

City of Nevada  
1209 6<sup>th</sup> Street,  
Nevada, Iowa, 50201

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## Finance Director / Assistant City Administrator Report

*Reporting Period: April 14 – May 10, 2026*

### Financial Position

As referenced in my memo accompanying Budget Amendment #2, the City is in a strong financial position heading into the final months of FY2026. After Amendment #2, the General Fund is forecast to spend approximately 10% less than budgeted, and across all City funds, excess revenues over expenditures and transfers out are projected at \$808,882. That surplus flows directly into the fund balance, strengthening the City's reserves going into FY2027.

### State Property Tax Reform Update

The Iowa Legislature officially passed property tax reform legislation. After negotiations between the Senate and House, the final bill reflects a compromise on several of the most significant provisions. While the Iowa League of Cities and Department of Management are still working through the details and will be walking municipalities through the new rules as they apply to FY28 budget planning, here is a high-level summary of what we know so far:

- **2% Aggregate Cap with Carve-Outs:** The 2% cap applies broadly, but new construction and growth are unlimited. The employee benefit levy, FICA/IPERS liability, and debt service are not subject to the cap, preserving flexibility in areas where costs are largely outside the City's control.
- **No Age-Related Exemption:** Based on the final language, it appears the senior homestead exemption did not make it into the bill. This is a significant change from the Senate version and removes what would have been the largest long-term revenue impact for cities of our size.
- **35% Reserve Fund Cap:** A 35% cap on unassigned General Fund reserves was included. Nevada is at or above 100% of general fund revenue in most fiscal years, so on its face, this looks restrictive. However, the cap likely applies only to unassigned reserves, meaning the practical effect may be that we will need to formally classify and dedicate those funds to specific purposes (capital, equipment, contingency, etc.) rather than reduce them. We are awaiting clarification before drawing conclusions.
- **TIF Restrictions:** The bill places new limits on Tax Increment Financing, including a 23-year sunset on future TIF districts and, for existing perpetual TIFs, a 60% cap on increment usage after 20 years, with the school foundation levy phased out at that point. Future TIF agreements will be evaluated with these new restrictions in mind, and once we have more time to fully assess the rules, we will provide a clearer picture of how they apply to Nevada specifically.

The full operational impact will not be clear until the League completes its analysis and the Iowa Department of Management issues guidance. None of these changes affects the FY27 budget already adopted and certified, but they will begin to factor into FY28 planning and call for a longer-term structural mindset going forward. Cities that wait to react until the caps start binding will face the hardest choices. Fortunately, Nevada is well-positioned for this moment. The City has a long history of conservative financial management, and our department heads consistently find ways to do more with less. If there has ever been a time to lean into what Nevada has to offer on the industry and residential side, it is now, while growth and new construction remain outside the cap. Every policy and decision going forward should be evaluated against a long-term sustainability lens, asking how it holds up under the constraints the state has now mandated. That long-view discipline is how we protect service levels, our bond rating, and our ability to keep investing in the community without being forced into reactive decisions later. We will continue to provide updates as we learn more.

### **Weekly Budget Snapshot for Department Heads**

Beginning last week, our office has been sending a Weekly Budget Snapshot to each department head. The snapshot shows year-to-date actual expenditures as a percentage of the department's budget alongside the percentage of the fiscal year elapsed, giving each director a quick read on whether their spending is pacing on track.

The intent is to make this a no-effort, ten-second Monday morning read. As we move toward the end of the fiscal year, staying within budget is critical to avoid remarks during our scheduled annual audit, and the earlier a pacing issue is identified, the easier it is to address now. The weekly cadence also strengthens the feedback loop between Finance and the operating departments.

### **"Why Nevada" Recruitment Campaign – RAGBRAI 2026**


Jordan, Courtney, and I have started developing a coordinated "Why Nevada?" marketing campaign tied to our day as a RAGBRAI lunch stop. RAGBRAI puts 25,000 to 40,000 people on our Main Street for a single day, and rather than let that exposure pass without a strategy, we want to use it as a low-cost marketing moment to plant the seed about what Nevada has to offer. We are not expecting riders to decide to relocate over a turkey sandwich, but free impressions in front of that many people, including business owners, families, and decision-makers from across the state and country, are worth being intentional about.

The campaign will include a series of branded yard signs along the route highlighting Nevada's growth story, schools, housing, recreation, and industry, leading riders into a tent on Main Street and/or near City Hall. Inside the tent, two poster boards will anchor the message: one geared toward potential residents, walking them through why they should move to Nevada and how to access "Experience Nevada" resources, and a second focused on businesses, explaining why Nevada is serious about economic growth and how to get connected with NEDC.

The project is fully funded by the RAGBRAI host check and sponsorship contributions from local businesses that want to showcase themselves to riders. No Nevada taxpayer dollars are being used. The work is being aligned with the Vision 2040 strategies already adopted by the

City. This is a free marketing opportunity for Nevada, and we wanted to keep Council in the loop as the campaign develops. More concrete details, including draft sign mockups and the sponsorship roster, will be shared as we get closer to July.

Sincerely,



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LUCAS BATTANI, FINANCE DIRECTOR/ASSISTANT CITY ADMINISTRATOR  
CITY OF NEVADA, IOWA



# NEVADA PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT

1209 6<sup>th</sup> Street – P.O. Box 530 Nevada, Iowa 50201 Tele: 515-382-4593



*Chris Brandes*  
*Public Safety Director*  
*Chief of Police*

**To:** Mayor and City Council  
**From:** Chris Brandes, Public Safety Director/Chief of Police  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 5, 2026  
**Ref:** Report for City Council Meeting for Monday, May 11, 2026

## Staffing

CSO Pritchard remains out of the office on medical leave.

The current police officer position hiring post closes in May. The hope is to identify someone to attend the fall academy.

Officer Friedrich has completed her EMT coursework. She has applied for National Registry authorization to test, the final step needed to obtain her EMT certification. Officer Koder and Officer VanderHart are completing the prerequisites to start EMT school.

## Activity

The Police Department has contracted to support the following events:

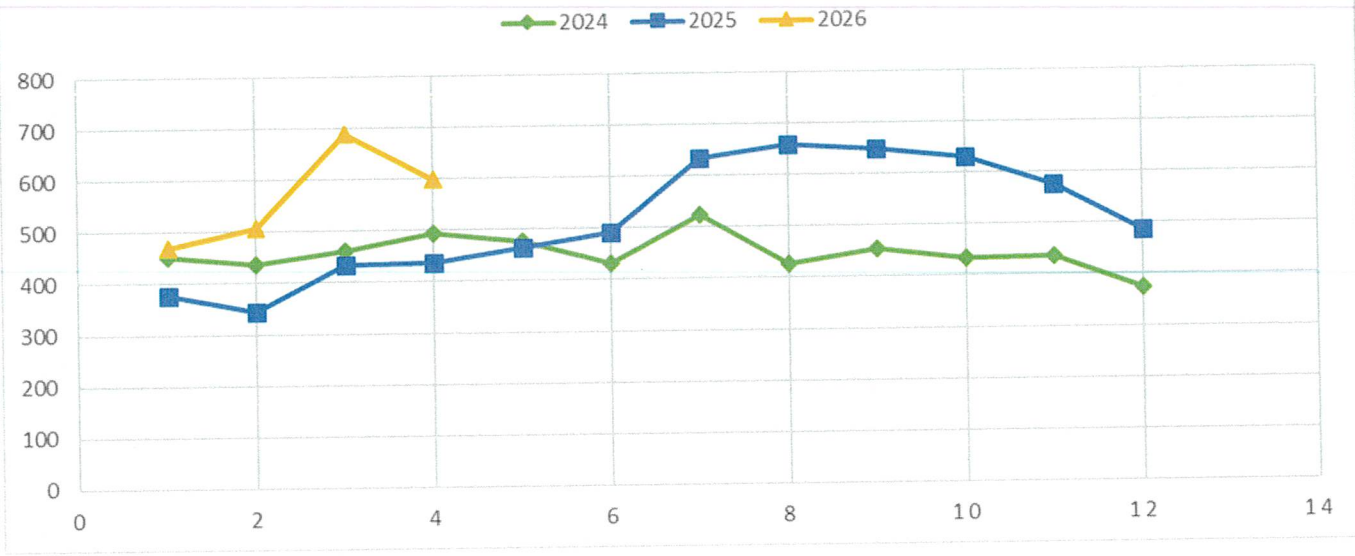
- both nights of Pizza Pie Looza
- The Story County Fair overnight security
- Live concerts at the Story County Fair
- ISU with the live concerts at Jake Trice
- RAGBRAI event in Nevada on July 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Lincoln Highway Day event in town

The police department has either responded to or self-initiated 599 calls for service in the month of April. ***THIS IS 164 CALLS FOR SERVICE MORE THAN 2025. CALLS FOR SERVICE VOLUME IS TRENDING UP FROM HISTORICAL AVERAGE.***

*Highest number of calls listed below:*

Traffic Stops: 248  
General Info: 53  
Medical Assists: 35  
Animal Call: 29  
Suspicious Person: 26  
Welfare Check: 15  
Reckless Driving: 15

# CALLS FOR SERVICE BY MONTH



Respectfully submitted,

Chris Brandes  
Public Safety Director  
Chief of Police



# NEVADA PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT

1209 6<sup>th</sup> Street – P.O. Box 530 Nevada, Iowa 50201 Tele: 515-382-4593



*Chris Brandes*  
*Public Safety Director*  
*Chief of Police*

TO: Chris Brandes, Public Safety Director  
FROM: Ray Reynolds, Director of Fire and EMS  
DATE: May 4, 2026  
REF: Activity report for Trustees, City Council and Honorable Mayor.

Calls to date in 2026:	233
Calls to date same time last year (2025):	264
Fires for Mar. 2026:	3
EMS for Mar. 2026:	32
Lift assistance for Mar. 2026	7
Fall with Injury Mar. 2026:	5
Good intent for Mar. 2026:	8
Community events for Mar. 2026:	3
Current roster number of members:	43

### Membership:

The department is seeing a small wave of outside non-residents apply for membership to the department. Those who do not live in the community are required to attend weekly training and put in 12 hours in the fire house for free. They are paid the \$7.50 taxed stipend per call like resident members. There are four new applicants for the May 5<sup>th</sup> fire department meeting. The department is at a point where we have a large number of non-residents so any new non-resident applicant will need to be an existing EMT or Firefighter 1 for consideration.

### Delays or Low Staffing on Calls

The department handled all paged calls with adequate staffing and response this month.

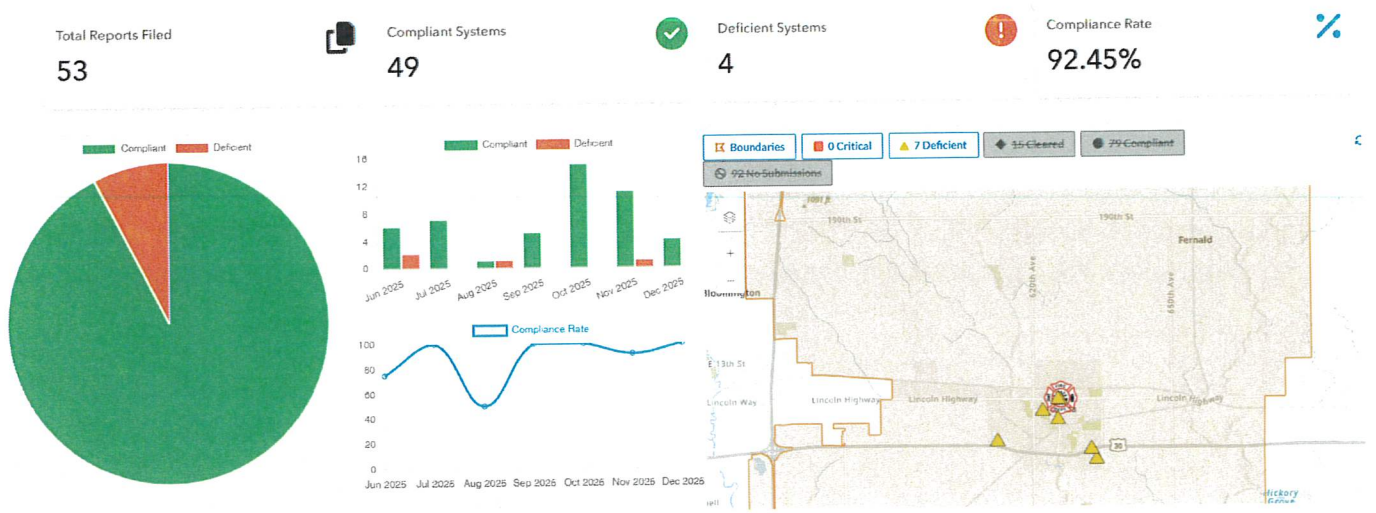
### IROL/ BRYCER

Starting June 15, 2026, IROL will be switching over to a program called The Compliance Engine. Brycer is the parent company and bought IROL. We are working with all the service companies that conduct inspections of fire alarms and sprinkler systems to make the switch. By looking at the attached graphs you can see when we started implementing this program of mandatory reporting from fire alarm, hood and duct, and sprinkler companies, our compliance has risen from 92% compliant to 97% compliant. We are seeing more reports being entered too.

What that means is the fire alarm, sprinkler systems, and hood and duct units in restaurants are being maintained and are anticipated to work properly. With an all volunteer fire department, it is critical when

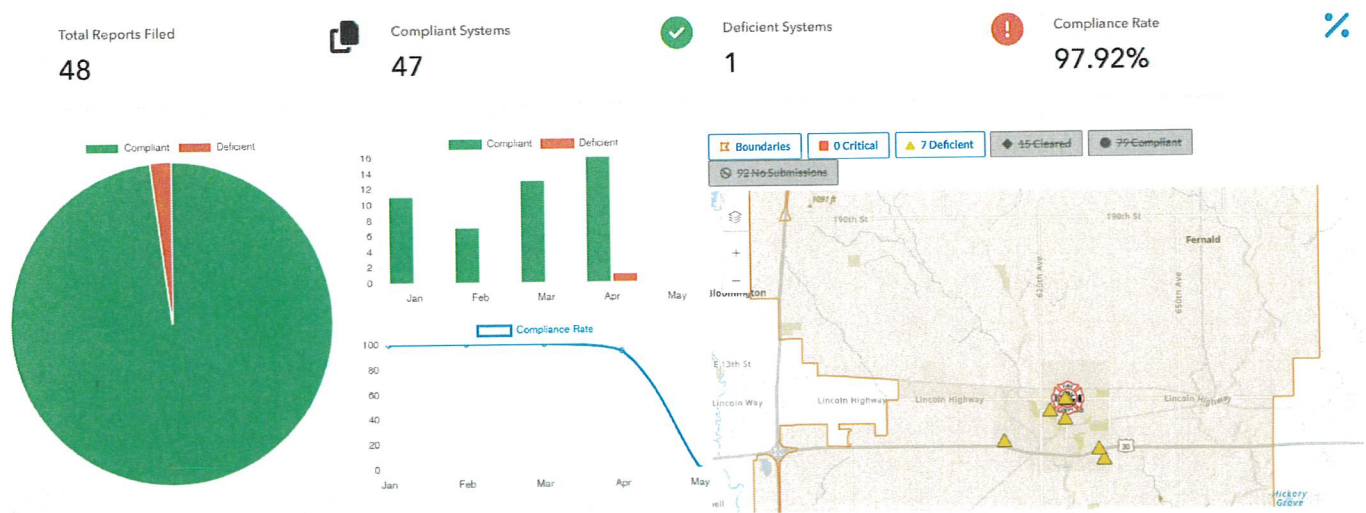
a fire happen, the fire life safety systems work properly. Any failure would likely mean delays in notification of a fire event. Delays mean more property damage and a late start for the fire department responding to a fire.

All Locations - Last Year - 2025



This year to date:

All Locations - This Year - 2026



We are excited about the new system The Compliance Engine (TCE). They will be sending out notifications to our businesses on behalf of the fire department when their inspections are coming due. There is no charge to the city for our involvement with the compliance engine. There is a \$20 fee for the contractors to submit reports that they likely pass on to the customer. On a daily basis I am tracking down fire alarms and sprinkler systems that are not being reported. Once in the system, it is easier to gain compliance. Those reports are also reviewed by a trained inspection expert to make sure the service provider is not trying to up-sell customers with things they do not need. This makes a safer community.

**On Our Radar**

The tires at Misfit auto and the Tinker’s Dam are collected on a trailer and being moved from the property. We are working with Big 8 Tyre to make more progress than they have on removing tire piles

being stored on site and in the building. A follow-up is planned for Belinda Scavone Martin's rental across from city hall to make sure the storage is being minimized. The Nevada Flats residential portion and resident's storage units are being inspected May 6 for final occupancy. The larger public storage is not ready and will not be occupied in the immediate future. It will be inspected later as the area is completed. It is not to be occupied by the public until such time as they have completed the construction. The whole building will be monitored and have sprinkler coverage.

### **DHS Shutdown Over**

With the DHS Shutdown completed, we are starting to receive our reimbursement for the 2024 AFG grant in the amount of \$19,887.52. The first of 4 payments was received by the city. The department plans to apply for the 2025 AFG grant. At some point (probably next year) we will look to apply for a station modification through this grant. Our building was built in July 1976 and does not have a fire alarm, vehicle exhaust capture, or sprinkler system. On average, 150 fires occur annually in non-staffed fire stations. The main causes were attributed to charging equipment (electrical) and unattended cooking at the fire station.

### **Reduction in the Fleet**

The fire department is working on a plan to reduce our fleet without losing fire suppression capabilities. The remaining rural owned apparatus are tender 510 (1996 Freightliner) and Attack truck 710 (2003 Ford XL Diesel). During the annual township trustee meeting, we received direction to return those vehicles to the township and work on the transition with the new buyers. Tender 510 will be sold for agriculture use. Green Mountain Fire Department is replacing a 1971 Dodge with the attack truck. The township did express a desire to provide some funds to surrounding fire department from the proceeds. We would put those funds to a future purchase of a mini-rescue/attack truck. Having a new multipurpose vehicle will enhance our response with limited staff during the day without using larger apparatus. We hope this adds years of life to the big vehicles that cost significantly more. It is a slight gamble on our response capability for wildfires since our only attack vehicles have UHP systems. Larger fuels and the higher pressures are effective on grass but tend to blow heavy fuels like corn stalks into unburned areas and not necessarily extinguish them completely. Traditional skid units provide more water discharge and have higher first pass extinguishing power.

Our ideal fleet number is 6-7 vehicles. However, having two relatively new main engines assures redundancy from vehicle failures for structure fires. Having one tender instead of two is a low-risk decision with our county's 3 department mutual aid package for structure fires.

## Nevada Streets Report

- ❖ Sign installs
- ❖ Finishing up on street markers
- ❖ Patching
- ❖ Getting ready for construction
- ❖ Stump grinding
- ❖ Sweeper demos
- ❖ City locates
- ❖ Tree removal
- ❖ Assisting other Dept
- ❖ Regular maintenance

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May 11<sup>th</sup> / 2026

## Water Pollution Control Council Report

- Regular operation, monitoring & maintenance of the wastewater treatment plant, lift stations, and remote flow basin.
- Submitted 2025 Minor Source Emissions Inventory Letter of Exemption
  - All City Owned Generators operated under the reporting requirement threshold.
- Organizing data for DNR Form 30 Part A & B.
- Working with DNR and PMMIC for decommissioning the Underground Storage Tank at the old facility.
  - System is now in Temporary Closure.
    - Assessing Decommission options & resources.
    - Collecting Bids from registered contractors that are certified for tank removal and groundwater sampling.
- Working with DNR to assess boiler decommissioning requirements for old facility.
  - System is disconnected.
- Ongoing Punch list work being logged and completed at Phase 2.
- Ongoing Warranty Work Orders completed as assigned at Phase 3.
- Seasonal grounds maintenance has taken full effect, staff are maintaining grounds.
- Staff serviced Compressor Blowers at the Main Lift Station.
- Wastewater Treatment Operator 14727 – Passed Grade 1 Wastewater Treatment Certification Exam.
  - **All Full Time Staff now maintain a certification for Wastewater Treatment.**

May 6, 2026

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Rhonda Maier, Director of Parks and Recreation

Re: Monthly Information Report



- Completed Work/Accomplishments
  - Cemetery clean-up
  - Cemetery spraying
  - Fertilization of athletic fields
  - Aquatic Center start-up
  - Part-Time staff employment meetings
  - High School Day of Service
  - Pizza PieLooza
  - Start of baseball and softball games
  - Treatment of ponds with dye and algicide
  
- Items Currently Working On/Gathering Information
  - Hattery Park restroom renovation.
  - Aquatic center improvement research.
  - SRF Project and working with land owners on temporary easements.
  - Harrington Park concept approval and fundraising initiative.
  - Pool vacuum purchase.
  - Internet dish installation with owned equipment for pump house and possible controller purchase.
  - Adopt a flower bed/community beautification program.
  - Trail signage updates.
  - GIS Mapping for Park and Recreation – rescheduled due to weather and technology issues.
  - Special Events: Pizza Pie Looza.
  - Continued work with DNR on stocking of community ponds.
  - Eagle Scout planting project.
  - Operations of CIRL and North Story Baseball
  
- Notable Events
  - Baxter After Prom
  - School field trips
  - ISU Autocross
  - Several birthday parties and family gatherings

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at 515-382-4352 or by email at [nevadarecreation@gmail.com](mailto:nevadarecreation@gmail.com). Thank you for your continued support of Nevada Parks and Recreation.

For: May 11, 2026 Council Meeting

To: Mayor  
Nevada City Council  
City Administrator

From: Amanda Brewer, Library Director

**Nevada Public Library  
Council Report**

MY REPORT

We held an adult craft night on Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> and we had 14 very excited attendees. Brittany has officially completed her MLIS program, kudos to her. Our youth department is busy finalizing summer programming. We are also very busy gearing up for Downtown Market nights, making sure the kids have a fun activity to do to help bring families out to shop and dine. We had a blower motor go out in one of our units and we had that replaced so we are ready for the heat of the summer. Our Leadership Nevada group is about half way through our year and I have learned so much about our unique community.

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LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026, 5:00 P.M.

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Chairperson Theresa Presley presided and convened the regular meeting of Nevada Library Board of Trustees on Monday, April 27, 2026 at 5:02 p.m. at the Nevada Public Library, 631 K Avenue, Nevada, Iowa. The agenda was posted on the official bulletin board in compliance with the open-meeting law.

The roll was called indicating that the following named Trustees were present and absent. Present: Emma Cassabaum, Derek Grote, Joshua Oeschel (via zoom), and Teresa Presley. Absent: Priscilla Gammon, Allison Severson, and James Woodard.

Others in attendance were Library Director Amanda Brewer, and Donna Mosinski.

Motion by Board Member Emma Cassabaum, seconded by Board Member Derek Grote, to approve the agenda as posted. The roll being called, the following named members voted. Ayes: Cassabaum, Grote, Peschel, and Presley. Nays: None. Chairperson Theresa Presley declared the motion carried.

There was no one present who wished to address the Board at this time.

Library Director Amanda Brewer reported on:

- The ALA Grant money is spent.
- There are two new intern clerks that are being trained.
- Brittany Dueker will have finished her MLIS on May 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Amanda has submitted paperwork for the Norman Jean Warner Trust that is donating to small libraries in Iowa.
- Teresa reported that the evaluation materials will go out mid-May.

For Continuing Education, Amanda sent a link to a YouTube video on Board Education by Jay Peterson. The program lasted 60 minutes.

Amanda also reviewed the house bills which lasted 6 minutes.

Motion by Board Member Derek Grote, seconded by Board Member Emma Cassabaum, to approve the following consent agenda items as submitted:

- (1) Approve **minutes** of the March 16, 2026 regular meeting
- (2) Approve April 2026 **claims** totaling \$18,873.85 (see attached list)
- (3) Accept and place on file the Director's **memo** dated April 24, 2026
- (4) Accept and place on file March 2026 financial report

The roll being called, the following named board members voted. Ayes: Grote, Cassabaum, Peschel, and Presley. Nays: None. Chairperson Theresa Presley declared the motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Emma Cassabaum, seconded by Board Member Derek Grote, to approve the change in invoice for the Circulation Desk. The roll being called, the following named members voted. Ayes: Cassabaum, Grote, Peschel, and Presley. Nays: None. Chairperson Theresa Presley declared the motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Board Member Derek Grote, seconded by Board Member Emma Cassabaum, to adjourn the meeting. The roll being called, the following board members voted. Ayes: Grote, Cassabaum, Peschel, and Presley. Nays: None. Chairperson Theresa Presley declared the motion carried. At 5:24 p.m. she adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST:

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Priscilla Gammon, Secretary

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Theresa Presley, Chairperson