

MINUTES
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DEKALB PUBLIC LIBRARY
BILDER FAMILY MEETING ROOM
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2025, 6:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Deb Booth, Bill Cummings, Andrea Dahlberg, Kelli Meserole, Betsy Zimmerman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Rebecca Hunt, Jennifer Salmon, India Washington

LIBRARY STAFF PRESENT: Emily Faulkner, GERALYN Ignarski

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Zimmerman at 6:34 p.m.

GUESTS PRESENT

None

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

- A. Faulkner announced Item 4. Oath of Office: Rhiannon Luft would be postponed pending Luft's official appointment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Faulkner reviewed a complimentary note received from patron Penny Rosenow, stating her satisfaction with the Library's services and programs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Director Review Information – Faulkner discussed the process of the Board's Director's Review, stating that the review is due on October 29, 2025.

MINUTES

- A. Approve September 10, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes: Cummings motioned to approve the Board Meeting Minutes. Meserole seconded. Motion passed, 5-0.

REPORTS

- A. Directors Report – September: There was general discussion on the recent lightning strike in the Library's courtyard. Faulkner stated that an insurance claim has been filed. Other electrical issues which had occurred over the last year were also discussed. Cummings inquired if an electrical contractor had been contacted to evaluate the building's electrical system. Faulkner stated that because the issues had been caused either by ComEd's equipment outside the library building, or by an act of nature (as in the case of the lightning strike) it was determined that the Library's electrical system was

not at fault. Booth asked for further details about HyVee's Pokémon Theme Night and other events. Faulkner provided these. Zimmerman commented on the unusually high circulation numbers for July, 2025. Faulkner explained this was primarily due to the Summer Reading program.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- A. Review Trustee Facts File – Chapter 10: Reviewed
- B. Review Standards for Libraries – Chapter 10: Reviewed
- C. Board Committee Assignments: Meserole was assigned to the By-Laws Committee. Booth was assigned to the Policies Committee.
- D. Approve Jubilee Art MOU: Meserole motioned to approve Jubilee Art MOU. Booth seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- E. Approve Public Finances Policy Revision: Meserole motioned to approve Public Finances Policy Revision. Dahlberg seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- F. Approve Woolpert Architectural and Engineering Revised Quote: Faulkner discussed the additions to the quote and clarified the process and scheduling for the entire project. Dahlberg motioned to approve Woolpert Architectural and Engineering Revised Quote. Meserole seconded. Motion passed via roll call, 5-0.

FINANCE

- A. Approve 2026 Payscale: Meserole motioned to approve the 2026 Payscale. Zimmerman seconded. Motion passed via roll call, 5-0.
- B. Approve FY 2026 Levy and Budget: Faulkner discussed, for informational purposes, the difference between a municipal library vs. a district library. Meserole motioned to approve the FY 2026 Levy and Budget at the zero rate. Dahlberg seconded the motion. Motion passed via roll call, 5-0.
- C. Approve September 2025 Monthly Bills: Meserole asked for an explanation of the Nationwide charges. Faulkner explained that this policy provides staff with the option to elect additional life insurance. Dahlberg motioned to approve September 2025 Monthly Bills. Meserole seconded. Motion passed via roll call, 5-0.
- D. Review Financials: Reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Meserole mentioned that New Value magazine is running Library ads for programs that have already occurred, making the ads obsolete. She asked if the Library is paying for these ads, and if so, could someone contact the magazine to make sure the program ads run before the date of the event. Faulkner will discuss this with the PR manager.

ADJOURNMENT

Dahlberg motioned to adjourn. Meserole seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.