



**JACKSON COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT (JCLD)
REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA**
Board Room, Medford Branch Library
205 S Central Ave, Medford, OR
Dial 1-669-900-6833 to attend by phone
Enter Meeting ID (access code): 965 9527 6734
Or click the link below to attend using Zoom:
<https://zoom.us/j/96595276734>
June 17, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

INTRODUCTIONS / PROCLAMATIONS

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- 2. May 20, 2026 JCLD Regular Board Meeting Minutes4
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ORAL REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM AUDIENCE (Comments will be limited to 3 minutes per individual and shall be limited to comments on non-agenda items or on agenda items that do not otherwise provide for public comment. The Board will listen to all comments but will not respond during the meeting)

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COMMITTEE AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS (Inform)

- 11. Finance Committee

ADJOURNMENT

FUTURE MEETINGS/EVENTS/OBSERVANCES:

July 15, 2026, 4:00pm Regular Board Meeting
July 23, 2026, 8:00am Annual Board Retreat

The Jackson County Library District Board meets regularly at 4:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every month at the Medford Library in the Board Conference Room, unless otherwise noticed. You may find proposed agendas and prior meeting minutes at www.jcls.org. If you have further questions or would like to be added to the email notification list, please contact the Executive Assistant Yoli Diaz at 541-774-6406 or director@jcls.org.

If a physical accommodation is needed to participate in a Jackson County Library District meeting, please contact the Executive Assistant at 541-774-6406. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, preferably in writing, will assist us in providing reasonable accommodation.



JACKSON COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT (JCLD)
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
Medford Branch Library
Large Meeting Room
205 S Central Ave, Medford, OR
May 6, 2026, 3:30 p.m.

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Present at the meeting: Budget Committee members Susan Kiefer (President), Kevin Keating (Vice President), Patty Jensen, Marta Tarantsey, Marissa Shepherd, Dave Kanner, David Mathieu, and Doug Townsend, Alicia Van Riggs.

Absent: Cathy de Wolfe

Additional attendees: Heather Scott (Finance Manager), Joan Vigil (Assistant Director, Public Services), Brynn Fogerty (HR Manager), Kelda Vath (Assistant Director, Support Services), Josh Letsinger (Community Engagement Manager), and Yoli Diaz (Executive Assistant)

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

President Kiefer called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Roll call was taken, and the Land Acknowledgement read.

INTRODUCTIONS

Finance Manager Heather Scott introduced the staff involved in the budget process, including herself as Finance Manager and Budget Officer; Frank Phillips, Interim Library Director; Joan Vigil, Assistant Director of Public Services; Kelda Vath, Assistant Director of Support Services; Brynn Fogerty, Human Resources Manager; and Josh Letsinger, Community Engagement Manager and Yoli Diaz, Executive Assistant.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON

Director Jensen moved to appoint Director Kiefer as chairperson for the meeting, and Budget Committee Member Doug Townsend seconded the motion. All were in favor.

BUDGET MESSAGE

Finance Manager and Budget Officer Heather Scott, along with the leadership team, introduced the FY27 Budget and presented its objectives. Scott outlined the objectives for the Budget Committee Meeting, the purpose of the FY27 Budget, and the entire process. Josh Letsinger- Community Engagement Manager, shared accomplishments from the current fiscal year, including the expansion of the Spanish Language Access Program; the Rogue Reads event featuring New York Times bestselling author Shelby Van Pelt, which drew the largest program attendance in library history with more than 500 people at Medford's Craterian Theater; the launch of the Rural Entrepreneur in Residence program in the Applegate; and continued growth in social media engagement across all platforms. Vath shared statistical highlights as of the end of March. Library usage remained strong, with 974,154 physical items borrowed and 63,000 public computer sessions, holding steady compared to the previous fiscal year. She also reported that digital borrowing increased 19.3% from the previous fiscal year to 441,867 items; branch visits rose 6.7% to 586,360, and new cardholders increased 9.7% from the previous fiscal year to 9,179.

Scott presented the expense projections for FY27. Using the District's historical data and reviewing Jackson County's revenue proposal. Projection is based on a 4.37% increase in assessed value and a 94% collection rate, consistent with historical performance and the county. This results in approximately \$16.3M in current-

year property tax revenue, with an additional \$1.221M expected from prior-year collections, interest income, service charges such as printing and copying, and e-rate internet cost reimbursements. The district also anticipates transferring \$208,000 in interest earnings from the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund and Grant Fund back into the General Fund, continuing a practice of reallocating interest for operational use. On the expenditure side, the total operating budget is approximately \$17.4M, with personnel services representing \$11.365M, or 63% of expenses, driven by a 2.5% COLA, a 1.5% step increase, and a 9% health insurance premium increase. Materials and services account for \$6.095M, including \$1.57M for library materials, and the budget also includes \$500,000 contingency and a \$250,000 transfer to the Capital Improvement Fund, with overall adjustments made to maintain a balanced budget.

Brynn Fogerty-HR Manager shared that the COLA and step increase recommendations are based on comparable library systems and a board-approved methodology designed to maintain competitive wages while managing within budget. For FY27, a 2.5% COLA was adopted at prior board meeting, it is slightly below the 2.6% peer average, along with a 1.5% step increase based on average 3.23% wage growth in comparable organizations. Together, these adjustments place overall compensation of 0.79% below peers, balancing fiscal responsibilities with the goal of fair competitive pay that supports recruitment and retention.

Joan Vigil, Assistant Director - Public Services, discussed FTE over the years. The chart that was presented shows changes in FTE over the past five years, reflecting the strategic plan to increase library access by expanding operating hours in response to public demand. These changes were implemented in two phases, December 1, 2022, in Ashland and systemwide on April 10, 2023, with a detailed analysis of operating hours later confirming that staffing and service levels had increased more than planned, at 37% above the original baseline compared to a proposed 33% increase over the FY 2022 baseline. To maintain long-term sustainability and balance the current budget, it was necessary to reduce weekly service hours by 15 hours and adjust personnel costs back down to approximately 65% of the General Fund budget.

Kelda Vath- Assistant Director of Support Services, discussed several operational contract and expenses included in the FY27 budget. Janitorial services remain the Library Districts largest contract at approximately \$680,000 through Pathway Enterprises, which provides overnight cleaning, porter services, and specialty cleaning at branches. Costs decreased about 8% due to anticipated operating hour adjustments and minor service reductions. Security services at the Medford branch continue to improve the experience for patrons and staff, with projected costs slightly reduced to about \$270,000. Vath also noted rising utility expenses and clarified that the district maintains a separate landscaping contract outside of Jackson County Facilities and Maintenance. Planned FY27 projects include carpet replacements, roof work at the Medford and Phoenix branches, and Phoenix parking lot improvements.

Scott reviewed the miscellaneous grant fund, which supports restricted funding from donations, the State ready to Read grant, and the Hulbert Trust. Scott concluded the budget message by noting that the districts expect to begin FY27 with strong reserve balances including approximately \$7M in the general fund, and that projections show reserves remaining above policy targets over the next five years. She emphasized that long-term financial forecasting has allowed the district to make proactive budget adjustments and maintain overall financial stability.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

The Committee discussed the proposed budget, including a reclassification of the library materials and processing fees to better track physical and digital collections separately. Staff explained that reductions in professional development funding reflect lower actual spending and uncertainty during the transitions to a new strategic plan and library director search. Committee members also discussed the adjustment of branch hours, particularly Medford and Ashland based on usage data and long-term financial sustainability. Questions were raised about landscaping contracts, facility furnishing replacements focused on safety and

worn public furniture, consultant fees, and staffing impacts. Staff clarified that a reported reduction of 12 FTEs does not necessarily mean layoffs, noting the district's low turnover rate may allow staffing reductions through attritions and vacancy management. Director Kiefer emphasized that staff carefully reviewed many options to create a sustainable five year budget for the 15 branch library district. Committee members further discussed increased network costs tied to districtwide technology upgrades, noting most expenses are reimbursed through federal e-rate funding. Staff explained the budget is balanced without using contingency funds and that larger adjustments now are intended to avoid ongoing small cuts in future years. Members also noted that reducing the library hours creates additional savings in security, janitorial and utility costs and that phased reductions were considered but would not achieve enough savings.

MOTION: Budget Committee Member Dave Kanner moved that the Jackson County Library District Budget Committee approve the fiscal year 2026-2027 Budget as presented and the permanent tax rate levy of .60 per \$1,000 for the funding of the library district in Jackson County. Director Keating seconded the motion.

Director Kiefer called for a roll call vote.

Kiefer – Yes

Keating – Yes

Jensen – Yes

Tarantsey – Yes

Shepherd – Yes

Kanner – Yes

Mathieu – Yes

Van Riggs – Yes

Townsend – Yes

The motion passed.

PUBLIC INPUT

Director Kiefer invited comments from the public, in which there were two JCLD employees that shared their concerns. Megan Thompson, librarian and union bargaining team member, raised concerns about budget priorities and suggested alternative cost reductions. Erica, Library Associate at Talent Library, emphasized employee impact of budget decisions and requested more equitable distribution of cuts.

Scott announced the next meeting will be the Budget Hearing held on Wednesday, May 20th, at 4:00PM. Director Keating thanked the Citizen Committee Members and Board Members for their thoughtful deliberation and for taking the time to be part of the JCLD Budget Process. Director Kiefer thanked the JCLD staff who helped with the budget preparation.

The meeting ended with discussion on approving the budget and Director Keating thanking the citizens members for their time.

ADJOURNMENT

President Kiefer adjourned the meeting at 4:38 p.m.

/s/

Recording Secretary

Yoli Diaz



MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Present at the meeting: Board Members Susan Kiefer (President), Kevin Keating (Vice President), Patty Jensen, Marissa Shepherd, Marta Tarantsey.

Additional attendees: Kelda Vath (Assistant Director, Support Services), Joan Vigil (Assistant Director, Public Services), Heather Scott (Finance Manager), Josh Letsinger (Community Engagement Manager) Ginny Auer (Executive Director, Jackson County Library Foundation), Jacquelyn Bunick (Legal Counsel), and Yoli Diaz (Executive Assistant).

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Director Kiefer called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. The Land Acknowledgement was read and roll call was taken.

INTRODUCTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Director Keating moved to approve the consent agenda, Director Tarantsey seconded; the vote was unanimous, and the motion passed.

ORAL REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM AUDIENCE

Sandy Winter, who serves on the board of Rogue Comic Con and is president of the Friends of the Medford Library, shared that this was the third Comic Con event and their largest one yet. She reported that more than 10,000 people attended the event, which featured around 100 vendors, costume contests, Artist Alley, and many activities for attendees of all ages. Miller also highlighted the Kids Zone, which included approximately 15–20 community organizations connecting with families. She noted that the Library, the Library Foundation, and the Friends of the Library all participated in the event. The Friends sold books and merchandise while also reminding attendees about the library’s services, events, and bookstore. She described the event as a great success.

Budget Message from Board

Director Kiefer before opening the budget hearing shared the budget was developed in response to significant cost increases, especially in health insurance and building maintenance alongside broader inflation. To maintain a balanced budget required by law, the board and budget committee focused on minimizing impacts on library staff, library users, and services. Ultimately deciding to adjust operating hours, including reducing Sunday hours at the Medford and Ashland libraries where usage is lower and costs are higher. Kiefer shared overall the changes were presented as a measured adjustment to better align expenses with revenues while preserving core library services as much as possible.

Public Hearing to Receive Comments Regarding FY26 Budget

Director Kiefer opened the public hearing to receive comments on the FY27 Budget. Community members, library staff, and union members shared concerns about how the changes could affect vulnerable populations,

staff livelihoods, and access to library services.

Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget & Appropriations

Director Kiefer introduced the FY27 budget resolutions: 2026-09 adopting the budget, 2026-10 making appropriations, 2026-11 imposing the tax, and 2026-12 categorizing the tax. Kiefer called for a motion to be made and stated that a separate roll call would be taken for each resolution.

MOTION: Director Keating moved to approve the four budget resolutions; Director Tarantsey seconded.

Roll call vote for Resolution 2026-09 Adopting the Budget

- Kiefer – Yes
- Kating – Yes
- Jensen – Yes
- Tarantsey- Yes
- Shepherd – Yes

Roll call vote for Resolution 2026-10 Making Appropriations

- Kiefer – Yes
- Kating – Yes
- Jensen – Yes
- Tarantsey- Yes
- Shepherd – Yes

Roll call vote for Resolution 2026-11 Imposing the Tax

- Kiefer – Yes
- Kating – Yes
- Jensen – Yes
- Tarantsey- Yes
- Shepherd – Yes

Roll call vote for Resolution 2026-12 Categorizing the Tax

- Kiefer – Yes
- Kating – Yes
- Jensen – Yes
- Tarantsey- Yes
- Shepherd – Yes

All motions passed.

NEW BUSINESS

IGA- Jackson County Facilities Maintenance

Kelda Vath- Assistant Director of Support Services, presented the First Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Jackson County Facilities Maintenance. The amendment provides a one-year extension through FY 2027. The original agreement was a five-year contract that began in 2020. Last year, the Board approved a one-year extension that carried the agreement through the end of the current fiscal year. Director Kiefer asked for a motion to approve the Second Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement with Jackson County Facilities Maintenance for a one-year extension through FY 2027.

MOTION: Director Keating moved to approve the legal services contract for IGA-Jackson County Facilities

Maintenance Agreement, Director Tarantsey seconded; the vote was unanimous, and the motion passed.

Roll Call Vote

Kiefer – Yes

Kating – Yes

Jensen – Yes

Tarantsey- Yes

Shepherd – Yes

IGA- Rogue Community College

Kelda Vath- Assistant Director of Support Services presented the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Rogue Community College (RCC). Vath explained that JCLS and RCC have shared the Koha catalog system since JCLS migrated to Koha in 2020. The original agreement was for five years and was due for renewal. Following the recent renewal of the Koha and Aspen contracts, it was also time to update and renew the agreement with RCC.

Director Tarantsey asked whether there was any cost savings associated with sharing services with RCC, given that JCLS's primary contract is already in place. Vath responded that there are modest savings. Rogue Community College contributes a portion of the costs, and JCLS invoices RCC for its share of the catalog services that both organizations utilize.

MOTION: Director Keating moved to approve the IGA contract with Rogue Community College, Director Tarantsey seconded; the vote was unanimous, and the motion passed.

Roll Call Vote

Kiefer – Yes

Kating – Yes

Jensen – Yes

Tarantsey- Yes

Shepherd – Yes

Recruitment Firms

The board heard presentations from three search firms under consideration for the Library Director recruitment. Karen Miller of Bradbury Miller highlighted the firm's extensive library specific experience, national reach, structured recruitment process, and strong candidate retention rates. Mark Fiala and Ryan Sheehan of Organizational Architecture described their public sector and library recruitment expertise, comprehensive search methodology, candidate sourcing strategies and onboarding support. Sonja Rothman of Prothman emphasized the firm's Pacific Northwest focus with deep regional knowledge, engagement process and experience recruiting for public sector leadership positions. Board members asked questions regarding candidate retention, diversity, and bias reduction practice. No action was taken, and the Board will make a selection at a future meeting.

REPORTS

Kelda Vath presented highlights from the monthly Director's Report, emphasizing successful community partnerships and strong program attendance across the district, including collaborations with Southern Oregon University for an archaeology project(Prospect branch), also the Ashland branch collaborating with the Institute for Applied Sustainability, Talent with Maker City, and other community organizations, as well as several programs that exceeded venue capacity due to high public interest.

COMMITTEE & BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Strategic Committee

Director Tarantsey shared an update on the Strategic Committee's 18-month roadmap. She noted that the committee recognizes the roadmap could become an important component of JCLS's recruitment materials. As a result, they want to ensure it is a clear, accessible, and easy-to-understand document. Their goal is to create a roadmap that not only guides organizational priorities but can also be presented to prospective candidates as a compelling representation of the library's vision and strategic direction.

Facilities Committee

Director Kiefer provided an update from the Facilities Committee. She reported that the committee meeting primarily focused on ensuring alignment with upcoming facilities priorities and reviewing progress on the five-year facilities plan. The committee also received a report on the pollinator garden project. Director Kiefer noted that there was nothing further to add and encouraged board members to review the committee meeting minutes for additional details.

Kelda Vath shared that Director Keating requested that time during the June 3 work session be set aside for the Board to discuss its annual retreat. Board members agreed to include the discussion as part of the work session agenda.

Director Kiefer adjourned the JCLD Board Meeting at 6:04 p.m.

/s/ Yoli Diaz

Recording Secretary



MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Present at the meeting: Board Members Kevin Keating (Vice President), Patty Jensen, Marissa Shepherd (joined at 4:05pm), and Marta Tarantsey.

Additional attendees: Frank Phillips (Interim Library Director), Kelda Vath (Assistant Director, Support Services), Joan Vigil (Assistant Director, Public Services), and Yoli Diaz (Executive Assistant)

Susan Kiefer (President)-Absent

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Director Keating called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. Roll call was taken, and the Land Acknowledgement read.

Discussion Items (Discussion/Action)

Search Firms for the Library Director recruitment process

The Board reviewed proposals from Bradbury Miller, Organizational Architecture, and Prothman for the Executive Director search. Interim Director Frank Phillips recommended Bradbury Miller based on its library expertise and organizational fit. Board members discussed each firm's experience, cost, geographic reach, and search guarantees, with several directors emphasizing the value of library-specific expertise and Bradbury Miller's strong reputation in the profession. Director Shepherd expressed her thoughts on the board to consider conducting the search internally, but Directors Jensen and Tarantsey expressed that staff capacity constraints and the complexity of the process support hiring an external firm. Cost estimates ranged from \$18,500 to approximately \$34,000. The board moved with a motion to select Bradbury- Miller as the search firm.

Motion: Director Jensen moved to select Bradbury-Miller to conduct the search for the next Library Director and to authorize staff to negotiate the contract. Director Keating seconded the motion. The motion carried, with a vote of 3–1, and one director absent.

Roll Call Vote

Kevin Keating- Y

Patty Jensen- Y

Marta Tarantsey- Y

Marissa Shepherd- N

Kiefer- Absent

Discuss Board Annual Retreat

The Board discussed plans for its annual retreat, including whether to include an outside speaker and how to prioritize agenda topics. Director Shepherd favored a board-led retreat with open discussion rather than a guest speaker, while Director Tarantsey suggested performance management and the board-director relationship as a potential presentation topic. Director Keating proposed compiling and voting on retreat topics and volunteered to

create a shared document for board input. The Board agreed to focus on board-led discussions, with members identifying and prioritizing retreat topics for the agenda. Retreat is scheduled for Thursday, July 23, 2026, from 8:00-Noon.

Future Work Sessions

Board of directors suggested future work session topics, including updates on the Executive Director recruitment process and union negotiations. Director Tarantsey and Kelda Vath also recommended discussions on the developing 18-month strategic roadmap. Director Keating suggested that the be the July 1st topic for the boards work session.

RVCOG

Tarantsey reported that RVCOG is revising its membership fee structure, and feedback from district members such as JCLD helped secure a more gradual increase than originally proposed. During the discussion, Keating asked for clarification on the value and benefits of JCLD gains from its RVCOG membership. Tarantsey said she would follow up with specific membership cost figures and ROI information for the board.

Election of Board President

The Board briefly discussed the upcoming election of Board President. Director Keating recommended holding the election at the July Board meeting and requested that it be added to the agenda. Board members were encouraged to submit self-nominations or nominate fellow directors for consideration.

ADJOURN

Director Keating adjourned the meeting at 4:56 p.m.

/s/ Yoli Diaz

Recording Secretary



Date: June 17, 2026

Title: Pathway Custodial Services Contract Amendment 7

From: Kelda Vath, Assistant Director of Support Services

Summary:

JCLS contracts with Pathway Enterprises for custodial services. The amendment as presented extends the contract for services an additional year.

Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the Board approve the amendment to the contract with Pathway Enterprises for janitorial services for Fiscal Year 2027.

Resource Requirements:

The proposed annual cost for FY27 is \$655,179. This represents an 11% decrease from FY26 and is included in the FY27 budget. The primary reason for the cost reduction is related to the FY27 budget decision to close Ashland and Medford branches on Sundays.

Policies, Plans, and Goals Supported:

The Pathway Proposal supports the District's goal of having safe, clean, and welcoming facilities.

Background and Additional Information:

Pathway Enterprises has been providing janitorial services to JCLD under the current contract since 2016. The service adjustments impacting the cost reduction this year are detailed in the accompanying Oregon Forward Proposal for Janitorial Services. In addition to the removal of Sunday janitorial services, the ½ time day porter at Medford was eliminated for FY27.

Attachments:

- Amendment 7 to the contract for services between JCLS and Pathway Enterprises
- Oregon Forward Proposal for Janitorial Services

AMENDMENT #7 TO THE CONTRACT FOR SERVICES BETWEEN THE JACKSON COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT AND PATHWAY ENTERPRISES, INC.

1. This is Amendment No. 7 to the Contract for Services dated June 4, 2015 (the "Contract"), between the Jackson County Library District ("District") and Pathway Enterprises, Inc. ("Pathway").
2. The purpose of this Amendment is to extend the term of the "Contract" through the end of the District's 2026/2027 fiscal year and modify the maximum annual compensation amount to the Contract. This Amendment No. 7 shall supplant and supersede all previous Amendments.

The Agreement is hereby amended as follows:

The first sentence of Section 3, COMPENSATION, is hereby amended and replaced in its entirety with the following:

Payment for all work performed under this contract shall be made as set forth below from available and authorized District funds and shall not exceed the maximum sum of \$655,180.00.

The price schedule for work Pathway is authorized to perform under the Contract is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Section 4, DATE AND DURATION, shall remain as written but the following shall be added as a second paragraph:

The parties previously agreed to the extension of this Contract for additional periods of one (1) year each for the time periods from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, and July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, and July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. The Parties further mutually agree to the extension of this Contract for an additional period of one (1) year commencing on July 1, 2026 and expiring on June 30, 2027.

Except as expressly amended above, all other terms and conditions of the original Agreement are still in full force and effect.

Exhibit A – Price Schedule

Exhibit A



Communication

Teamwork

Professionalism

Opportunity



Office: (541) 973-2728

Fax: (541) 973-2729

CCB#LBPR218417

Oregon Forward Proposal for Janitorial Services June 4, 2026

Jackson County Library District
Janitorial Services 2026-2027

This pricing proposal reflects the reductions and changes that have been discussed and accepted by both parties. The specific changes are outlined below.

1. The Sunday workday was eliminated for both Ashland and Medford branches.
2. The ½ time day porter for Medford working Monday – Friday was eliminated.
3. Labor at most branches increased in pay by 2.7%.
4. Butte Falls and Prospect branches continue to pay \$30.00 per hour to maintain service.

The workbooks for the 2026-2027 contracting period incorporate the above noted changes and are summarized below.

Location	25-26 Price	26-27 Pricing
Applegate	11,286.00	11,596.00
Ashland	151,631.04	126,977.67
Butte Falls	8,817.96	9,384.00
Central Point	19,430.04	20,360.00
Eagle Point	22,898.04	23,216.00
Gold Hill	15,480.00	16,416.00
Jacksonville	13,170.00	13,962.00
Medford	371,167.92	304,397.48
Phoenix	12,680.04	13,484.00
Prospect	13,658.04	14,395.00
Rogue River	27,234.96	27,951.00
Ruch	8,412.00	8,919.00
Shady Cove	19,170.00	20,112.00
Talent	19,121.04	20,278.00
White City	22,223.04	23,731.00
Total	736,380.12	655,179.15
Price Change 26-27		\$ (81,200.97)

This proposal is an 11% pricing reduction over the current pricing.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns regarding this proposal. I respond fastest to email and text messaging. My contact information is as follows:

Richard Simpson
rpspei@gmail.com
Cell 541.601.4550



OREGON Forward



Date: June 17, 2026

Title: Updates to Internet Acceptable Use Policy and Patron Privacy and Confidentiality Policy

From: Kelda Vath, Assistant Director of Support Services and the Policy Committee

Recommendation:

The Policy Committee recommends that the updates to 5-8 Internet Acceptable Use Policy and 5-9 Patron Privacy and Confidentiality Policy be adopted as presented.

Policies, Plans, and Goals Supported:

Maintaining updated policies provides clear guidance for the District Board, staff, and patrons, and facilitates ease of use of all library services.

Background and Additional Information:

As part of JCLS's plan to improve clarity and accountability after an incident at the Talent Branch in December 2025, the Board directed library staff and the policy committee to review the recently updated Internet Acceptable Use Policy (adopted in October 2025) and the Patron Privacy and Confidentiality Policy (adopted in October 2024). The Policy Committee met on April 27, 2026 and agreed on minor edits to these policies, included below.

Attachments:

- Updated 5-8 Internet Acceptable Use Policy
- Updated 5-9 Patron Privacy and Confidentiality Policy



Policy 5-8	Internet Acceptable Use Policy	Created: 4/2/2015 Revised: 10/6/2025 Approved: 6/17/2026*
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I. Purpose

This policy outlines acceptable use of Internet resources by the public, staff and volunteers in facilities operated by Jackson County Library Services (JCLS).

JCLS offers Internet access as part of its mission to connect everyone to information, ideas, and each other. Resources available on the Internet are integral to the services and collections available at JCLS libraries.

II. Introduction

JCLS provides computer equipment and Wi-Fi for public use in all branch locations and strives to provide a comfortable and welcoming environment for everyone. The internet offers access to a wealth of material that is personally, professionally, and culturally enriching to individuals of all ages. However, it also enables access to some material that may be offensive, disturbing, illegal, inaccurate, or incomplete. Users are encouraged to evaluate the validity and appropriateness of information accessed through the internet.

The library seeks to balance the rights of users to access information resources with the rights of users to be present in a public environment free from sounds and images that are disruptive or harassing to other library users or library staff. JCLS does not monitor and has no control over the information available over the Internet.

The library does have the authority to regulate behavior within its facilities, as outlined in JCLS’ Rules of Conduct, and particularly if such behavior would jeopardize the health and safety of minors, or would result in the creation of a sexually hostile environment for staff and library users. Only those restrictions which are required to provide equitable access to library resources, prevent vandalism or illegal activity, avoid the creation of a sexually hostile environment, or which are needed to protect the health and safety of minors, will be imposed. Access to, use of, or dissemination of, constitutionally unprotected (legally obscene) speech is unacceptable in the library.

III. Policy Statement

It is the policy of Jackson County Library Services to:

- Comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).
- Prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, obscene material via Internet, electronic mail or other forms of direct electronic communications.

- Prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity.
- Prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use or dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

IV. Internet Filter & Privacy

All Library computers and Internet access provided at the library use a technology protection measure to block, filter, or otherwise protect against access to visual depictions that are child pornography, obscene, or harmful to minors. No filter can guarantee total success in this objective.

Under 18

Library cards for all patrons under the age of 18 are set to a higher filtering level. The following filter categories of information are blocked for patrons with the Under 18 filter: adult/mature content, child pornography, malicious outbound data/botnets, malicious sources, nudity, pornography, phishing, potentially unwanted software, proxy avoidance and violence/hate/racism.

18 And Up Only

According to CIPA, all adult library patrons must initially have filtered access to the Internet. To that end, library cards for all patrons 18 and older are set to the default filtering level "18 And Up Only." The following filter categories of information are blocked for patrons with the "18 And Up Only" filter: child pornography, malicious outbound data/botnets, malicious sources, phishing, potentially unwanted software, pornography, proxy avoidance.

The library's filter upholds the principles of intellectual freedom, allowing patrons who are 18 years of age or older to make their own choices regarding filtering.

V. Internet Acceptable Use Rules for All Users

Use of Library technology by every patron, staff member, or volunteer shall constitute that person's acknowledgment of, and agreement to abide by this policy, and are subject to JCLS's Rules of Conduct Policy.

- The Internet computer equipment and software provided by the library must be used as installed. Deletion, addition, or modification of installed hardware or software is not permitted.
- Users shall not disclose, use or disseminate personal identification information regarding minors without proper authorization.
- Users shall utilize the Library network for lawful activities only. They shall not use the network to cause harm to others or damage the property of others. They shall not intentionally upload, download or create computer viruses or other forms of malicious programming, attempt to harm or destroy equipment, manipulate the data of any other user, or seek unauthorized access to networks and systems, including so-called "hacking."
- Patrons are expected to adhere to all rules governing the use of the Internet in libraries, including the duration and frequency of sessions.

- Patrons who violate library policy regarding the use of the Internet or who behave in a disruptive manner will be asked to either modify their use appropriately or have their Internet usage access terminated. In some instances, patrons may be asked to leave the library.
- Library users should not have an expectation of privacy when using any form of electronic media through JCLS computers or wireless access points.
- The library is a public place and library staff have the authority to end an Internet session if material which is inappropriate for a public library setting is displayed. Patrons must stop viewing any site if a staff member asks you to stop.

JCLS has a usual practice of erasing all customer use records except those essential for library business operations. The library will release records including those related to internet usage only as required by law.

VI. Computer Use by Children

Access for all patrons under the age of 18 will be filtered in accordance with CIPA requirements. Filtering software may not block all material users find offensive. Parents or legal guardians are responsible for determining what materials are appropriate for use by the children and young adults for whom they are responsible. Consent given on the part of parents or legal guardians to visit the library constitutes acknowledgment by the parents or guardians that they have a responsibility for monitoring their child's use of all library resources, including the public computers.

VII. Wi-Fi Internet Acceptable Use Rules

Regardless of the wi-fi source, internet users inside the library or on library premises are subject to the library's Acceptable Use of the Internet rules, and JCLS's Rules of Conduct Policy. Virus protection through the wireless access points is the user's responsibility.

Specifically, as a wi-fi internet user, you must:

- Stop viewing any site that creates a hostile environment for other library users or staff if a staff member asks you to stop.
- Follow the rules of the websites you visit.
- Never harass others with printouts, images or messages.
- View and print only legal material and conduct only legal activity.
- Make appropriate choices about the sites you view when others are present, since the library is a public place that serves children as well as adults.
- Use sound-muffling headphones or mute sound to avoid disturbing others.

VIII. Use of Content from the JCLS Website

The JCLS Website contains a wide range of content, including materials that are in the public domain and materials that are protected by copyright. In cases where materials on the JCLS Website are protected by third party rights, a user is responsible for obtaining permission in order to use the materials in question.

The Library staff does not provide advice to users about which materials are protected by third party rights and which materials may be used freely, though staff may recommend resources to assist them in making that determination. It is a user's obligation to determine and satisfy copyright or other use restrictions when publishing or otherwise distributing materials from the Library's collections. Users are solely responsible for determining whether the use of any digital object requires the permission of any other person or entity and for paying any associated fees. If uncertain about the legal issues surrounding the use of digital objects, please consult an attorney.

IX. Termination of Use

JCLS may, in its sole discretion, terminate or suspend a user's access to internet services without notice and for violation of this policy or for other conduct which the library believes is unlawful or harmful to others. In the event of termination, use is no longer authorized, and JCLS will use any means possible to enforce this termination.

X. Reconsideration of Websites

Any resident of Jackson County may request the blocking or unblocking of a specific website using the Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials form. The website will be reviewed by professional library staff and the final decision will be the responsibility of the Library Director.

XI. Disclaimers

The Library assumes no responsibility for damage to an individual's computer or other property resulting from the use of the internet within its facilities. Any downloading or obtaining of material or data is done at the user's own risk. In addition, JCLS disclaims any and all responsibility or liability for the accuracy, reliability, and legality of materials found on its website.

In no event shall JCLS or any of its directors, employees, agents, or affiliated entities be liable for any direct, indirect, special, incidental, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages arising from, or directly or indirectly related to, the use of, or the inability to use, internet services or the content, materials and functions related thereto.

***This policy was originally adopted on October 15, 2025, and updated on April 27, 2026.**

Policy 5-9	Patron Privacy and Confidentiality Policy	Created: 4/2/2015 Revised: 9/27/2024 Approved: 6/17/2026*
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I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to explain library user privacy and confidentiality rights and responsibilities and outline the steps Jackson County Library District (herein referred to as the “District” or “Library”) takes to respect and protect patron confidentiality when using library resources and the personally identifiable information (PII) that patrons share with the Library. The Library tries to strike a balance between privacy and convenience.

II. Introduction

The Library values and protects the privacy and confidentiality of all library patrons. In a library, a patron’s privacy includes the right to inquire, browse, and explore information without the subject of a user’s interest being examined or scrutinized by others. Confidentiality refers to the Library’s responsibility to protect personally identifiable information that patrons share with the Library. The Library will not share patron information with third parties unless required to by law.

III. Privacy and Confidentiality Policy: Personally Identifiable Information

The Library takes steps to collect the least amount of personally identifiable information needed, avoids creating unnecessary records, avoids retaining records not needed for library business purposes, and does not engage in practices that might place personally identifiable information on public view without patron consent.

Information Collected

- Name
- Date of Birth
- Address
- Telephone number/email address
- Library barcode number
- List of materials currently checked out, hold requests, and current interlibrary loans
- Fee and payment history
- Records of past checkouts if patron opted-in to retain reading / viewing history
- Records of electronic access information such as the library card or guest pass number used to log onto library public computers
- Sign-up information for library events.

Data Security

The Library takes reasonable steps to assure data security and keep personally identifiable information safe by electronically purging or manually shredding the information once it is no longer needed for library business purposes. The Library uses software programs that monitor

network traffic to identify unauthorized or malicious attempts to upload or change information or otherwise cause damage. The Library also regularly removes cookies, browsing history, cached files, or other computer and Internet use records that are placed on Library-owned computers or networks.

IV. Access to Accounts and Patron Responsibility

Who has access to patron information

All library patron records are considered confidential. Library records may only be disclosed to:

- Library staff performing job duties
- Cardholders upon proof of identity
- Parents or guardians of minor children (limited access)
- Law enforcement with a court order or subpoena

Protecting the Patron's Library Card

All library patrons can view and update their personal information. This can be done in person with proof of photo ID or online at the patron's convenience. It is the patron's responsibility to notify the Library immediately if their card is lost or stolen or if they believe someone is using the card or card number without permission. The Library encourages patrons to protect any PIN or password associated with their card for their privacy and security.

Parents and Children

The Library respects the privacy of all library patrons, regardless of age. Parents, guardians or caretakers of a child under age 18 who wish to obtain access to a child's library records, including the number or titles of materials checked out or overdue, must provide the child's library card or card number.

V. Third Party Vendor Services

Some services offered by the library are facilitated by third party vendors. These vendors have their own terms of service and policies that affect the privacy of personally identifiable information. Patrons should understand that, when accessing third-party resources or vendor sites, there are limits to the privacy protection the Library can provide. Links to third party vendor privacy policies are available on the vendor websites (often in the website footer at the bottom of the page) that are linked through the Library's website.

Some patrons may choose to take advantage of hold and overdue notices via e-mail or text message, and similar services that send personally identifiable information related to Library use via public communication networks. Patrons should be aware that the Library has limited ability to protect the privacy of this information once it is outside the Library's control.

VI. Patron Use of Non-library Websites

This privacy and confidentiality policy does not apply to external applications or websites that may be accessed by a patron from the Library's public computers, devices or equipment (such as Internet computers, Chromebooks and iPads).

The Library welcomes engagement via the Library's social media channels and public blogs. As social media sites are public, any posts or comments made to the Library's sponsored social media sites are accessible to Library staff, the social media company, and the public at large. For more information, please see the Library's [Social Media Policy](#).

VII. Use of Facilities

There is no reasonable expectation of privacy regarding a person's presence in a public building.

Use of public computers or personal devices

JCLS provides computer equipment and Wi-Fi for public use in all branch locations and in accordance with the Internet Acceptable Use Policy. Library staff have the authority to end an internet session or ask a user to stop viewing any content if material is inappropriate for a public library setting.

Photography and video recording from the public

Photographs or videos may be taken inside and outside the Library by the public for their own use. Photographs and recordings are not allowed in non-public areas (restrooms and staff only areas). Library staff reserve the right to stop anyone from taking photographs or recordings if it results in disruption of normal library operation, is deemed to be harassing, intimidating, or threatening toward a patron or staff member, or if the activity blocks walkways, doors, or stairways. Taking photographs and recordings of the exterior building and grounds is also permitted but the activity may not impede the entry or departure to or from the Library building or property.

Photography and video recording by Library Staff

The Library reserves the right to utilize photographs or videos taken at the Library for publicity purposes in printed materials and online. All Library patrons consent to the use of their photo or video image taken at the Library during Library events unless they specifically inform staff of an objection to such use. No names will be used in conjunction with photos without express written consent.

Security Cameras

The District may use interior and exterior security cameras to enhance the safety and security of library users, staff, and property, while protecting individuals' right to privacy. Library security cameras consist of dedicated cameras providing real-time surveillance footage available through a secure video management system. The primary use of security cameras is to discourage inappropriate and illegal behavior and to enhance the opportunity to apprehend offenders.

The District shall post and maintain signs giving notice of the use of security cameras in public areas of the Library property. Please see the [Security Cameras Policy](#).

Law Enforcement

There is a distinction between the confidentiality of a patron's use of Library materials and services and their physical presence in a public building. For that reason, Library staff may respond to questions from law enforcement officers about a person's presence in the Library.

It is the responsibility of the District to preserve the confidentiality of patron records to the fullest extent permitted by law. Library records are not made available to any agency of state, federal, or local government without a subpoena, warrant, court order or other legal document requiring disclosure. Only the Library Director or designee is authorized to receive or comply with requests from law enforcement officers. District Counsel is consulted whenever possible before determining the proper response. These orders must show good cause as to why the information must be disclosed and be in proper form. Library staff are instructed to refer any law enforcement requests to Library administrators.

VIII. Questions and the Library's Legal Responsibilities

Library records may be subject to disclosure to law enforcement officials under provisions of state law, the USA PATRIOT Act or in a civil or criminal lawsuit. Librarians may be forbidden from reporting to a patron that their records have been requested or obtained under provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act.

The Oregon State Open Public Records Law requires public agencies to provide records upon request (ORS 192.324). There is an exemption to this law for certain Library records (ORS 192.345). Records primarily kept to maintain control of Library materials or help patrons gain access to information are exempt. The Library Director is custodian of Library records and is authorized to receive or comply with public records requests or inquiries from law enforcement officers. The Director may delegate this authority to designated members of the Library's management team. For more information, please see the Library's [Public Records Policy](#).

If a patron has a question, concern, or complaint about the Library's handling of personally identifiable information or this policy, the patron may file written comments with the Library Director. The Director will respond in a timely manner and may conduct an investigation or review of practices and procedures. The Library conducts such reviews regularly to ensure compliance with the principles outlined in this policy.

***This Policy was originally adopted on October 16, 2024, and updated on April 27, 2026.**



JCLD Board of Directors Meeting: June 17, 2026

JCLD Update Executive Director's Report

Please see accompanying reports from Assistant Directors Joan Vigil and Kelda Vath on new developments and events occurring within JCLS.

The three important topics below occupied a good deal of time in the past month:

1. JCLD's Negotiations with SEIU:

Since JCLD's legal counsel, Mark Wolf, will make a full report via Zoom at the June 17, 2026 meeting of the Board of Directors, I will add no detailed report here. JCLD's negotiating team continues to meet in good faith at regular intervals with the SEIU team as we work towards a Collective Bargaining Agreement.

2. Reductions in Force:

Between May 28, 2026 and June 1, 2026, JCLD implemented reductions in force as authorized by the Board of Directors and in full compliance with the JCLS Reduction in Force Policy, which was used in every circumstance.

While the reductions in force presented trying times to the organization, both administration and the general employee base worked well together to minimize the effects.

To wit:

Several employees stepped forward to accept reassignment within the organization, or to offer a voluntary reduction in hours, or resigned from a position to minimize the impact of the reductions in force on their colleagues. This allowed management to be creative and reduce the impact on staff.

Fourteen (14) employees were affected by a reduction of working hours.

Nine (9) employees' hours were reduced by two (2) hours per week.

Four (4) employees' hours were reduced by (5) five hours per week.



One (1) employee's hours were reduced by ten (10) hours per week.

Of the employees referred to above, three (3) took voluntary reductions in hours.

Additionally, seventy-one per cent (71%) of employees who had their hours reduced were not part of the bargaining unit but were either supervisory or confidential employees.

The total reductions in force amounted to 5.075 FTE. The Board of Directors had authorized a reduction in force of up to 12.475 FTE. The collaboration and creativity mentioned above, therefore, preserved 7.4 FTE, exhibiting a spirit of goodwill and cooperation within JCLD.

Of the 5.075 FTEs resulting from the reduction in force process, four (4) FTE affected bargaining unit members, and 1.075 affected supervisory or confidential employees.

Included in the 5.075 FTE mentioned above, the Community Resources Team was reduced by two (2) FTE based upon the following realities and change in the scope of the team's duties as explained by Assistant Director of Public Services, Joan Vigil below:

The Community Resources Department's needs have shifted over the years since its inception five years ago. When CRS started, roles and responsibilities looked very different than they do today. We installed Security services after the team grew beyond the original four that were hired, at one point there were eight Resource Specialists. Security took many of the deescalation and roving essential duties of our RS staff members. The District did not immediately reduce staffing in the department. After duties shifted, branch outreach visits, while well-intentioned increased greatly. These visits were inconsistent in impact and costly in both time and mileage. It made sense to refocus where the department could have the most concentrated, intentional impact, and that was determined to be Medford and Ashland. Staffing was reduced in this department to fit the need and main core essential functions of the department.



In a further positive development pursuant to additional movement after the May 28, 2026 through June 1, 2026 RIF process, two Library Associate positions became open which were offered to two staff members who had been subject to the reductions in force. Both employees accepted the positions and began in their new roles on June 8, 2026.

These two (2) re-employments are reflected in the total reductions of 5.075 FTE above.

Finally, it should be noted that reductions in force were part of response to balancing the 2026-2027 FY budget that also included across-the-board cuts to departmental budgets and well as the reduction of branch hours achieved by closing the Medford and Ashland branches on Sundays.

3. Executive Director Search

In a special session of the JCLD Board of Directors on June 3, 2026, the Directors reviewed the proposals of three search firms for the task of recruiting the next permanent Executive Director of the organization. After discussion and deliberation, the Directors voted to retain the services of Bradbury Miller Associates LLC of Canton, Ohio. All three firms presented good proposals for the search. Bradbury Miller Associates stood out for its singular focus on public library searches, over three hundred (300) placements in the last decade, and forty-plus years of experience in the field.

As of June 5, 2026 JCLD formally contracted with Bradbury Miller Associates LLC. First steps in the process, such as providing organizational information and required contact information, calendaring of initial meetings, and selecting members of a search committee, are being implemented this month. The entire process, on average and based on Bradbury Miller Associates' extensive experience in the field, is expected to take four to five months to the hiring of a new Executive Director.



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This report is designed to align with the strategic goals as outlined in the 2022–2026 Strategic Plan. It demonstrates how the programs, services, and activities accomplished this month further the Library's mission to connect everyone to information, ideas, and each other. To ensure a consistent voice among contributors, ChatGPT was used to assist with editing.

Goal 1: Energize Library Services & Resources

Strategy 2: Diversify and Increase Programming and Events

This year's JCLS Summer Reading theme, "Plant a Seed, Read," is rooted in the idea that farms nourish our bodies while libraries nourish our minds. Both food and stories connect people to family, culture, economy, and ecology, and this summer's programs are designed to explore those connections through science, history, health, and community.



JCLS is partnering with the Children's Museum of Southern Oregon to offer storytimes with songs, stories, and hands-on fun that encourage a love of reading from an early age. Older children can participate in a bilingual Pollinator Project program featuring bean dissection, wildflower seed preparation through movement and dance, and lessons on starting pollinator gardens at home. The partnership with the Jackson County Master Gardeners also continues this summer with a family program on growing and tasting microgreens at home.

Teens will have opportunities to explore science and sustainability this summer through programs on guerilla gardening and cyanotype printing. In partnership with Jordan Land from Grange Co-Op, teens will learn how to make communities greener and more biodiverse while creating their own seed bombs. Another program will introduce cyanotype printing, a camera-less photographic process that uses sunlight, water, and iron-based chemicals.

Adult programming will include screenings of *Bringing the Salmon Home*, a short film about the Klamath River Renewal Project and the world's largest dam removal effort. JCLS will also welcome author Seamus O'Caellaigh for a presentation on *Medieval Medicinal Plants*, where patrons will explore Tudor-era medical practices and create their own salves.

JCLS is celebrating America 250 with a series of programs recognizing the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Most notably, JCLS is participating in the nationwide “Sharing of the Spirit of America” initiative, coordinated by the Hawai’i America250 Commission. On July 8, beginning at 3 p.m. PST, communities across all 50 states and U.S. territories will read the Declaration of Independence together, echoing the public readings that took place in 1776.

JCLS will also welcome back living history lecturer Tames Alan for “Tea and Revolution: Women’s Role in the War of Independence,” highlighting the courage and influence of women during the Revolutionary War. Several branches are partnering with Oregon Humanities to host community conversations about democracy, freedom, and American identity.

In Central Point, author and JPR host Mike Green will discuss his book *America 250: Through the Lens of Black American History*, which explores the ongoing struggle to make freedom and equality a reality for all Americans.



Ashland hosted the third and final installment of a monthly series exploring Shakespeare plays featured in this season’s OSF productions. This month, Shakespeare scholar Mike Jensen and dramaturg Lue Douthit discussed *The Taming of the Shrew*, examining both its historical context and the ways modern audiences respond to the play today. Their conversation highlighted their shared passion for Shakespeare while showcasing their distinctly different perspectives and approaches.



Award-winning poets Kathleen McClung and Amy Miller visited Ashland to read from recent work and share insights into the publishing process. Drawing on experience from more than eight books between them, they discussed researching publishers, managing expectations, navigating setbacks, and the role luck can play in a writing career. An engaged audience continued the conversation before the evening concluded with a book signing.





Prospect welcomed two guest organizations for a full day of youth programming. In the morning, Smokey Bear and the Forest Service hosted a special storytime for local Pre-K and Kindergarten classes. Later that afternoon, the Prospect Volunteer Rural Fire Department brought both fire trucks to the field next to the library for the weekly third-grade visit. The visit tied perfectly into the spring theme, “Things That Go,” giving students the chance to learn how the trucks work and hear directly from local volunteers about their roles in the community.

Librarians Meghan Thompson and Kayla Samnath continued outreach programming at the Community Justice Transition Center with a new financial literacy module focused on banks, credit unions, and other financial institutions. Participants engaged in thoughtful conversations about the services available to support different financial needs and goals, making strong progress through one of the program’s longest sections.

In Central Point, Library Specialist Abigail Awai celebrated May Day with an all-ages Lei Making Workshop. Using flowers sourced in part from the Crater High School FFA program, Awai shared the cultural significance of lei making in Hawai’i while teaching patrons several traditional techniques.

The At Home Services team held its second meeting with the newly named Medford Senior Center Book Club, which has already grown from five participants to seven regular attendees.

In Ashland, Technology Education Specialists Nicole Vukcevic and Leia Pastizzo partnered to teach the popular “End of Life and Your Online Accounts” class for seniors. The session drew 17 attendees—about double the usual size—and received especially positive feedback from Janay Haas, an attorney and former Southern Oregon University instructor who has worked extensively on legal issues affecting older adults in Oregon.

Strategic Plan Goal 2: Extend Access to the Library

Strategy 2 – Expand and diversify marketing and promotion

Medford Teen Librarian Andrea Leone partnered with Ryan Pfiel from Marketing to create a new social media reel inspired by @hooverpubliclibrary. The video features Medford Library staff lip-syncing to the viral “Puerto Rico Song” and will be shared soon across JCLS social media platforms.

Strategy 3 – Enliven and improve facilities



Work on the pollinator garden at the Phoenix Library continues to make strong progress. JCLS Facilities staff, Branch Manager Jody Fleming, and Area Manager Kristin Anderson meet weekly with partners from Solid Ground Landscape and Arkitek to review updates and upcoming work. Community members have already shared enthusiastic feedback about the garden’s appearance and excitement for its completion.

Goal 3: Engage the Community More Fully

Strategy 1: Increase Outreach and Community Partnerships



The Jacksonville branch welcomed 60 Kindergarteners from Jacksonville Elementary School for a community service field trip focused on gardening and giving back. Students spent the morning planting flowers around the library, then came inside to sing songs and hear stories about growing and community care. Their teacher later shared that it was the best field trip of the year.



In partnership with Rogue Food Unites and the City of Talent, the Talent Library parking lot is now home to a weekly No Cost Farmer’s Market. Despite cold and rainy weather, patrons began lining up hours early, with about 75 people waiting shortly after the market opened. Held every Thursday from 4:00–6:00 p.m., the program provides fresh produce and locally sourced foods, including items like organic blueberries and ground pork, to support healthy meals and community access to food.

The Butte Falls Library is partnering with the local Community School Partnership and the Carpenter Foundation to support a summer meal distribution program for youth ages 18 and under. From June 15 through August 7, the library will serve as the community pickup site for meals every Tuesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The partnership has strengthened connections between the library, school district, and

local organizations while fostering a renewed sense of community collaboration in Butte Falls.

The Ruch Library has partnered with the Southern Oregon Living and Dying Alliance (SOLADA) to host a monthly Death Cafe Conversation program. The gatherings provide a welcoming space for open conversations about death, grief, caregiving, aging, and other major life transitions. While the subject matter can sound heavy, participants often describe the discussions as thoughtful, supportive, and unexpectedly uplifting.

Attendees have shared appreciation for having a space where these conversations feel welcomed rather than avoided. One participant navigating a loved one's terminal diagnosis said it was helpful "to talk about my feelings and explore them," while another noted that "everyone was welcoming and there wasn't any pressure to speak." The program continues to foster connection, reflection, and community support for those experiencing loss, caregiving, or end-of-life planning.

At the latest Ukrainian Social Hour in Rogue River, patrons learned about Ukraine's capital city, Kyiv, through historical videos and personal stories shared by staff member Nataliia about her experiences living there. Nataliia's mother also performed a popular Ukrainian song, prompting thoughtful questions and discussion from attendees. One patron later returned to the library to share that the program inspired her to learn more about Ukraine by checking out books and DVDs on the subject.

Central Point Branch Manager Carrie Turney Ross partnered with the Central Point Friends of the Library to promote library services at the Made in Southern Oregon event on Pine Street. While the Friends group shared information about their support for the Central Point Library, Turney Ross highlighted JCLS resources, library cards, and programs through games and prizes for attendees.



At Home Services staff Kateri Warnick and Mackenzie Pollock partnered with Education Services staff Evelyn Lorence and Bella Silva to complete Project Sunshine 2026, an annual program where local students create gifts for At Home Services patrons. This year's gifts included handmade wind chimes and other small items. Patrons have already shared thank-you notes, and At Home Services patron Frida Davis posed with her gift.

Warnick and Pollock also attended a resource fair at the new Orchard Meadow Housing Authority apartment complex, where 61 residents learned about library services and 10 new library cards were created.

Education Services staff Evelyn Lorence and Bella Silva spent May hosting lunchtime pop-ups at local middle and high schools to promote the Summer Reading Challenge, distribute event guides, and connect teens with JCLS resources for summer learning. The team also presented Summer Reading programs for K–6 students at Shady Cove School, led a Book Speed Dating activity for sixth graders with support from Spanish Services Coordinator Milagros Morales, and connected with families at the Prospect Charter School Carnival and Ashland Grove’s Kids Jamboree.

Throughout the month, the team distributed 3,700 Summer Reading event guides to schools across Jackson County to help connect students and families with JCLS summer programming.

Business Librarian Roslyn Donald presented to the Jacksonville–Applegate Rotary about the Rural Entrepreneur in Residence project planned for Fall 2025. Community partner Jeff Haas of A Greater Applegate joined as co-presenter, sharing efforts to support and strengthen rural businesses in the Applegate region.

Marketing Specialist Ryan Pfeil also assisted in creating a promotional video for the Rural Entrepreneur project. https://youtu.be/sXE6E72Pe_A?si=69IZSBXrMNgYfH5g.

Spanish Services Coordinator Milagros Morales presented at literacy nights for SOESD’s Migrant Education Program in Phoenix, Medford, and White City, where nearly 100 parents learned about Summer Reading and library resources. Morales also participated in the program’s end-of-year celebration at Oakdale Middle School.

At Jewett Elementary’s Celebration of Learning, Morales and Spark Space Library Specialist Abigail Awai connected with more than 120 parents and students while sharing summer event guides and information about Central Point programs. One parent shared that after signing up for a library card at a previous literacy night, visiting the library together had become a favorite family activity.



Retirement Connections Release Party 2026, RoxyAnn Winery

Technology Education has continued expanding partnerships with community organizations this year. Existing collaborations with AGE+, Pacific Retirement Services, Ashland Senior Center, and Golden Rule Recovery have grown, while partner referrals and networking have also led to a new partnership with Rogue Retreat and additional opportunities currently development.

Technology Education Supervisor Eric Molinsky also attended the annual Retirement Connections event at RoxyAnn Winery, where he connected with organizations focused on supporting older adults and sharing community resources.

Strategy 3 – Advance ongoing work to foster a welcoming and inclusive environment in facilities, services, and resources for all segments of the community, notably the Latinx population, unhoused individuals and families, tribal members, and homeschool groups

The Community Resource Team was awarded a \$15,000 grant from the Reed and Carolee Walker Fund to help expand services, resources, and essential items available to patrons throughout the community. The grant supports the ongoing work of JCLS staff in connecting individuals and families with critical support and resources.

Medford Librarians Lisa Baehr and Christine Yee coordinated new installations for the Medford Library display cases. Baehr partnered with the Community Volunteer Network to highlight programs connecting older adults with volunteer opportunities throughout Southern Oregon, while Yee worked with the Rogue Gallery & Art Center to feature an exhibit on artist, educator, and storyteller Baba Wagué Diakité, whose work explores cultural connection and storytelling rooted in Mali and the Pacific Northwest.

Each week, Central Point Library Specialist Noel O'Brien, known to families as Miss Noel, welcomes 40 to 55 children and caregivers to storytime at the Central Point Library. Recently, a traveling family from the United Kingdom attended after visiting storytimes across the United States during their trip. As they said goodbye, the child's father told O'Brien that of all the storytimes they had attended, hers was "the very best and the most welcoming," adding, "You are doing something special here."

This spring, JCLS launched a photography project to build a new library of images for future promotions, website content, and social media. Beginning April 28 and continuing through May, a contracted photographer visited eight branches—Applegate, Ruch, Butte Falls, Eagle Point, Prospect, Shady Cove, Gold Hill, and Rogue River—to capture library spaces, daily activities, and the unique character of each branch. Photography at the remaining branches will continue in June, with all images expected by the end of the month.

The Marketing team also photographed several May events, including World Pollinator's Bee Day at White City, Lego Explorers at Central Point, and Star Wars Day at Eagle Point. Photography efforts will continue throughout the summer during Plant a Seed, Read and America 250 programs.

A Summer Reading press release was distributed to news outlets and community partners on May 21, featuring photos from recent events along with this year's Summer Reading stickers and bookmarks, available beginning June 1. The Rogue Valley Times later shared the story and photos in an [article on May 27th](#).

During the final weeks of May, Marketing distributed Summer Reading materials to all branches, including event guides, reading logs, stickers, bookmarks, pencils, and staff Summer Reading t-shirts. Digital resources were also shared with branches, including flyer templates, printable coloring sheets, and reading logs.

In addition to Summer Reading materials, Marketing distributed Pride and America250 bookmarks to branches and shared an editable America250 event template for local promotions. Promotion for Summer Reading also began across all social media channels toward the end of May, alongside promotion of upcoming June America250 events. A preview of this year's Summer Reading campaign can be viewed on Facebook: [social media post on May 26th.](#)

Social Media Overview: Facebook & Instagram

Facebook and Instagram engagement declined slightly in May compared to April. In June, Marketing plans to increase engagement with commenters and community partners while highlighting the wide variety of Summer Reading and seasonal events taking place across the district. With programs geared toward families, teens, and rural communities, staff anticipate stronger engagement throughout the summer months.

