

Morris Area Public Library
April 13, 2026
Board of Trustees General Meeting Minutes
6:30 pm
Morris Area Public Library Conference Room

Minutes-

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call**
 - a. Called to order at 6:30 P.M.
 - b. Roll Call: Cummings, Ebert, Geiger, Keavney, Peterson, and Russell were all present. Keegan was absent
 - c. Library Interim Director Barowsky was present, along with guests Berndt, Biasella, Burton, Eallonardo, Fischer, Meyer, Murray and Sargent
- 2. Review of Agenda for Additions/ Changes:**
 - a. none
- 3. Construction Update -**
 - a. Eallonardo
 - i. When Phase 2B is completed that will be the last move
 - ii. Following final completion of construction, an additional month will be allocated for punch list items
 - iii. Still waiting for the total on the soil testing and thinks it should be lower than what was originally thought
 - iv. Went over credits and revisions
 - v. Discussed the exposed insulation and options
 - vi. Motion to provide Eallonardo the ability to negotiate the best price on our behalf to fix the insulation. The motion was made by Cummings and seconded by Geiger 6-0
 - vii. A motion was made by Cummings and seconded by Keavney for consideration and approval of authorization to spend \$9879.00 of the General Contingency Allowance for ceiling changes and security cameras. Also to authorize Barowsky to sign the documents 6-0
- 4. Correspondence, Communications, and Public Comment**
 - a. None
- 5. Consent Agenda**
 - a. A motion was made by Cummings and seconded by Russell to approve the March 9, 2026 Board Meetings minutes and to accept the Consent Agenda 6-0
- 6. Interim Directors Report**
 - a. Community
 - i. Burton and Murray gave presentations at Morris District 54 Elementary School on the Library and Community Helpers
 - ii. Burton and Murray attended Family Literacy Night engaging with approximately 125 students and families
 - b. Programs
 - i. We are introducing in late April two new online services, Hiveclass and Playgarden Prep
 - c. Building
 - i. On March 28, 2026 water was discovered at the base of the main stairwell again. With some also found in the pump room and storage area. The City was notified and dispatched a crew that determined the issue was coming from a neighboring property. The insurance have been notified and the issue is being addressed
 - d. Professional Development
 - i. Staff logged 20 hours of professional development
 - ii. There is still trustees that have not turned in their sexual harassment prevention training
 - e. Follow up
 - i. All accounts have been secured to full insurance and collateralization. The library is now earning interest on these balances
 - f. Other Information
 - i. The US Department of State informed us that we are no longer authorized to operate as a passport facility as of March 3, 2026

- ii. Barowsky met with the Grundy County Historical Society to discuss collaborating opportunities and partnering for programs. The museum is going to work on digitizing several library archival materials
- iii. The library car is reaching the end of its life

7. President's report

- a. Update on Director Search
 - i. Deiters & Todd met with the Management Team on March 17
 - ii. Interviews start the week of April 13 and will narrow the list down to 4-6 strong candidates
 - iii. Interviews will then take place with the Board choosing 2 candidates to move forward

8. Vice President's Report

- a. Is sending an article to the Board to read

9. Committee Reports

- a. **Finance Committee (Geiger)**
 - i. None
- b. **Facilities & Technology Committee (Ebert/Russell)**
 - i. None
- c. **Personnel & Policy Committee (Cummings/Keavney)**
 - i. Will go over policies
- d. **Strategic Plan Committee (Keavney)**
 - i. None

10. Review of Illinois Library Standard - Barowsky

- a. Collection Management

11. Unfinished business

- a. None

12. New Business

- a. Consideration and approval of the Board of Trustees to authorize the Library Director to make administrative updates to forms contained in the Policy Manual Appendix as needed to ensure alignment with adopted policies and practical operations, without requiring Board approval for each revision. Cummings motioned this and Keavney seconded
- b. Motion to approve the revised Notary Services Policy was made by Cummings and seconded by Keavney
- c. Motion to approve access to the library materials by minors
- d. Approval of Computer, Internet and Electronic Resources Us Policy and Teen/Tween Gaming Area Policy is tabled until next meeting

13. Other

- a. None

14. Executive Session

- a. None

Executive session pursuant to 5ILCS 102/2: the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.

Executive session pursuant to 5ILCS 102/3: the selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in this Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given the power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office when the public body is given the power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance.

15. Action on Executive Session

- a. None

16. Adjournment

- a. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 P.M. by Keavney and seconded by Peterson

_____, Board Secretary