LIBRARY DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

6:30 p.m. at the Library Annex – May 28, 2026
232 West Sixth Street, Beaumont, CA. 92223

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER – Secretary Carr called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL – C. Carr, M. Garcia, S. Aguilar-Martinez, S. Mitchell, K. Van Valkenburg,
L. Dickinson
ABSENT – M. Coleman
GUESTS – D. Roppelt

REPORT OF POSTING OF AGENDA – Agenda was posted 72 hours in advance.

1. CONSENT ITEMS

MOTION: (Aguilar-Martinez/Garcia) to remove the Closed Session from the posted agenda. (4-0-1)

Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting.

MOTION: (Garcia/Carr) to approve the Minutes as presented. (4-0-1)

2. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT

Friends President, Debra Roppelt, reported that four members of the Friends Board attended the recent Serving with a Purpose conference where they got some good ideas for running the bookstore, fundraising, etc. She noted that 14 new members were signed up at the local “Beaumont Nights” event, and they now have a new vertical banner with a photo of the Library and a QR code. The Marilyn and Milton Cook scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 went to library volunteer Kayla Davis.

3. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director gave information on SoCal Edison's electrical switchover, which closed the Library for the day. She announced that the new Librarian I (Outreach) position will be filled by Elaine Norris beginning July 1. In addition, she stated that she and other staff toured the new Business Hub in hopes of obtaining space there for library activities, at just \$1 per year, during the remainder of the construction project.

A. General Ledger Report – The transfer of various funds from the County to CLASS, for better interest, were highlighted.

B. Activity Summary Report – Foot traffic has remained consistent despite limited parking due to the construction project.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. GRANT & CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

The Director Emeritus gave a PowerPoint presentation on activities and progress with the building expansion since the last Board meeting. Highlighted were the \$1,000 donation from our C.W. Driver Project Manager, Vince Holguin, for BUSD's Career Technical Education program; a visit by Riverside County's ARPA person, Marty Martinez, who took drone photos of the construction site; and the recent meeting of the Special Districts Association of Riverside County where staff from the Inland Regional Electrical Network (I-REN) spoke. Key construction issues addressed were the sealing of a water leak, abatement of the resulting mold problem, completion and approval of the sewer ejector system, installation of the exterior windows, grading of the parking lot, consideration of design concepts for the donation wall, raising of an "America 250" flag at the Library, and the process of energizing the switchgear. Looking ahead, there will be some brief 30-minute shutdowns for both Frontier and AT&T to move their various cables in early June. Western AV will be installing audiovisual equipment, the new skylight for the east entrance will be arriving, and a punch list walk will be held in mid-June. Painting of the exterior is scheduled to begin on June 22 and furniture and shelving installation is tentatively set to start on June 29.

i. Construction Schedule and Library Hours

The Library plans to close from July 3 through August 31 to begin vacating current operational space in preparation for the Phase II renovation. Ms. Van Valkenburg discussed the possibility of doing a "sneak peek" tour for community leaders prior to re-opening on September 1. The dates need to be approved now in order to give time to notify the public well in advance of the closure. Consideration of expanded hours of service in the new facility will be brought up at a later date.

MOTION: (Mitchell/Carr) to approve closing the Library from July 3 through August 31 to vacate the current facility and to furnish and occupy the new addition with reopening on September 1. (4-0-1)

B. FY27 BUDGET 2ND REVIEW

The major new revision to the budget is that property tax revenue has been increased by 18% based upon a 3% increase over projected FY26 income. Also, the cost of living adjustment has been increased from 2.5% to 3% because of rising inflation. In addition, impact fees are higher because they are now being collected at the 100% level compared to the 50% and 75% levels in 2025. For example, the impact fees for April amounted to over \$22,000 compared to an average of \$9,000 per month previously. Interest amounts will be declining because Building Forward grant funds have been completely expended and bond funds will be used up by the end of the calendar year.

5. NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADDED STARTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Van Valkenburg shared a large, rusty horseshoe that was unearthed 4 feet below the surface on the library construction site. She also reminded the trustees of SB827's financial training requirement. An in-person seminar is scheduled for September 9 in San Bernardino if anyone is interested in signing up. Plus, there are a variety of online options. She reported that the Bookmobile will be in the Cherry Festival Parade and she will be an announcer at City Hall. The California Special Districts Association will be holding a conference in August in Palm Desert should any Board members want to attend.

Mr. Dickinson announced that May 26 was his tenth employment anniversary with Beaumont Library and to celebrate that fact, since the Cherry Festival opened today, he presented everyone in attendance with a mini-Cherry Pie.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

Mrs. Garcia thanked the Library for allowing her to attend the Serving with a Purpose conference and said that she would be unable to attend the Board meeting in July. Ms. Carr talked about visiting a Carnegie library in St. Paul, Minnesota that had a beautiful tree-shaped donation wall, of which she provided photos to the Director and Director Emeritus. She will not be able to attend the Board meeting in June as she will be out of state.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT - at 7:48 p.m.

APPROVED:

Margaret R. Coleman

DATE:

June 18, 2026