

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Neesha Patel called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm. Vice-Chair Ryan Wheaton and Trustees Pamela Duncan and Pat Jenkins were in attendance. Trustee Abby Sloan was excused. The meeting was conducted in person, with a remote attendance option.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Written comments were submitted by Meleney Albert, Anna Ashenberner, Latonya Bailey, Alison Barlow, JC Bean, Audrey Braken, Brenda Bresnahan, Kristi Ceder, Barbara Connelly, Manuela Crutcher, Elise DeGuiseppe, Elizabeth Devereux, Jen Edwards, Tasi Fepuleai, Kelly Greiner, Hayden, Jeffrey Jensen, Ann Jolie, Jerry Layne, Emily Dawn Levi, Brian Lawrence, Pamela Lowe-Nelson, Kathy Manley, Jane Milhans, Martin L Miller, Martin Miller, Jaida Noble, Lisa Oldoski, Jeffrey Ries, Joani Rittierodt, Krista Sheehy, Curtis Stahlecker, Nicole Wills, and Renee Brewer.

3. PRESENTATIONS

Customer Experience Director Melissa Munn shared a presentation on the Customer Experience Department.

Regional Services Manager Krystal Corbray presented an overview of the South Hill Library.

Executive Director Gretchen Caserotti continued the presentation on the Capital Campaign Plan recommendations brought to the Board in January. Along with the executive summary, she shared detailed information and recommendations on the South Hill, Graham and Eatonville branches. Over the next month, she will share the recommendations internally with staff, followed by community engagement in Q2 and Q3. Afterward the feedback will be analyzed and brought to the Board by early 2027.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Minutes of January 14, 2026, Regular Meeting
- b. Approval of January Payroll, Benefits, and Vouchers
- c. Resolution 2026-01: To Declare Furnishings and Equipment Surplus to Public Service Needs

Trustees Wheaton and Jenkins moved and seconded approval of the consent agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

There was no discussion.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director Mary Stimson reported the department in conducting its internal audits, reconciliations, and transfers. She will bring Resolutions to the March meeting to close the 2025 year.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Policy Review: Board Bylaws

Trustees Wheaton and Jenkins moved and seconded approval of the Bylaws of the Pierce County Library System Board of Trustees as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

b. Trustee Vacancy 2026

The Board reviewed the updates and discussed using the existing process in place for this year.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Approval of Purchase Order — Markham Investigation & Protection, LLC

Trustees Duncan and Wheaton moved and seconded approval of the purchase order for Markham Investigation and Protection, LLC for 2026 security work in an amount not to exceed \$200,000. All in favor. Motion carried.

Trustees Jenkins and Wheaton moved and seconded approval to retroactively approve a purchase order for Markham Investigation and Protection, LLC, effective 1/15/25, for 2025 security work in an amount not to exceed \$240,000.

b. Sumner Meeting Cancellation

Trustees discussed canceling the July 8, 2026, regular meeting. A motion will be brought forward at the March meeting.

c. Responding to Community and Staff Concerns

Deputy Director Connie Behe acknowledged the difficulty of the reorganization decision impacts and expressed her appreciation for the care the public expressed. She has been personally responding to all concerns, including arranging for meeting community members. She noted there has been a great deal of misinformation that has been difficult to navigate. Trustees expressed appreciation for the time commitment in reaching out to individuals and for being responsive and intentional. Trustees urged administrators to proactively engage with staff. Executive Director Caserotti noted ongoing work to enhance internal communications.

d. Update on Staff Guidance Related to Law Enforcement

Executive Director Caserotti reported the Library, in response to increasing concerns about that law enforcement activity, evaluated its guidelines to capture needed updates. The guidelines were shared in multiple learning sessions with staff to ensure clarity. Discussion ensued on intellectual freedom, staff safety, and concerns related to immigrant enforcement.

9. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

There was no discussion.

10. CLOSING COMMENTS

The One Book, One Coast book club event , featuring George Takei's graphic memoir They Called us the Enemy runs from April 1, 2026, through May 31, 2026.

Stories and Voices for Black History Month events include: Platforms for Protest virtual program; a quilt exhibit with Freddy Smith held at the Gig Harbor Library; and an African American Folk Tales event held at the Fife Library.

A Community Resource Fair will be held on February 26, 2026, from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm at the Parkland/Spanaway Library.

Chair Patel noted an Introduction to Tai Chi class at the Gig Harbor Library.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Trustees Jenkins and Wheaton moved and seconded for adjournment. All in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:58 pm.

Gretchen Caserotti
Gretchen Caserotti (Mar 20, 2026 09:06:10 PDT)
Gretchen Caserotti, Secretary

Neesha Patel
Neesha Patel (Mar 29, 2026 09:04:04 PDT)
Neesha Patel, Chair