

Rock Island Public Library Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.
Rock Island Public Library – 2nd Floor, Downtown Library

Meeting Facilitator: Jenni Swanson

Invitees: Deborah Freiburg, Nick Hammond, Jacki Nelson, Jo Noon, Aleatha Quarles, Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh, Elizabeth Russell, Shelly Johnson; Angela Campbell, Library Director; Daniel Cuneo, Business & Facilities Director; Lisa Lockheart, Marketing Manager; Kathy Lelonek, Foundation Director.

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

In attendance were Trustees Debbie Freiburg, Nick Hammond, Jacki Nelson, Jo Noon, Aleatha Quarles, Elizabeth Russell, and Shelly Johnson. Also in attendance were Library Director, Angela Campbell; Business & Facilities Director, Daniel Cuneo; Marketing Manager, Lisa Lockheart; and Library Foundation Director, Kathy Lelonek.

Absent: Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh.

The Board took a moment during attendance to welcome to Daniel Cuneo, the new Business & Facilities Director; and Shelly Johnson, the newly appointed Library Board Trustee.

There was no public comment.

Trustee Freiburg made a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting held on April 15, 2025. Trustee Nelson seconded. With no further discussion, the minutes were approved with all ayes, no nays, via a voice vote.

Trustee Noon made a motion approve the minutes from the Personnel & Policy Committee Meeting, held on April 15, 2025. Trustee Quarles seconded. With no further discussion, the minutes were approved with all ayes, no nays, via a voice vote.

Trustee Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes from the Special Board Meeting, held on May 8, 2025. Trustee Russell seconded. With no further discussion, the minutes were approved with all ayes, no nays, via a voice vote.

Reappointed Trustees, Swanson and Freiburg, along with newly appointed Trustee Johnson, took the oath of office, good for another three-year term.

Special guest, Leanne Furby, Project Coordinator of the Illinois Heartland Library System, was in attendance to present information on the statewide ILEAD trustee training portal, available to all library trustees. She explained that Trustees can log in using the L2 account and learn everything they need to know, including state statutes, parliamentary procedure, how to review a budget, and more. This resource, funded by the State Library of Illinois, includes meetings, videos, and print resources to make the Trustees' lives easier. She encouraged everyone to check it out, and to contact her with any questions.

Correspondence included in the Board packet included a thank you to Angela for her JA volunteerism, thank you to Lisa and the Library for donating a Library-themed Basket to the Hob Nosh fundraiser; a thank you to Adult Services Librarian, Nathan, for excellent service; a thank You to the Adult Services Department for their hard work; and a thank you to the Library for the great displays.

Finance Committee Chair Swanson made a motion to approve monthly bills for April in the amount of \$40,810.41. Vice-President Russell seconded. Being no further discussion, President Swanson took a recorded vote: 6 ayes – Freiburg, Hammond, Nelson, Noon, Quarles, Russell; 1 abstention, Johnson; and 1 absent, Grandberry Pugh. Motion passes.

Art & Facilities – Jacki Nelson

Director Campbell reported that the restroom remodel is moving along, with a preconstruction meeting on May 1st and construction beginning on May 12th.

She also reported that the master facilities plan for the Downtown Library is coming along! The public input session is happening on Wednesday, May 21st at 4:30pm.

Personnel & Policy – Debbie Freiburg

No report.

Planning & Community Relations – Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh

No report.

Technology Ad-hoc Committee – Nick Hammond

Director Campbell reported no new updates were available about the installation of the new WiFi firewall, and that the city was in possession of it, working on the configuration. She will follow-up with City IT. President Swanson suggested copying the IT Director and City Manager.

Foundation Updates – Kathy Lelonek

Foundation Director Lelonek reported that the Food for Thought fundraiser is scheduled for Thursday, June 12, at 6pm, at Hauberg Carriage Haus. There will be a coffee and tea “pull” (instead of the traditional wine), so she is looking for donations of coffee and tea from unique vendors.

Lelonek also reported that the Foundation received the Schwiebert environmental grant, which will help with planting flowers in the Mayeski Reading Garden at the Watts-Midtown Branch.

She thanked everyone who could make it to the joint board meeting.

Director Campbell also thanked Lelonek for organizing the pollinator planting that took place at the Downtown Library, which added a beautification boost to the South side of the building. This was a Rotary project, with many great volunteers from Jordan Elementary School.

Lelonek shared that the next Foundation meeting would happen Thursday, August 14, 2025 at 4:00pm at the Downtown Library.

Administrator Reports

Director Campbell reviewed her most recent Board report. Statistics were shared, with most areas already seeing significant improvements. The Library is most proud to reach the 18,000+ library cardholder number.

The Milan Blackhawk Area Public Library District will have their next regular meeting on Thursday, May 22, 2025 at 4pm at the Southwest Branch.

**Represents a potential voting item*

Unfinished Business

Director Campbell reported that the Art Curation Project, funded by the Quad City ArtsDollars grant is going full-steam ahead. The first artists reception will be on Friday, June 20, at 4pm. The art theme will feature artwork inspired by the theme, Exploration.

New Business

The first item under New Business was pulled from the agenda.

Trustee Freiburg made a motion to approve a three-year Contract for Service agreement with the Milan-Blackhawk Area Public Library District. Trustee Noon seconded. Being no further discussion, President Swanson took a recorded vote: 6 ayes – Freiburg, Hammond, Nelson, Noon, Quarles, Russell; 1 abstention, Johnson; and 1 absent, Grandberry Pugh. Motion passes.

Trustee Russell made a motion to approve the intergovernmental agreement with PrairieCat for the new mobile app. Trustee Nelson seconded. Being no further discussion, President Swanson took a recorded vote: 6 ayes – Freiburg, Hammond, Nelson, Noon, Quarles, Russell; 1 abstention, Johnson; and 1 absent, Grandberry Pugh. Motion passes.

The last item of new business was to review standing committee assignments. Trustee Johnson was slotted into the Art & Facilities Committee; Emeritus Trustee, Watts, was taken off committees, although he will be invited to the meetings. The rest of the committee assignments will remain the same in 2026.

Information Sharing

The following information items were included in the board packet:

- Board Contact Info & Terms
- Board Standing Committees
- Levy Confirmation
- Kathy Jones Continuing Education Report
- Mental Health Proclamation

Executive Session – not needed.

Announcements

- Next Board Meeting – June 17, 2025 at 5pm, Downtown Library

With no further business, President Swanson adjourned the meeting at 5:56pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Campbell
Library Director

**Represents a potential voting item*