



**Montana State Library Commission**  
Special Meeting  
Wednesday, May 6, 2026, 11:00 a.m.

MINUTES

**Date:** May 6, 2026

**Time:** 11:00 a.m.

**Place:** Zoom

**Recording Link:** [2026, May 6 - Montana State Library Commission Special Meeting](#)

**Attendance**

- **Commission Members:** Robyn Scribner (Chair), Tammy Hall, Carmen Cuthbertson, Peggy Taylor, McKenna Gregg, Kris Goss, Tom Burnett (absent).
- **Staff:** Jennie Stapp (State Librarian), Lesley Miller, Colet Bartow, Malissa Briggs, Erin Fashoway, Sean Anderson, Evan Hammer, Ashley Gostnell, Corey Sloan, Michael Fashoway.
- **Guests:** Tony Edmundson, Sarah (Miles City Public Library), Maureen C. (Custer County GIS/DES), Cindy Hagen, Allen Armstrong (MGIAC Federal Rep), Eric Spangenberg (GIS Professional Council Member), Butte-Silver Bow Public Library, Jonna Boys (Three Forks).

**Call to Order and Introductions**

**Timestamp:** 00:00:00

- **Chair Robyn Scribner** called the meeting to order, welcomed attendees, welcomed new Administrative Assistant Lesley Miller, and congratulated Carmen Cuthbertson and Peggy Taylor on their reappointment to the Montana State Library Commission.

**Business Items**

**FY2027 Montana Geospatial Information Act grants - Action**

**Timestamp:** 00:03:45

- **Motion:** To approve the FY2027 Montana Geospatial Information Act grants.
- **Moved by:** Hall.
- **Second by:** Taylor.

- **Discussion:** Erin Fashoway reported that the grant program had resumed after a two-year pause, that staff had reevaluated the process, and that the revised application process and training had been well received. Commissioners discussed the limited funding available, and the value of the review process used to prioritize applications.
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously by voice vote.
- **Public Comment:** None.

## Continuing Education Certification Policy - Action

Timestamp: 00:10:12

- **Motion:** To approve the continuing education certification policy.
- **Moved by:** Hall.
- **Second by:** Cuthbertson.
- **Discussion:** Commissioners discussed the balance between recognizing library degree coursework and ensuring directors receive Montana-specific education. Discussion included the value of degree work, the need for Montana-specific legal and operational knowledge, and the intent that degree credit be applied only once within the certification structure.
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously by voice vote.
- **Public Comment:** None.

## Montana State Library Certification Course of Study - Action

Timestamp: 00:18:46

- **Motion:** To approve the continuing education course of study.
- **Moved by:** Hall.
- **Second by:** Cuthbertson.
- **Discussion:** Commissioner Cuthbertson proposed changing the word “topics” to “knowledge” in the first paragraph on page 3 of the FY2027 course of study. Kris Goss advised that the change did not alter the substance of the document and could be handled as a friendly amendment. Commissioners also commented on the collaborative work of staff and the subcommittee and the value of public and staff feedback during development of the materials.
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously by voice vote with the language change in the first paragraph of page 3 as specified by Commissioner Cuthbertson.
- **Public Comment:** None.

## **Public Comment on any matter not contained in this agenda and other business and announcements**

**Timestamp:** 00:27:36

- No public comment was offered. Commissioners discussed the response to the “Conversations with the Commission” format and described it as positive, transparent, and useful. Commissioners also discussed the value of similar conversations during future meetings held around the state and reflected on the differing issues faced by libraries of different sizes and resource levels.

## **Adjournment**

**Timestamp:** 00:41:47

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting.
- **Moved by:** Cuthbertson.
- **Second by:** Taylor.
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously by voice vote.