



Library Advisory Board – Special Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
August 14, 2025, 5:30-7:00 p.m.  
Salida Library Community Room

Present: Board Members – District 1 Rep Renée Ousley-Swank, District 2 Rep Lise Talbott, District 5 Rep Gay Girard; At-Large Rep Michael Lingg; At-Large Rep Monica Brown; Library Staff Members – Sarah Dentan, Kelly Ferrini, Curtis Lee, Wayne Philbrook, Angelique Prendez, Andrea Rush-McNeel, Marco Sepulveda, Bryan Sontag

- I. Meeting was called to order by Lise Talbott at 5:35 p.m.
- II. Consent Calendar
  1. Approved the Minutes for April 24, 2025  
Gay Girard made a motion, and Michel Lingg seconded the motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed with unanimous approval.
- III. Public Comment – No public comments were received.
- IV. Action
  1. Stanislaus County Library Collection Development and Material Restoration Policy  
County Librarian, Sarah Dentan discussed the current policy and background, recommended changes, adverse public library legislation, and implantation. The goal is to present the revised policy at the September 30 Board of Supervisor's meeting.  
  
Lise Talbott made a motion, and Renée Ousley-Swank seconded the motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed with unanimous approval.
- V. Announcements – Board Members
  1. Gay Girard – Patterson Library will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary birthday party in May 2026. Has been with the Patterson Library for 50 years and thanked Patterson Friends of the Library. Several thousand showed up for the Backpack Drive. Very successful event.
  2. Monica Brown – Salida went above and beyond with their passport services. Salida provided excellent service.
  3. Lise Talbott – Waterford Street repairs are underway. The Waterford Library remains open during the street repair.
  4. Sarah Dentan – McHenry Mansion Halloween event. There will be a street closure between the Modesto Library and the Mansion for this event.
  5. Stanislaus Library Foundation – Authur Spotlight Sept 28 2:00 p.m. at the State Theater.

VI. Agenda Building – Next meeting: October 23, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Salida Library

VII. Correspondence – None

Adjourned at 6:15 p.m. Motion to adjourn Gay Girard and Monica Brown seconded the motion.

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Library Advisory Board after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the Salida Library Reference Desk during normal business hours. Such documents are also available on the Library website at [www.stanislauslibrary.org/about\\_advisory\\_board.shtml](http://www.stanislauslibrary.org/about_advisory_board.shtml) subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.

**STANISLAUS COUNTY LIBRARY**  
**COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AND RECONSIDERATION POLICY**  
**ENDORSED BY THE STANISLAUS COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**[DATE]**

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this policy is to provide clear guidance for the selection, evaluation, and reconsideration of library materials, and to outline associated roles and responsibilities. Rooted in the Stanislaus County Library's mission, this policy ensures the library's collection reflects the diverse interests, cultures, and priorities of Stanislaus County residents.

The ultimate responsibility for the collection rests with the County Librarian ([EDC § 19146](#)). The County Librarian delegates the selection of materials to staff librarians trained in the principles of materials selection, and knowledgeable in their selection areas. The overall management of the collection is coordinated by the Head of Collection Services.

### Key Principles:

- The public library serves as a center for voluntary inquiry and the dissemination of information and ideas.
- The library's collection meets the broad and diverse interests of the community and respects both the library's autonomy and their specific community needs.
- Library materials should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people, and should present diverse points of view in the collection as a whole.
- Inclusion in the collection does not signify endorsement of content.
- The library acknowledges the right of the public to receive access to a range of social, political, aesthetic, moral, and other ideas and experiences.
- The library affirms its support for the [First Amendment](#) of the Constitution and California's Freedom to Read Act ([EDC § 19800-19802](#)).

The library endorses the following American Library Association statements:

- [Library Bill of Rights](#)
- [Freedom to Read](#)
- [Freedom to View](#)
- [Libraries: An American Value](#)

## COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY

### MATERIALS COLLECTION

#### Scope:

The library acquires materials of general public interest, focusing on educational, cultural, informational, and recreational needs. Specialist academic resources are not a priority. Circulating materials are available in diverse formats and reading levels. The library does not maintain historical collections, except for a limited local history collection.

### Selection Criteria:

Materials are selected based on meeting some, but not necessarily all, the following criteria:

- Popular interest
- Critical reviews and literary merit
- Local or national significance
- Community relevance and enduring value
- Readability and presentation quality
- Author and publisher reputation
- Availability and need for diverse viewpoints
- Physical quality, price, and space considerations
- Availability in alternate formats

Purchased materials, gifted materials, and materials purchased with donations are all subject to the same selection criteria.

### Format-specific Criteria:

- Newspapers and periodicals: Subject to the same criteria as other materials.
- Textbooks: Purchased only if necessary for public information.
- Teacher resources: Generally not acquired.
- Self-published works: Subject to the same criteria as other materials.

### Electronic Resources:

Downloadable and streaming materials and databases are accessed through a variety of platforms. Electronic resources are subject to the same criteria as other materials and these additional criteria:

- The extent of overlap of content between platforms
- Methods of access
- Quality of technical support
- Conditions and cost of licensing agreement
- Technical compatibility with existing library systems

### Selection Tools:

Standard review sources include Booklist, Library Journal, School Library Journal, Horn Book, Publishers Weekly, other professional review sources, and customer suggestions, evaluated by selection librarians.

### Non-Print Formats:

Current formats include audiobooks, videos, digital newspapers and periodicals, and other electronic resources. Criteria for selection align with print materials and emphasize usability, accessibility, and demand.

### Other materials:

The library may purchase and maintain collections of non-traditional physical materials that provide opportunity for learning and/or recreation beyond the books and audiovisual materials in the physical collection.

### Shared Collections:

Collaboration with other libraries enhances access to physical and digital materials. The library enters collaborative collection agreements to maximize residents' access to materials.

#### Gifts:

Gift materials and materials purchased with donated funds are subject to the above selection criteria. Non-selected gift items may be sold or donated. The library does not appraise the value of gift materials.

The library welcomes gifts of funds to purchase materials. Donors may specify the branch location, collection and/or general subject areas where funds should be spent. The library cannot accept funds for specified titles or lists of titles.

#### COLLECTION EVALUATION AND MAINTENANCE

Ongoing evaluation ensures the collection remains current and relevant. Criteria for deselection (“weeding”) include:

- Physical damage or poor condition
- Outdated or inaccurate content
- Declining demand or obsolescence

Additional weeding guidelines are kept for each subject area. The Head of Collection Services retains and reviews guidelines with selection librarians and coordinates the weeding of the collection.

Weeded materials in good condition may be sold or donated. Electronic resources are assessed for replacement or renewal based on interest, cost, and content relevance.

# **MATERIAL RECONSIDERATION POLICY**

## **PHILOSOPHY**

The library is committed to intellectual freedom and inclusive collections, acknowledging that some materials may be offensive to some individuals. Parents are responsible for guiding their children's library use. Materials are not labeled or restricted, except to prevent damage or theft.

## **RECONSIDERATION REQUESTS**

A Stanislaus County resident library cardholder may request a reconsideration in writing using the library's reconsideration form, available at all branches. Resident cardholders may request reconsideration of up to six items per calendar year. Reconsideration requests submitted within three years of a prior decision will not be reconsidered; the library will supply the earlier decision to the requesting cardholder.

Materials under review remain available until a decision is made.

Responses will be provided within 30 days, except when the number of requests submitted makes that impossible. In such cases, the library will communicate the timeline to the resident within 30 days.

## **Procedure:**

- Completed reconsideration forms are accepted at library branches and forwarded to the Head of Collection Services.
- The Head of Collection Services seats a review committee, consisting of:
  - Head of Collection Services (Chair)
  - Selection Librarian for the subject area
  - Regional Children's Librarian (for Children's and Teen materials) or Regional Library Supervisor/Librarian III (Adult materials)
- The committee reviews the material in its entirety, utilizing the established selection criteria
- A written decision is issued within the established time period
- Appeals can be directed to the County Librarian