

ROCKFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

August 24, 2026

Boardroom, Main Library

215 N. Wyman St.

Meeting Minutes

A quorum being present, President Jamie Getchius called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present: Jamie Getchius, Paul Logli, Michael Laskonis, Molly Brauns, Lafakeria Reuter, Stephanie Nissen, Dennis Horton

Members Absent: Janet Moore, Cesar Sanchez

Others present: Board Attorney Eileen Caver,

Staff present: Anthony Cortez, Andrew Fischer, Anne O'Keefe, Mary Pat Muzzarelli

Public Speakers

None

Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented to the Board. Hearing no objections from the Trustees, the minutes were approved.

Financial Report

1. **Monthly Financial Statements:** Monthly Financial Statements: Executive Director Cortez presented Financial Statements to the Board for the month ending July 2026. Discussion followed. The Financial Statements were accepted subject to audit. Executive Director Cortez presented the 2027 Budget Preview to the committee. Discussion followed. President Getchius encouraged the Trustees to come forward with any questions.
2. **Board Member Reports-** Vice President Molly Brauns reminded the board that it is now time for the Executive Director Review. As Vice President, she will be reaching out to the trustees for input. Vice President Brauns also informed the Trustees that they will be receiving information regarding the strategic plan to share with elected officials and community members.

President Jamie Getchius reminded the Board that they function as the Executive Directors boss and the annual review is an important part of communicating their thoughts. Feedback is vital.

President Getchius also reminded the Board that it is important to reach out to City Council members when RPL business is going before them. Discussion followed.

3. Committees:

1. Financial Planning & Properties Committee:

- a. Approve Architectural Services for 4100E. State St. [action]
Secretary Paul Logli introduced a proposal for Architectural Services from Larson & Darby to the Trustees. Larson & Darby have already completed preliminary work, and the Finance Committee found it in the best interest of the Library to approve Larson & Darby for continued professional services. He asked that the Trustees do the same.
By a unanimous Roll Call Vote, the professional services of Larson & Darby were approved.

2. **Policies & Services Committee:** No Items-Vice President Brauns shared that the P&S Committee did discuss Policy as it relates to Local Authors and RPL. No action was taken.
4. Closed session under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to discuss possible litigation.

No Closed Session.
5. **Staff Reports:** Director Cortez discussed successful programming taking place at the branches, ongoing AOHS successes and Development. He also mentioned the classes provided the new RPL Artist in Residence, Neil Bloom.
6. **Unfinished Business:** Director Cortez, on behalf of the Library, presented President Getchius with gifts for his new son.
7. **New Business: None**

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Monday, September 28, 2026, at 6 p.m. in the Boardroom, Rockford Public Library, 118 N. Wyman St., Rockford, IL 61101

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27p.m.

Mary Pat Muzzarelli
Recorder