

Rock Island Public Library Board
Technology Ad-hoc Committee Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.
Downtown Library Community Room, 2nd Floor

Committee Chair, Nick Hammond, called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

In Attendance – Committee Chair, Nick Hammond; Board President, Jenni Swanson; Trustee Aleatha Quarrels; Angela Campbell, Library Director; Kim Brozovich, Technical Services Director; Todd Thompson, City Manager; Tim Bain, City IT Director; Norm Goetz, City Network Administrator.

Public Comment – None.

New Business:

1. Purpose of the Ad-hoc Committee

Hammond began the meeting with a discussion of the *Serving Our Public: Illinois State Standards* – Chapter 12, Technology. Topics of concern by the library are lack of faxing at the Downtown location, Wi-Fi speed, and funding/implementing required items on the checklist. IT Director Bain pointed out the importance of “firewalls with advanced threat protection,” as listed in the standards.

2. Wireless Network Discussion

After a lengthy discussion about the network architecture, it was determined that the library does have slow Wi-Fi speeds at the branches. IT Network Admin Goetz and IT Director Bain suggested increasing the internet speed through our provider while they look at purchasing the most appropriate firewall and router for the connection speed.

3. Technology Inventory: Replacement Schedule, Budget, & Responsibility

The committee reviewed how the following were handled from an IT perspective and, conversely, from the library’s perspective:

- i. Networking equipment
- ii. Peripherals
- iii. Public hardware
- iv. Staff hardware
- v. Software

Most items required City IT intervention for deployment. The library is willing to pay for specialized technology and software if IT could install it. It was agreed that better communication would help for all parties, and that extra staff may be something to strive for in the future.

4. IS Help Workflow

The committee discussed IT troubleshooting and the process for implementing of new ideas. This agenda item topic was wrapped within agenda number item three. Creating a positive workflow is dependent upon keeping up good communication. City Manager Thompson suggested that all new ideas be factored into the IT Budget during their annual call for responses so that the department can better plan for the upcoming year. He also mentioned that if the IT Department has time to do things earlier, that might happen, too.

5. The following committee recommendations will be brought to the full board for discussion:

- For 2025 – Increase internet speed to 1 gigabyte; IT will look into the best firewall/hardware for that speed, and make recommendations for purchase. They will install the hardware when it arrives.
- For 2026 – Look into grants/funding for a shared IT position. Potentially put this in the CY 2026 budget.

Other Business - None

Closed Session – Not needed

Information Sharing - None

Announcements

All participants thanked each other for their time and consideration.

Adjournment

Being no further business, Chairperson Hammond adjourned the meeting at 4:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Campbell
Library Director