

**Rock Island Public Library Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 5:00pm**  
**Rock Island Public Library - Downtown**

Vice-President, Elizabeth Russell, called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

In attendance were Trustees Russell, Deborah Freiburg, Nick Hammond, Jacki Nelson, Jo Noon, Aleatha Quarles, Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh, and Eudell Watts III; Library Director, Angela Campbell; Library Foundation Director, Kathy Lelonek; and Library Marketing Manager, Lisa Lockheart. Absent was President Jenni Swanson.

Trustee Noon made a motion to accept the Nominating Committee meeting minutes from March 18, 2025. Trustee Quarles seconded the motion. There was no discussion. VP Russell took a voice vote - all ayes.

Trustee Freiburg made a motion to accept the Board of Trustees meeting minutes from March 18, 2025. Trustee Nelson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. VP Russell took a voice vote - all ayes.

There was no board education, as the Board is still waiting on the release of the new Illinois Library standards.

The Board discussed correspondence included in the packet.

***Committee Reports***

Finance

Trustee Freiburg made a motion to approve the monthly bills for March in the amount of \$45,917.91. Trustee Watts seconded the motion. After a quick question about the Willygoat bill, VP Russell took a recorded vote: 7 ayes, Freiburg, Hammond, Nelson, Noon, Quarles, Grandberry Pugh, Watts; 0 nays; 1 absent. Motion passes.

Director Campbell explained the end-of-year and quarterly financial statements included in the packet may not be correct, as she didn't think the city audit was final yet. We did come in under-budget for last year, partially because a couple of the capital improvement projects were not completed. Also because of unfilled positions. This year, the library is only slightly under-budget.

Art & Facilities

Director Campbell said that as far as she knew, all of the furnishings and fixtures for the restroom remodel were on order and that once they arrive, a date will be set for construction to begin.

The Art Hanging System for the Arts Dollars grant has arrived. Library maintenance will work with the curator to install the rails in the community room at Watts-Midtown. Trustee Noon asked if quilts could be hung for the art shows. Marketing Manager Lockheart said that application information was on the

homepage of the website, and to talk to the curator. Director Campbell stated that the hanging system at this time is for framed works, but that it is possible down the line to purchase clips that can be used to hang the quilts.

#### Personnel & Policy

Trustee Freiburg gave an overview of the Committee meeting that happened prior to the Board meeting. Ten policies were reviewed, and will be voted on later in the meeting.

#### Planning & Community Relations

Trustee Grandberry Pugh did not have a report, as the committee has not met recently. Director Campbell said that since the master facilities plan is getting underway, there will be a need for the committee to meet in the near future.

#### Technology Ad-Hoc Committee

Trustee Hammond reported that the router is on order, and there will be more to discuss once it's installed and we evaluate the new wireless speeds

Director Campbell reported that a security camera will be installed at the Watts-Midtown Branch.

#### ***Foundation Report***

Foundation Director Lelonek reported that the next book sale will happen the weekend of April 25th. She also stated that Rock Island Rotary will be doing a pollinator planting project that weekend at the South Entrance of the Downtown Library.

Other Foundation happenings include: Birdies for Charity mailings went out during National Library Week; Food for Thought will be on June 12th at the Hauberg Carriage House, and that there is a need for silent auction items. The Board discussed if there should be a wine pull, and Trustee Nelson suggested a coffee pull instead. The Board seemed good with that fresh idea.

Finally, Foundation Director Lelonek reminded the Board of the joint meeting between the Foundation and Library Board on Thursday, May 8th, at 4pm. Auditor, Kim Hoffman, will present the year's audited financial records. Director Campbell reported that members of the facilities master planning team will be at the meeting to also talk about wants/needs for the potential building remodel. Director Campbell will put together an agenda for the meeting and post it online; Director Lelonek will make sure it gets posted at Huckleberry's.

#### ***Administrator Reports***

Director Campbell asked if there were any questions regarding her written report in the Board packet. Trustee Hammond asked if the library paid for staff to become Notary Publics, and at what level? He also asked if we are digital notaries. Director Campbell thought it was the basic level, and was unaware of a digital option. She will look into this.

Director Campbell also mentioned the numerous issues with the public, and that there are two complaints happening with the City regarding library staff.

Statistics were also presented and the Board agreed that the library was doing great!

The Milan-Blackhawk Area Public Library District will meet on Thursday, April 24th, at 4pm, at the Southwest Branch. Up for discussion is their three-year contract for library service. If they want to continue contracting with Rock Island Public Library, they will send it to this Board to review/approve at the May meeting.

### ***Unfinished Business***

Trustee Noon made a motion to approve the 2025 Slate of Officers as presented at the March meeting. Trustee Nelson seconded the motion. VP Russell asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, VP Russell took a voice vote. All ayes, no nays. Motion passed.

Trustee Freiburg made a motion to approve changes to the Board Bylaws, as discussed at the March 18, 2025 meeting. Trustee Grandberry Pugh seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, VP Russell took a recorded vote: 7 ayes, Freiburg, Hammond, Nelson, Noon, Quarles, Grandberry Pugh, Watts; 0 nays; 1 absent. Motion passes.

### ***New Business***

Trustee Freiburg made a motion to approve Eudell Watts III as the first Library Board Emeritus Trustee. Trustee Quarles seconded the motion. With no further discussion, VP Russell took a recorded vote: 6 ayes, Freiburg, Hammond, Nelson, Noon, Quarles, Grandberry Pugh; 1 abstention, Watts; 0 nays; 1 absent. Motion passes. Congratulations to Eudell!

Trustee Freiburg made a motion to approve the following policies, as presented to the Personnel & Policy Committee and earlier in the Board meeting: AI Policy, Behavior Policy, Customer Service Policy, Lost or Abandoned Property Policy, Pest Control Policy, Postings & Handouts Policy, Records Retention Policy, Social Media Policy, Statement of Concern About Library Resources Policy, and Unattended Child Policy. Trustee Nelson seconded the motion. With no further discussion, VP Russell took a voice vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. Motion passes.

### ***Information Sharing***

- Board Contact Info & Terms
- Board Standing Committees - VP Russell mentioned that if anyone would like to change committees, to let President Swanson know. It will be discussed at the May meeting.
- Unique Management Reports were reviewed.
- The 2025 sculptures for the Downtown Library and Southwest Branch were reviewed.
- Director Campbell's Letter to the Editor was included in the packet. The Board was pleased with its contents.

***Executive Session - Not needed***

***Announcements***

- Director Campbell encouraged everyone to attend the April 28th City Council meeting.
- The joint meeting of the Foundation and Library Boards will happen on Thursday, May 8th, at Huckleberry's.
- The next board meeting will happen Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 5pm, at the Downtown Library.
- Trustee Eudell Watts III was thanked and congratulated for playing such a huge role in the library's leadership. Eudell made a very emotional speech about how much the Board has meant to him and his family. Words written in minutes cannot express the beauty of his sentiments.

Respectfully submitted,  
Angela Campbell  
Library Director