

Rock Island Public Library Board Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, December 16, 2025
5:00 p.m.
Rock Island Public Library – 2nd Floor, Downtown Library

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, Shelly Johnson; Eudell Watts III (Emeritus Board Member); Angela Campbell, Library Director; Daniel Cuneo, Business & Facilities Director; Lisa Lockheart, Marketing Manager; Kathy Lelonek, Foundation Director.

- I. **Call to Order:** President Swanson called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.
- II. **Attendance:** Trustees Freiburg, Hammond, Grandberry-Pugh, and Johnson were absent, as was Library Director Campbell
- III. **Public Comment:** None
- IV. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - Trustee Noon moved to approve the minutes from the RIPL Board of Trustees Meeting on November 18, 2025. Trustee Russell seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed via voice vote with all in favor.
 - Trustee Nelson moved to approve the minutes from the Personnel & Policy Committee Meeting on November 18, 2025. Trustee Noon seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed via voice vote with all in favor.
- V. **Board Education – Illinois Public Library Standards:**
 - President Swanson asked the Board if they had any questions about Director Campbell's assessment of the Library's score for both the Human Resources Action Plan and Information Services Action Plan. There were none. However, Trustee Nelson mentioned that she wishes the Downtown Library could have more staff—with specific regard to contemporary mental health issues and related challenges in the downtown Rock Island area. She asked if the Library had reached out to the Robert Young Center about services provided.
 - Director Cuneo detailed the recent meeting between the Rock Island Sheriff, Police Chief McCloud, several of the City alderpersons, and various downtown social service providers. He noted that Robert Young was restricted in the services they could provide in IL, but that their representative didn't know why. And while Robert Young has services for people who seek them, the waiting period (outside of cases of suicidal ideation) was 1-3 weeks, a time horizon far greater than high-need Library patrons could make use of. Director Cuneo, Third Place QC, and NEST Café had all asked for Robert Young to pursue more options for acute response, as is their combined need.

VI. Correspondence: The Board discussed how much they enjoyed the art show series at Watts-Midtown, and how they thought it brought people into the Library. They'd like to see more events in the future.

VII. Committee Reports –

Finance:

- President Swanson moved to approve monthly bills for November in the amount of \$71,361.70. Trustee Russell seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed via roll call vote: all ayes; no nays.
- President Swanson updated the Board on the CY2026 City budget that had just been passed by City Council. She also thanked all of the Library directors for presenting the City with a balanced budget.
- Art & Facilities: Director Cuneo walked the Board through recent, unexpected facilities costs due to a freeze-and-breakthrough of a small pipe in the Downtown Library boiler room. He was able to catch the issue very early, before there was flooding or collateral water damage. He's working with Ragan to repair both the broken pipe and to identify and correct the cause.

Personnel & Policy: President Swanson mentioned that Library Director's review had been completed under closed session.

Planning & Community Relations: None

Technology Ad-hoc Committee: President Swanson told the Board that Tim Baine, the City's longtime Director of IT, was retiring at the end of the year. The Board asked who would replace him. Director Cuneo said there was no consensus decision yet, as the City's Network Administrator, Norm, who had been planned to succeed Tim, himself had left. The City's IT Department is running very lean, and Director Cuneo believes they will explore third party options for some of their needs.

VIII. Foundation Updates:

- Foundation President Lelonek discussed the Foundations Executive Committee meeting on December 16th to discuss the master plan. She said that many of the members were excited about the project but also concerned about the state of the market, as well as the large number of fundraising campaigns just launched or to-be-launched this year.

IX. Administrator Reports:

- There were no questions on either the Director's Report or RIPL's monthly statistics.
- Milan Blackhawk Area Public Library District: President Swanson had talked with Fire Chief Graff recently, and she filled the Board on his love of the Library and desire to coordinate where possible, because of the shared building out at Southwest. Director Cuneo gave a brief overview of how Fire and the Library are planning to work together

on service contracts and preventative maintenance, as well as their shared enthusiasm for the new illuminated sign approved by the MB Board at the end of their year.

X. Unfinished Business:

- The Board discussed the recent gate count, wherein President Swanson wondered if winter was slower at the RIPL locations. There was also an enthusiastic discussion of RIPLs digital services and how much everyone enjoys them. Then next count scheduled for April 5 – 17, 2026.

XI. New Business:

- President Swanson moved to approve the negotiated change orders for the restroom renovation project in the amount of \$7,111.45. (RC). Trustee Quarles seconded. Director Cuneo then explanation of charges and services provided by the project manager, Scott Illingsworth of Valley Construction. While there were definite missteps by the contractors, including a far lengthier timeline than was originally agreed on, Director Cuneo believed that Mr. Illingsworth and Valley had made a thorough effort to make good on the extenuating circumstances and bear a significant portion of the cost of the change orders, and he recommended that the Board approve the payment.

There was no further discussion and the motion passed via roll call vote: all ayes; no nays.

XII. Information Sharing:

- President Swanson reminded her fellow members that Trustee Russell, the current Vice President, and Trustee Nelson will be terming-off of the Board in the coming year. Trustee Russell gave a call for ideas and recommendations. The Board members will think about it and discuss more after the holiday.

XIII. Executive Session: None

XIV. Announcements:

- The next board meeting will be January 20, 2026 at 5pm, Downtown Library

XV. Adjournment: President Swanson then adjourned the meeting at 5:33 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Cuneo
Business & Facilities Director
Rock Island Public Library