

**Red Wing Library Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers
January 14, 2026**

Members Present: Library Board President Natasha Yates; Library Board Vice President Jacqueline West; Board Members Amanda Motschke, Ron Skjong, Joan Heineman, and Kim Emery

Members Absent: Board Member Catherine Friend (excused)

Others Present: Dan Brower, Library Director; Vicki Jo Lambert, Council Liaison

1. Call to Order

Library Board President Natasha Yates called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

President Yates led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Excusal of Members

President Yates noted that Member Emery was excused in the Month of November, despite her forgetting to say it during the meeting and the meeting minutes saying otherwise.

4. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Member Skjong, seconded by Vice President West, to approve the Agenda as presented. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6:0.

5. Annual Reading of Statement of Intent & Library Mission Statement

A. Statement of Intent & Library Mission Statement.

President Yates led the Board in the annual reading of the Statement of Intent and the Library Mission Statement.

6. Swearing in of Library Board Members Amanda Motschke and Ron Skjong

Mayor Gary Iocco swore in Member Amanda Motschke.

Mayor Gary Iocco swore in Member Ron Skjong.

7. Election of Officer

Library Director Dan Brower asked for nominations for Library Board President. Vice President West nominated President Yates.

Director Brower stated that, given there were no other nominations, President Yates will remain Library Board President.

Director Brower asked for nominations for Library Board Vice President. President Yates nominated Vice President West.

Director Brower stated that, given there were no other nominations, Vice President West will be the Library Board Vice President.

Director Brower asked for nominations for Library Board Secretary. Vice President West nominated Member Heineman.

Director Brower stated that, given there were no other nominations, Member Heineman will be the Library Board Secretary.

8. Consent Agenda

A. Motion to Approve the November 12, 2025, Library Board Meeting Minutes.

B. Motion to Approve November and December 2025 Bills.

Director Brower reiterated the excusal of Member Emery in the November Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by Member Skjong, seconded by Member Heineman, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6:0.

9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10. Motions & General Business

A. Consider Motion to Approve 2026 Meeting Schedule.

Director Brower discussed Library Board Meeting dates and proposed changes.

A motion was made by Member Vice President West, seconded by Member Emery, to approve the meeting schedule as revised. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6:0.

11. Communication Items

A. Director's Report.

Director Brower highlighted topics from his report:

- Director Brower stated that he will be attending the International Evergreen Conference in Seattle in April to learn about new software features and share that information with other library directors in the region. All costs associated with the conference will be fully covered.
- Director Brower discussed the return of the "Automatically Yours" program, which allows patrons to sign up for specific authors and receive newly released books. Participants are placed on a list, and copies are distributed randomly among those registered.

- Director Brower noted that there are no updates regarding the bequest at this time, but stated that staff are working with Public Works on the sound booth and exploring alternative options for study rooms.
- Director Brower stated that measurements for the Library of Things were unclear and that staff will need to reassess the space to determine how many cabinets can fit.
- Director Brower reported that the library is partnering with the Big Turn Music Festival and that Emily from Red Wing Arts has coordinated receiving albums from performing artists so residents can discover their music at the library. He also noted that two festival tickets will be given away to the January reading challenge winner.
- Director Brower announced that there are two board vacancies available to help support and influence library decisions, and interested individuals may apply through the City website.
- Director Brower stated that the library hopes to send all staff to the PLA Conference, as a national conference is being held locally. He noted that the library will remain open during the conference. Two staff members received grants to attend, covering their costs in full. While this will exhaust the library's travel and conference budget, he believes this is an important and worthwhile opportunity.
- Director Brower reported that he has been invited to attend the World Library and Information Congress hosted by IFLA in South Korea. He applied to volunteer at the conference to receive free registration and accommodations and is awaiting confirmation.
- Director Brower noted that the 2026 budget includes a position increase, with the Youth Services Assistant transitioning to full-time status effective June 1, 2026.

B. Library Board President's Report.

There was no report.

C. SELCO.

Board Representative Brandt highlighted topics from her report:

- Ebook Legislation
- SELCO Property Updates

D. City Council Liaison Report.

Council Liaison Lambert expressed her support for the position converting to full-time and asked whether the City owns its eBooks or leases them. Director Brower responded that the City licenses the eBooks. Council Liaison Lambert asked if this licensing is managed through data centers. Director Brower confirmed that this was correct.

E. Friends of the Library.

Friends of the Library Representative Cato reported that the mini book sale earned \$50 in two hours. She also announced that the "Cozy Up and Read"

program is starting and noted a need for paper and plastic bags. The next book sale is scheduled for April 1.

F. Bequest Committee.

President Yates reported that the matter is on hold pending resolution of the sound booth. She also noted the Carlson Estate is in probate, and additional details can be found within the report.

G. Budget Committee.

There was no report.

H. Fine Arts Committee.

There was no report.

I. Long-Range Planning Committee.

There was no report.

J. Marketing Committee.

Member Emery reported that preliminary brand guidelines are expected within the next week or so.

K. Personnel Committee.

President Yates reported on the part-time position that is being transitioned to full-time and noted that several clerks have resigned, with hopes that the positions will be filled soon.

L. Board Member Comments.

Board Members were offered an opportunity to provide book reviews.

President Yates discussed *The Girl Who Baptized Herself* (non-fiction) and shared that she learned a great deal about how the Bible was put together and the story of a Saint named Thecla.

Member Emery discussed *Dark Humor* by Matt Goldman, describing a husband avenging his wife's death in Europe.

Member Motschke discussed *IQ 84*, describing it as surreal and very long, and noted being nearly finished with it.

Member Heineman discussed *Foster* by Claire Keegan, about a young girl in Ireland who is sent to live with another family, told through her voice.

Member Skjong discussed *The Book of Hope* by Jane Goodall, describing it as a worthwhile book that makes you feel.

Vice President West discussed *Dear Memory* by Victoria Chang, a memoir told through letters, which she highly recommends.

Council Liaison Lambert discussed *Eve* by Kat Bohanan, noting that it was good but a difficult read.

Director Brower discussed *The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus*, noting the optimism throughout the book.

Friends of the Library representative Cato shared works by Dorothy L. Sayers featuring *Lord Peter Wimsey*, noting their educational and classical nature.

M. Announcements.

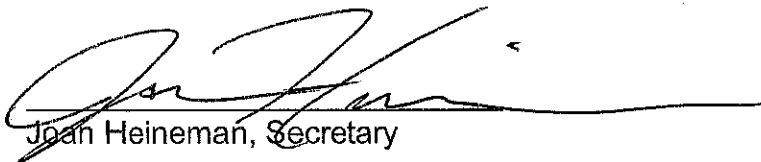
Director Brower announced that the City sent communication to employees outlining what they can and cannot do if ICE enters the workplace.

N. Attachments.

12. Adjournment

A motion was made by Member Skjong to adjourn the meeting.
The meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

ATTEST:



Joan Heineman, Secretary