

**CHARITON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AGENDA · THURSDAY JANUARY 8, 2026
LIBRARY BOARDROOM**

All meetings of the Board are open to anyone who may wish to observe the proceedings. Anyone wishing to address the Board may do so during Public Forum. Speakers should state their name and purpose and speak for no more than five minutes, unless otherwise permitted by the presiding officer. Please note that no discussion or action on items raised in Public Forum can be undertaken at this meeting, but the speaker(s) may request the item be added to the agenda for a future meeting.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 3. Public Forum**
- 4. Consent Agenda:**
 - a. December 11, 2025 Minutes**
 - b. Correspondence - none**
 - c. Grants – none**
- 5. November 2025 Financial Statements**
- 6. January 2026 Claims**
- 7. Unfinished Business**
 - a. Strategic Planning**
- 8. New Business**
 - a. Lucas County Genealogical Society Agreement (Review)**
 - b. FY27 Budget Request Draft**
- 9. Reports**
 - Finance & Policy Committee
 - Community Relations Committee (12/25 Zeffy Income \$150)
 - Building & Grounds Committee
 - Library Director
- 10. Board Comments & Continuing Education**
- 11. Agenda Items for Next Month's (February 12, 2026) Meeting**
 - Board Meeting Policy
 - Programming Policy (Community Led Programs)
 - Circulation Policy (student cards)

Chariton Public Library Board Meeting
January 8, 2026 at 5:30pm
Please join our meeting from your
computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://meet.google.com/cth-ebfp-rrb>

Adjournment

**Chariton Free Public Library
December 11, 2025**

The Chariton Free Public Library Board held its regular monthly meeting in the boardroom on December 11, 2025 pursuant to notice given under the Iowa Open Meetings law. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Trustees Bisgard, Blake, Meyer, Pillsbury-Allen, and Sharp were present. City Councilman Gary Shutt was present online. Director Murphy was also present.

The Agenda was unanimously adopted on a motion from Meyer, seconded by Pillsbury-Allen.

Public Forum: None

Consent Agenda: Meyer moved and Blake seconded for unanimous approval of the Consent Agenda.

November 13, 2025 Minutes

Correspondence – none

Grants – none

The **October 2025 Financial Statements** were reviewed. Blake moved the statements be accepted and placed on file, Pillsbury-Allen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The **December 2025 Claims** were unanimously approved on a motion from Blake, seconded by Sharp.

Unfinished Business

McGee has set up the Friends of the Library ZEFFY fundraising account. Donations have already started coming in.

New Business - none

Reports

Building & Grounds: Murphy reported that she'd requested via email the next roofing project quote from Wood Roofing. She also reported on the progress with the southwest basement room. Johnny Brown has completed the paneling and trim in the room. Murphy and Ghormley will meet with him for any necessary finishing before they paint the room and move the shelving back into place. Once this work is complete the programming materials will be relocated to the room freeing up the boardroom for meetings again.

Community Relations: See above.

Finance & Policy: Meyer gave a brief summary of the 12/8/25 committee meeting and the policies currently being developed or revised for the January meeting. Possible individuals to fill McGee's vacant position on the board were discussed.

Director's Report: (attached)

Agenda Items for January:

Board Meeting Policy, Programming Policy (Community Led Programs) and Circulation Policy (student cards)

Director Evaluation

FY27 Budget Request

Genealogy Contract

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m. on a motion from Pillsbury-Allen, seconded by Meyer.

Kris Murphy, Library Director

NOVEMBER 2025 OPERATING FUND FINANCIAL REPORT

REVENUE REPORT CALENDAR 11/2025, FISCAL 5/2026 41.6%

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT TITLE	ESTIMATE	MTD BALANCE	YTD BALANCE	PERCENT RECVD	UNCOLLECTED
006-410-4300	INTEREST - LIBRARY \$MARKET	4,500.00	175.92	2,299.48	51.10	2,200.52
006-410-4470	LIBRARY RURAL FEES	19,716.00	.00	.00	.00	19,716.00
006-410-4471	LOCAL GRANTS	3,300.00	.00	.00	.00	3,300.00
006-410-4550	MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
006-410-4705	DONATIONS	2,000.00	119.00	870.79	43.54	1,129.21
006-410-4715	REFUND	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
006-410-4765	LIBRARY FINES	3,000.00	147.50	1,459.10	48.64	1,540.90
006-410-4799	OTHER REVENUES	3,500.00	.00	2,684.42	76.70	815.58
006-910-4830	TRANSFER IN - LIBRARY OPERATIN	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
006-910-4832	INTERFUND LOAN PAYMENT	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
006-950-4000	GENERAL PROPERTY TAXES	140,000.00	.00	70,000.00	50.00	70,000.00
	LIBRARY OPERATING TOTAL	176,016.00	442.42	77,313.79	43.92	98,702.21

BUDGET REPORT CALENDAR 11/2025, FISCAL 5/2026 41.6%

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT TITLE	BUDGET	MTD BALANCE	YTD BALANCE	PERCENT EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED
006-410-6010	SALARIES	144,000.00	9,779.87	54,593.23	37.91	89,406.77
006-410-6210	DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	1,500.00	.00	1,306.32	87.09	193.68
006-410-6230	TRAVEL, TRAINING, & DUES	100.00	.00	.00	.00	100.00
006-410-6310	BUILDING & GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	.00	204.00	2,363.74	.00	2,363.74
006-410-6371	UTILITIES	11,000.00	994.12	5,723.89	52.04	5,276.11
006-410-6402	ADVERTISING & LEGAL PUBLICATIO	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
006-410-6405	RECORDING FEES	500.00	.00	1,042.00	208.40	542.00
006-410-6411	LEGAL EXPENSES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
006-410-6497	MISC EXPENSE	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
006-410-6498	PROGRAMMING	3,000.00	18.75	1,267.02	42.23	1,732.98
006-410-6505	NEW EQUIPMENT	.00	.00	342.87	.00	342.87
006-410-6507	OPERATING SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	600.00	.00	130.12	21.69	469.88
006-410-6508	POSTAGE	300.00	24.81	66.36	22.12	233.64
006-410-6522	PRINTED MATERIALS	5,000.00	928.32	2,828.98	56.58	2,171.02
006-410-6523	AUDIO/VISUAL MATERIALS	1,000.00	.00	534.02	53.40	465.98
006-410-6525	SOFTWARE & TECH SUPPORT	8,500.00	1,358.69	5,017.49	59.03	3,482.51
006-410-6526	JANITOR SUPPLIES	500.00	45.93	307.01	61.40	192.99
006-410-6751	CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
	LIBRARY TOTAL	176,000.00	13,354.49	75,523.05	42.91	100,476.95

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT TITLE	TOTAL BUDGET	MTD BALANCE	YTD BALANCE	PERCENT EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED
010-410-6408	LIABILITY & PROP INS LEVY TOTA	13,000.00	.00	.00	.00	13,000.00
112-410-61	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS TOTAL	33,422.00	2,334.72	13,426.11	40.17	19,995.89
	TOTAL EXPENSES	46,422.00	2,334.72	13,426.11	28.92	32,995.89

NOVEMBER 2025 **ENDOWMENT/CAPITAL FUND** REPORT

REVENUE REPORT CALENDAR 11/2025, FISCAL 5/2026 41.6%						
ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT TITLE	ESTIMATE	MTD BALANCE	YTD BALANCE	PERCENT RECVD	UNCOLLECTED
167-410-4300	INTEREST - LIBRARY ENDOWMENT	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
167-410-4471	LOCAL GRANTS	20,000.00	.00	10,000.00	50.00	10,000.00
167-410-4705	DONATIONS	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
167-410-4707	DONATIONS/BLDG RENOVATION	20,000.00	6,695.00	9,195.00	45.98	10,805.00
167-410-4799	OTHER REVENUES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
167-910-4830	TRANSFER IN - LIBRARY ENDOW	.00	.00	6,502.34	.00	6,502.34
167-910-4832	INTERFUND LOAN PAYMENT	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
	LIBRARY ENDOWMENT TOTAL	40,000.00	6,695.00	25,697.34	64.24	14,302.66

BUDGET REPORT CALENDAR 11/2025, FISCAL 5/2026 41.6%						
ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT TITLE	BUDGET	MTD BALANCE	YTD BALANCE	PERCENT EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED
167-410-6751	CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS	75,000.00	.00	43,518.63	58.02	31,481.37
167-910-6910	TRANSFER OUT - LIBRARY ENDOWME	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
	TRANSFERS TOTAL	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
	LIBRARY ENDOWMENT TOTAL	75,000.00	.00	43,518.63	58.02	31,481.37

NOVEMBER 2025 **MONEY MARKET** REPORT

BANK CASH REPORT 2025							
BANK FUND GL	BANK NAME	OCTOBER CASH BALANCE	NOVEMBER RECEIPTS	NOVEMBER DISBURSMENTS	NOVEMBER CASH BALANCE	OUTSTANDING TRANSACTIONS	NOV BANK BALANCE
BANK 006	MIDWEST HERITAGE LIB MM BK#4 LIBRARY MM ACCOUNT	155,657.40	175.92	0.00	155,833.32	0.00	155,833.32

NOVEMBER 2025 TREASURER’S REPORT

BUDGET REPORT CALENDAR 11/2025, FISCAL 5/2026 41.6%						
ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT TITLE	BUDGET	MTD BALANCE	YTD BALANCE	PERCENT EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED
	LIBRARY TOTAL	297,422.00	15,689.21	132,467.79	44.54	164,954.21

TREASURER'S REPORT CALENDAR 11/2025, FISCAL 5/2026						
ACCOUNT TITLE	LAST MONTH END BALANCE	RECEIVED	DISBURSED	CHANGE IN LIABILITY	ENDING BALANCE	
006 LIBRARY OPERATING	14,837.81	442.42	13,354.49	.00	1,925.74	
167 LIBRARY ENDOWMENT	294,928.35	6,695.00	.00	.00	301,623.35	

CHARITON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY FY2026 BUDGET

NOVEMBER 2025

OPERATING BUDGET REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		BUDGETED	11/2025	BALANCE
BEGINNING BALANCE 7/1/2025 (Cash on hand \$135.00)				\$135.00
006-410-4300	INTEREST MONEY MARKET	\$4,500.00	\$175.92	\$2,299.48
006-410-4470	RURAL FEES (Salaries & Utilities)	\$19,716.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
006-410-4471	GRANTS	\$3,300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
006-410-4550	MISCELLANEOUS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
006-410-4705	DONATIONS	\$2,000.00	\$119.00	\$870.79
006-410-4715	REFUND	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
006-410-4765	LIBRARY INCOME	\$3,000.00	\$147.50	\$1,459.10
006-410-4799	OTHER STATE LIBRARY ENRICH IOWA PAYMENT	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,684.42
006-910-4830	TRANSFER INTO LIBRARY OPERATING FUND	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
006-950-4000	CITY PROPERTY TAXES (Salaries)	\$140,000.00	\$0.00	\$70,000.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$176,016.00	\$442.42	\$77,313.79
006-410-6010	GROSS SALARIES	\$144,000.00	(\$9,779.87)	(\$54,593.23)
006-410-6210	SUBSCRIPTIONS/LICENSES	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	(\$1,306.32)
006-410-6230	TRAVEL/TRAINING/DUES	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
006-410-6310	BUILDING & GROUNDS (budgeted \$0)	\$0.00	(\$204.00)	(\$2,363.74)
006-410-6371	UTILITIES	\$11,000.00	(\$994.12)	(\$5,723.89)
006-410-6402	ADVERTISING/PUBLICATIONS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
006-410- 6405	AUDITOR RECORDING FEES	\$500.00	\$0.00	(\$1,042.00)
006-410-6411	LEGAL EXPENSES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
006-410-6497	MISC. EXPENSES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
006-410-6498	PROGRAMMING	\$3,000.00	(\$18.75)	(\$1,267.02)
006-410-6505	NEW FURNITURE/EQUIP (budgeted \$0)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$342.87)
006-410-6507	OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$600.00	\$0.00	(\$130.12)
006-410-6508	POSTAGE	\$300.00	(\$24.81)	(\$66.36)
006-410-6522	PRINTED MATERIALS	\$5,000.00	(\$928.32)	(\$2,828.98)
006-410-6523	AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	(\$534.02)
006-410-6525	SOFTWARE & TECH SUPPT	\$8,500.00	(\$1,358.69)	(\$5,017.49)
006-410-6526	JANITOR SUPPLIES	\$500.00	(\$45.93)	(\$307.01)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$176,000.00	(\$13,354.49)	\$75,523.05
(Cash on hand: Petty Cash \$60, Income Cash Drawers \$75)			BALANCE	\$1,925.74
ENDOWMENT/CAPITAL BUDGET REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		BUDGETED	11/2025	BALANCE
BEGINNING BALANCE 7/1/2025				\$319,444.64
167-410-4300	INTEREST - LIBRARY ENDOWMENT INCOME	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
167-410-4471	GRANTS - LIBRARY CAPITAL PROJECTS INCOME	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
167-410-4705	DONATIONS - LIBRARY ENDOWMENT INCOME	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
167-410-4707	DONATIONS - LIBRARY CAPITAL PROJECTS INCOME	\$20,000.00	\$6,695.00	\$9,195.00
167-410-4799	OTHER REVENUES - CAPITAL PROJECTS INCOME	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
167-910-4830	TRANSFER IN - LIBRARY ENDOWMENT INCOME	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,502.34
TOTAL CAPITAL INCOME		\$40,000.00	\$6,695.00	\$25,697.34
167-410-6751	CAPITAL PROJECT EXPENDITURES WOOD ROOFING	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	(\$43,518.63)
				\$301,623.35
RESTRICTED	Restricted Memorial Bequests for Collection Purchases			(\$75,390.01)
CAPITAL FUND BALANCE				\$226,233.34

**CHARITON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
CHARITON, IOWA
JANUARY 2026 CLAIMS**

OPERATING FUND CLAIMS		BUDGET LINE	V#	PAYMENT
Access Systems	Copier Contract	006-410-6525	5321	\$176.08
Alliant Energy	Monthly Electric	006-410-6371	131	\$1,555.46
Amazon Capital Services	Programming	006-410-6498	5265	\$71.17
	AV Materials	006-410-6523		\$39.84
Cash	Postage	006-410-6508	68	\$20.56
	Custodial	006-410-6526		\$6.42
Chariton Water Department	Monthly Water	006-410-6371	80	\$110.22
Ingram	Printed Materials	006-410-6522	5599	\$121.53
Mainstay Systems Inc.	Tech Contract	006-410-6525	5351	\$714.00
Murphy, Kris	3D PRINTER	006-410-6505	1324	\$246.08
Windstream	Monthly Phone/Int	006-410-6371	858	\$288.16
TOTAL OPERATING FUND CLAIMS PAID JANUARY 2026				\$3,349.52

I hereby empower the treasurer of the City of Chariton, Iowa to pay the above amounts.

_____, Chariton Free Public Library Board of Trustees
Raymond Meyer

The 3D Printer was purchased via Murphy's debit card.
When the Anime Club disbanded they donated club funds for this specific purchase.

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CHARITON PUBLIC LIBRARY
AND THE LUCAS COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

Revised June 9, 2022

This agreement formally outlines the cooperative relationship between the Chariton Public Library (Library) and the Lucas County Genealogical Society (Society). Both parties recognize the value of providing local and family history reference materials and genealogical research services to the public in a public facility.

- I.** The general public shall have access to the Society's collection and related materials housed in the Genealogy Room during the normal operating hours of the Library under the supervision of Society members. (see Section VII. Article 4)
- II.** The Society's collection; both current and future holdings, shall be maintained and displayed in the Genealogy Room by Society members. The Society shall retain ownership of the collection and will be responsible for cataloging, inventory, and maintenance of said collection.
- III.** The Society's equipment shall be provided and operated by Society members. The Society shall retain ownership of the equipment and will be responsible for inventory and maintenance of said equipment.
- IV.** The Library Director shall provide Genealogy Room keys to Society members designated in writing by the Society as authorized key-holders. (NOTE: Local emergency services (law/fire) also hold keys to the Genealogy Room, included in a set of Library facility keys to be used in emergencies.)
The Society cannot sublet or use for any other purpose the space allocated to them within the Library.
- V. Library Responsibilities:**
 1. Provide Suitable Research Space to include shelving, tables and seating for the use of volunteers and researchers.
 2. Pay all utilities for the operation of the Library facility and all cost of maintenance for the building.
 3. Provide Internet service & allocate space on the Library Website for Genealogical Society content.
 4. Retain a collection of back issues of the local newspapers within space allocated to the Society.
 5. Retain a collection of local newspaper microfilm reels within space allocated to the Society and continue to fund the creation of newspaper microfilm reels and digitized newspaper collection as funding permits.
- VI. Genealogical Society Responsibilities:**
 1. Provide the Library Board with a copy of the Society's Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Biennial Report and IRS letter of approval, 501.c3 Application.
 2. Provide an annual list of the Society's Board Officers to the Library Board, including contact information.
 3. Provide the Library Board with the Society's Annual Financial Report by the Library's February board meeting.
 4. Maintain a regular schedule for staffing the Genealogy room, which will be visibly posted for the public and alert Library Staff if volunteers will be absent.
 5. Place in the Genealogy Room local and county public records and private manuscript materials relevant to Lucas County.

6. Maintain Society content on the space allocated to the Society on the Library's website.
7. Provide Society phone service at its own expense. Genealogy will not place or cause any wiring to be placed in the Library building.
8. Provide Society postal service and delivery location at its own expense.
9. Provide equipment the public can use to access Society resources, including the in-house collection and any online resources the Society maintains or subscribes to.
10. Society will maintain property and liability insurance on its premises, equipment and any other Society property held in the Genealogy rooms. Society will include Chariton Public Library and the City of Chariton as Additional Named Insureds.
11. Perform custodial duties in the Genealogy Room.
12. Provide an annual rental payment of \$1,200 to the Library in two payments due July 1st and January 1st. Nonpayment is grounds for termination of this agreement.

VII. The initial term of this Agreement shall be for a period of two (2) years. Thereafter it shall renew on an annual basis for additional one (1) year periods commencing July 1 of each year, unless either party provides written notice of termination ninety (90) days prior to the expiration of the annual term. The parties may mutually agree to amend this agreement at any time in order to meet changed circumstances.

VIII. The Society shall indemnify and hold the City of Chariton, the Library and its employees and agents harmless under this Agreement for all claims, damages, costs or expenses and losses of any kind, including attorney fees and death, or damages to any person or property related in any way to the performance of this Agreement except for acts of the City of Chariton or its employees or the Library or its staff.

IX. The Library and Society agree to designate one contact person from each organization for communication regarding this agreement. Contact information will be provided to the respective Board Presidents. Boards of each organization shall meet annually 90 days prior to the July renewal date of each year.

President Chariton Public Library Board

Date

President Lucas County Genealogical Society

Date

CHARITON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY FY2027 BUDGET REQUEST **DRAFT**

OPERATING BUDGET REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		FY2025 Actual Funds	FY2027 REQUEST
006-410-4300	INTEREST MONEY MARKET & BEQUESTS	\$4,235.68	\$4,500.00
006-410-4470	RURAL FEES (Salaries & Utilities) (County \$20,471, Russell \$416)	\$20,167.00	\$20,900.00
006-410-4471	GRANTS	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
006-410-4550	MISCELLANEOUS	\$0.00	\$0.00
006-410-4705	DONATIONS	\$2,497.31	\$2,500.00
006-410-4715	REFUND	\$1,652.75	\$0.00
006-410-4765	LIBRARY INCOME	\$3,690.30	\$3,700.00
006-410-4799	OTHER State Library Enrich Iowa payments, Genealogy rental payments	\$3,846.86	\$3,900.00
006-910-4830	TRANSFER INTO LIBRARY OPERATING FUND	\$0.00	\$0.00
006-950-4000	CITY PROPERTY TAXES (Salaries)	\$140,000.00	\$149,500.00
		\$176,089.90	\$187,000.00
006-410-6010	GROSS SALARIES	(\$124,274.43)	\$149,500.00
006-410-6210	SUBSCRIPTIONS/LICENSES (\$500 Allender Interest towards BRIDGES)	(\$1,664.30)	\$1,600.00
006-410-6230	TRAVEL/TRAINING/DUES	(\$20.00)	\$20.00
006-410-6310	BUILDING & GROUNDS	(\$4,443.89)	\$4,000.00
006-410-6371	UTILITIES	(\$15,561.11)	\$13,000.00
006-410-6402	ADVERTISING/PUBLICATIONS	\$0.00	\$0.00
006-410- 6405	AUDITOR RECORDING FEES	(\$500.00)	\$1,050.00
006-410-6411	LEGAL EXPENSES	\$0.00	\$0.00
006-410-6497	MISC. EXPENSES	\$0.00	\$0.00
006-410-6498	PROGRAMMING	(\$2,991.09)	\$3,000.00
006-410-6505	NEW FURNITURE/EQUIP	(\$3,049.83)	\$0.00
006-410-6507	OPERATING SUPPLIES	(\$830.87)	\$500.00
006-410-6508	POSTAGE (Capital Fundraising should be paid out of Capital Project Budget)	(\$301.36)	\$180.00
006-410-6522	PRINTED MATERIALS	(\$5,995.66)	\$5,000.00
006-410-6523	AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS	(\$1,055.86)	\$500.00
006-410-6525	SOFTWARE & TECH SUPPT	(\$8,314.46)	\$8,500.00
006-410-6526	JANITOR SUPPLIES	(\$653.67)	\$500.00
		(\$169,656.53)	\$187,350.00
ENDOWMENT/CAPITAL BUDGET REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		FY2025 Actual Funds	FY2027 REQUEST
167-410-4300	INTEREST - LIBRARY ENDOWMENT	\$0.00	\$0.00
167-410-4471	GRANTS - LIBRARY CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$17,000.00	\$20,000.00
167-410-4705	DONATIONS - LIBRARY ENDOWMENT	\$0.00	\$0.00
167-410-4707	DONATIONS - LIBRARY CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$16,665.00	\$20,000.00
167-410-4799	OTHER REVENUES - CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$33,665.00	\$40,000.00
167-410-6751	CAPITAL PROJECT CONSTRUCTION	(\$46,129.06)	\$40,000.00

**Chariton Free Public Library
Director Report
January 8, 2026**

These statistics are for the first six months of each fiscal year. The highlighted items were those still effected by limitations imposed by Covid. In December of 2021 the meeting room was still unavailable and no programming was taking place in the Library. The Board did approve offering both again at the December 2021 meeting. I'll be glad next year when those effects drop off of the five-year comparisons.

You can see why we've stopped offering adult audiobooks. You'll also notice the way nonfiction circulation has decreased. Both categories have declined in use due to availability of online content.

One of the odd things I notice is that PG13 and R (*adult* in library-speak) movie circulations dropped and then revived. I wonder if streaming services are proving too expensive to maintain.

I always worry a bit about fluctuations at reading levels too. Look at the young adult books. What happened there? Are we getting back to a better normal? Could it all depend on avid readers aging through the sections?

Even more alarming are the beginner reader fluctuations. Beginner readers are books specifically created for first, second and third graders. Their use directly correlates with classroom expectations. Kids and parents are encouraged by teachers to use the Library's collection of these items, which is why we adopted the Guided Reading leveling system that the local schools were using for our shelving of these items.

Our water bill is very high this month. The water department contacted city hall to let them know that we seemed to be using substantially more than usual. We believe it's one of the ladies' toilets and upon hearing about the usage we turned it off and marked it out of order. I'll replace the innards on it, again.

The Ginkens family donated \$500 in memory of Ron Ginkens to purchase westerns.

	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26
Days Open	144	143	143	146	146
Visitor Count	11,687	13,270	17,279	12,046	13,043
Meeting Room Uses	3	112	74	74	80
Total Circulation (w/o SILO ILLs)	13,883	12,444	11,135	11,070	12,867
BRIDGES Active Individuals	486	609	727	707	834
BRIDGES Items Circulated	3,208	3,637	4,434	4,172	4,799
WI-FI Sessions	466	3,349	5,122	4,152	4,065
PC & Chromebox Uses	864	693	3,173	3,896	3,618
Programs	26	59	63	43	66
Program Attendance	3,211	252	371	389	435
Copy Category	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26
Adult Fiction	2,398	2,553	2,507	2,477	2,552
Large Print	347	401	298	560	517
Adult Nonfiction	912	713	550	518	503
Adult Audiobooks	244	117	79	81	36
Adult Video	2,063	1,559	1,459	1,222	2,113
Picture Books	1,653	1,496	1,133	1,476	1,580
Beginner Readers	781	920	563	563	586
Juvenile Fiction	2,093	1,937	1,724	1,875	1,949
Juvenile Nonfiction	649	414	338	404	399
Juvenile Audiobooks	39	57	56	41	50
Juvenile Videos	1,598	1,609	1,597	1,245	1,505
Young Adult Books	912	513	616	439	832
YA Anime Video	115	109	150	110	160
Games	N/A	6	3	3	3
Puzzles	N/A	32	19	32	31
Educational Bins	39	7	35	18	35
MAKER Kits	N/A	1	8	7	14
TOTAL CIRCULATIONS	13,843	12,444	11,135	11,071	12,865

No onsite programming or meeting room use was allowed July - December 2021. Dawn Morgan offered off-site programs through the schools for the fall semester, basically occupying the time slot and location of a "special" and utilizing many of our program funds and materials to do so. I've only listed the in-person programs here. Dawn did many online options that were popular, but when we lost the programming position we were no longer able to provide that content.

Kris Murphy
January 8, 2026