

Harrisburg Public Library District - Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Harrisburg Public Library District was called to order by President Robert (Bob) DeVillez at approximately 5:01pm. Those in attendance included Denise Drue, Kelly Phelps, Emily Sumner, Sally Wofford, and Emily Bergman, Library Director. David Berry and Janet Jones were absent.

Consent Agenda –

Sally Wofford made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Kelly Phelps provided a second and the motion carried unanimously via roll call vote.

President's Report

***Bob shared that over the past year, the average board meeting has been approximately 1 hour, 20 minutes.

Public Comment – None

Correspondence/Communication – Kudos for Emma receiving positive patron feedback

Committee Reports

*****Finance** – Sally Wofford made a motion that she and David Berry gather information from First-Mid to determine the best rate for renewing a CD. Denise Drue made a second and the motion passed unanimously via roll call vote.

*****Personnel** – None

*****Policy** – None

*****Building and Grounds** – There will be a building inspection tonight.

Director's Report – Old Business

***Emily will gather more information about Background Checks to share at the October meeting.

***The library continues to have an open position.

***We are still awaiting an actual quote for the copy machine to be fixed.

***Selecting a local lawyer was recommended during the Director's University.

***Emily will provide passwords upon request for our new library-based emails.

***IPLR has been submitted.

Director's Report – New Business

***Sally Wofford made a motion to approve Budget & Appropriation Ordinance 25/26-3. Denise Drue provided a second and the motion passed unanimously. Please note, the tax computation has NOT been received for the year.

***The Patron Registration Policy has been updated – no vote was needed.

***Denise Drue made a motion for the library board to accept a sculpture donation from Brandon Smith. Emily Sumner provided a second and the motion passed unanimously with Bob DeVillez abstaining from the vote. This sculpture was formerly part of the Hise Museum, located at Southeastern Illinois College, when the museum initially opened and will be part of the outdoor landscape near the south entrance.

***There was much discussion about an incident on Friday, Sept 9th and the use of disrespectful, hate language from one library patron toward another. Emily provided a brief synopsis of the situation and assured the board that this type of language/behavior will never be tolerated.

***Evan has been attending meetings for Friends of the Library. There has been some discussion about FOL establishing a Foundation. However, based on the requirements, a 501C3 seems to be a more practical choice.

Denise Drue made a motion to adjourn at 6: pm and Sally Wofford provided a second. Motion passed unanimously. Respectfully submitted by Leah Denise Drue, Secretary