

**Ella Johnson Memorial Public Library
109 S. State Street, Hampshire, IL 60140
Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
May18, 2026**

Call to Order: President Linda Wallace called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 pm.

Present: Trustees Kim Alberth, Pat Dumoulin, Morgan Kolecke, Suzanne Lattanzio, Judy Pokorny, Kathy Eller and Linda Wallace.

Absent: None

Staff Members: Executive Director Stephen Bero, Youth Services Manager/Assistant Director Heather Swanson.

Public: Cindy Jerger

Pledge of Allegiance: President Wallace led those gathered in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Changes/Corrections to the Agenda: Remove Approval of Minutes for Executive Session – April 20, 2026.

Questions/Comments-Public/Media: Cindy Jerger expressed concern for the Board's inability to secure a new Executive Director for the Library.

Approval of Minutes:

Regular Meeting: Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Eller to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting held on April 20, 2026. The minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus. Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Lattanzio to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on April 27, 2026. The minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus. Motion by Trustee Lattanzio and second by Trustee Kolecke to approve the minutes from the Executive Session held on April 27, 2026. The minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus.

Treasurer's Report:

- Approval of Payroll for April 2026. Motion by Trustee Eller and second by Trustee Alberth the April 2026 Payroll in the amount of \$58,957.51. The Bills and Payrolls were approved by voice-vote consensus.
- Financial Report-April 2026

Director's Report:

- Department Reports
- Circulation/Programming/Database Statistics
- PrairieCat Administrative Council Brief–April 10, 2026
- Friends Minutes-April 7, 2026

Director's Report:

Director Bero informed the Board that the next newsletter was at the bindery.

President's Report:

President Wallace reminded the Board of the Special Meeting on June 8th at 7:00 pm for review of the Construction Manager candidates. There was also discussion of the Village of Hampshire newsletter.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

A. Approval of postponed bill payment for May 2026.

Motion by Trustee Alberth and second by Trustee Pokorny that the Board authorize Treasurer Pat Dumoulin to approve payment of bills for May 2026 later this month. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

B. Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027: First Draft

Director Bero and the Board discussed the first draft of the budget. The Board is on track to have the budget finalized.

C. Executive Session

Motion by Trustee Alberth and second by Trustee Dumoulin that the board enter into Executive Session at 7:40 pm to consider the employment of a specific employee of the public body [5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1)]. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

The board reconvened in open session at 9:03 pm.

D. Action as a result of the Executive Session

Motion by Trustee Eller and second by Trustee Dumoulin that the Board raise Stephen Bero's compensation to \$155 per hour effective July 1, 2026, and that it extend Stephen Bero's employment agreement for one year effective September 15, 2026. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

E. Adjournment

Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Lattanzio that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

President Wallace adjourned the meeting at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Swanson, Recording Secretary

Kim Alberth, Board Secretary