

Rock Island Public Library Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 18, 2025

Type of Meeting: Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

Meeting Facilitator: Jenni Swanson

Invitees: Deborah Freiburg, Nick Hammond, Jacki Nelson, Jo Noon, Aleatha Quarles, Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh, Elizabeth Russell, Eudell Watts, III; Angela Campbell, Library Director; Kayla Steffen, Business & Facilities Director; Kathy Lelonek, Foundation Director; Lisa Lockheart, Marketing Manager.

President Swanson called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Board members in attendance: Jenni Swanson, Nick Hammond, Jo Noon, Aleatha Quarles, Elizabeth Russell, and Eudell Watts, III.

Absent: Deborah Freiburg, Jacki Nelson, and Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh.

Others in attendance: Angela Campbell, Library Director; Kathy Lelonek, Foundation Director; and Lisa Lockheart, Marketing Manager.

There was no public comment.

Trustee Watts made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2025, Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Noon seconded. After no discussion a voice vote was taken. All ayes, no nays, motion carries.

Director Campbell has been looking into the statewide ILEAD board training. The first step is to get all board members a "Library Learning" account (also known as an L2 account) with the library system, RAILS. She will go in and sign everyone up, but in order for it to be activated, board members must click on the activation link. She cautioned that the link expires quickly, so encouraged everyone to active their accounts as soon as they receive the email.

Correspondence was included in the packet and contained two "thank you" messages.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee

President Swanson made a motion to approve monthly bills for January in the amount of \$118,193.31. Trustee Russell second. Without any further discussion a roll call vote was taken. 6 Ayes - Swanson, Hammond, Noon, Quarles, Russell, and Watts; 0 Nays; 3 Absent. Motion passes.

Director Campbell gave an update on the library's annual operation financials for the Watts-Midtown Branch. After a meeting with the YMCA leadership, it was determined that the monthly operational fee currently paid by the library will remain unchanged in 2025.

Art & Facilities

Director Campbell updated the Board about the Downtown Library's first floor restroom renovation project. She recently received word from the City that the vendor, Valley Construction, is currently procuring supplies and subcontractors and expect to have a schedule for the project by the end of the week.

Personnel & Policy – No report.

Planning & Community Relations – No report.

Technology Ad-hoc Committee

Director Campbell announced that the new firewall and 5-year licensing agreement has been purchased and that the library is waiting on the hardware to arrive. Once installed by City IT, the internet speeds will be upgraded, which should make for faster WiFi connections at all locations.

Trustee Hammond asked if there was any movement in installing a public fax machine at the Downtown Library. Director Campbell said she will ask once the WiFi project is finished. She is also hoping to get a color printer at the Southwest Branch.

Foundation Updates

Foundation Director Lelonek gave an overview of their recent quarterly Board meeting, which included:

- An overview of the presentation by Blackhawk Bank & Trust on the state of Foundation investments. After the \$650,000 pledge to the capital campaign and annual reserve fund distributions, the endowment remains steady.
- The PALS book sale made \$1200 in January;
- The Leonard Boss estate has named the RIPL Foundation as a beneficiary. The donation should arrive this year;
- Food for Thought has been booked at the Hauberg Carriage House on Thursday, June 12th.
- Foundation Director Lelonek asked the Library Board if they would be interested in having a joint meeting of the Boards on Thursday, May 8th, at Huckleberry's. The Board agreed. Director Campbell will make sure all OMA requirements are met.
- Next Meeting: May 8, 2025 at 4:00pm at Huckleberry's, Rock Island.

Administrator Reports

Director Campbell reiterated her monthly report and answered questions from the Board. She mentioned that the statistics were already looking good for 2025, particularly the huge jump in numbers for electronic materials checkouts.

As a reminder, the Milan Blackhawk Area Public Library District will hold its next Board meeting on April 24, 2025 at 4pm at the Southwest Branch.

Unfinished Business

Director Campbell provided an update on the art curation project, stating she is waiting for the results of the Quad Cities Art\$Dollars grant submission.

New Business

- 1 Trustee Russell made a motion to approve the CY2024 Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR) for submission to the State Library, with corrections. Trustee Watts seconded. Without any further discussion a roll call vote was taken. 6 Ayes - Swanson, Hammond, Noon, Quarles, Russell, and Watts; 0 Nays; 3 Absent. Motion passes.
- 2 Trustee Watts made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-02, pertaining to the partial release of closed session minutes. Trustee Russell seconded. Without any further discussion a roll call vote was taken. 6 Ayes - Swanson, Hammond, Noon, Quarles, Russell, and Watts; 0 Nays; 3 Absent. Motion passes.
- 3 Trustee Russell made a motion to approve sending Kathy Jones to the Illinois Library Association DEI Retreat for \$140. Trustee Noon seconded. Without any further discussion a roll call vote was taken. 6 Ayes - Swanson, Hammond, Noon, Quarles, Russell, and Watts; 0 Nays; 3 Absent. Motion passes.

Information Sharing

- Board Contact Info & Terms
- Board Standing Committees
- Unique Management Reports
- Campbell – Continuing Education Report & Certificate of Attendance
- Community Comforts Drive Happening Now!

Executive Session – Not needed.**Announcements**

Director Campbell announced that she will be presenting the library annual report and strategic plan at the March 10th City Council Study Session, probably around 5:30pm.

President Swanson announced that the Board Nominating Committee will meet ½ hour prior to the March Board meeting to develop a slate of officers. She stressed that anyone is welcome to attend, and to let her know if anyone wants to become an officer or change committees.

Trustee Watts offered to cook a meal for staff on Library Worker's Day, happening April 8. Other Board members also volunteered to bring in food to celebrate staff.

Adjournment

Trustee Watts made a motion to adjourn at 5:30pm. Trustee Russell seconded. Without any further discussion a voice vote was taken. All ayes, no nays. Motion carries. The next board meeting will be Tuesday, March 18, at 5pm, at the Downtown Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Campbell
Library Director