



CITY OF LAS CRUCES

MINUTES

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

Thursday, April 23, 2026

1. Call to Order – President Stephen Jones called the meeting to order at 3:01 P.M. Library Advisory Board (LAB) Members present: President Stephen Jones, Secretary Erin Wahl, Members Jessica Streeter, Nancy Claypool, Jason Ferguson, and Denali Wilson (present through TEAMS). Also, in attendance: Sarah Booth, Library Deputy Director.

- A. Sarah Booth, Library Deputy Director, read the *Land Acknowledgement Statement*.

- B. Acceptance of April 23, 2026, Agenda – President Stephen Jones called for a motion to approve as amended; Member Jessica Streeter voiced a motion to approve; Member Jason Ferguson seconded the motion; all voted in favor; motion carried.

2. Review and Approval of March 26, 2026, Minutes – President Stephen Jones called for a motion to approve as amended; Secretary Erin Wahl voiced a motion to approve; Member Jason Ferguson seconded the motion; all voted in favor; motion carried.

3. Library Deputy Directors Report – Sarah Booth, Library Deputy Director, presented the following:

- A. Library Budget Update, Other Information

- i. On Monday, April 13, 2026, City Council voted to reduce personnel and operations in both FY2027 and FY2028 budgets. This move will make the City more fiscally sustainable. Without this move, the City would have cuts again in the near future. As part of this re-alignment, each Department was informed of the amount needed to meet the requested cuts from the Council. The Quality of Life Department was requested to cut 26% of its

1 budget from both personnel (by not filling empty positions), and operations.
2 Currently, the Library is in the process of filling one open vacancy; the
3 Support Services Manager position. We have been approved to fill this
4 position. Interviews have been scheduled for the next few days. Since we
5 did not have many empty positions, I worked with the managers to make
6 the necessary budget cuts to the Operations funding. We worked to make
7 sure that our basic library services would continue to be offered to our
8 community. These reductions will have a positive impact in the coming
9 years. City Administration and City Council remain committed to staff.
10 There are no layoffs planned for staff.

11 ii. The City has requested that we stop all food and swag purchases. This
12 includes coffee and coffee items purchases for our staff kitchen.

13 iii. We have proposed the following deductions. Please note that these are
14 just proposals. City Council will vote on this in May.

15 a. Proposed reduction in hours for Branigan Library. Security gusrd
16 service is one of our biggest expenses, and it's essential to keep
17 our patrons safe, as well as our staff. The Library will probably be
18 closed on Sundays, beginning in July 2026. We have proposed that
19 we close at 7 P.M., instead of 8 P.M. We hope to open at our regular
20 time of 9 A.M. Monday–Thursday. Friday and Saturday hours will
21 not be affected.

22 b. Proposed reductions in periodicals and databases.

23 c. The databases we had planned to cut, we will plan to purchase with
24 State Aid funds. In FY2025, there were 3,496 page hits for Learning
25 Express, 99 downloads of Gale Legal Forms, and 4,252 searches
26 on Heritage Quest. There were also 3,217 sessions on Press
27 Reader.

1 d. Proposed reduction of all DVD purchases. We will ask the Friends
2 of TBML for donations.

3 e. Proposed reduction of programming supplies and food for
4 programs; this includes Summer Reading events. Food at
5 programs is an incentive to get people to attend. We will ask the
6 Friends of TBML for assistance.

7 f. Staff will inventory and use the supplies we have on hand.

8 g. Proposed cancelation of Hoopla Digital and Kanopy Streaming
9 Video, two very popular e-book and streaming services with nearly
10 100,000 users per year (74,000 in FY2025 for Kanopy, and 25,000
11 users per year for Hoopla Digital). We will focus our attention on
12 Libby, which features many of the same services, but our patrons
13 have made it clear they like a variety of platforms.

14 iv. This change is a developing situation, and we do not yet know the impact
15 this will have on the library and patrons. We hope to have more answers
16 soon.

17 B. Acceptance of Library Director's Report

18 i. President Stephen Jones called for a motion to approve report; all voted in
19 favor; motion carried.

20 4. New Business – The Following was Presented

21 a. Review/Approval of the Following Policy: POL-LIB-2016-08 Use of Public Access
22 Computers and Internet, Issue 4.0

23 i. The LAB decided to table this policy for further discussion. This will be on
24 next month's agenda as Old Business.

25 b. Nominations and Vote for LAB Vice-President

26 i. Secretary Erin Wahl nominated Member Jason Ferguson for Vice-
27 President – Mr. Ferguson accepted. No other nominations were brought

1 forth; nominations closed; all voted in favor; motion carried.

2 5. Announcements/Other Information – None noted.

3 6. Public Participation

4 a. Lynda St. Clair, Friends of TBML President.

5 7. Adjournment – Member Nancy Claypool entertained a motion to adjourn meeting; meeting
6 adjourned at approximately 3:54 P.M. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April
7 23, 2026, at 3:00 P.M. in the Staff Conference Room on the 2nd floor of TBML.

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10 **PRESIDENT or VICE-PRESIDENT**