

**Morris Area Public Library**  
**May 11, 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, Geiger, Keavney, Keegan, Peterson, and Russell were all present.
  - c. A motion to allow Ebert in remotely was motioned by Russell and seconded by Keegan 5-1
  - d. Library Interim Director Barowsky was present, along with guests Berndt, Biasella, Burton, Eallonardo, Fischer and Sargent
- 2. Review of Agenda for Additions/ Changes:**
  - a. none
- 3. Construction Update -**
  - a. Eallonardo
    - i. June 10 & 11 possible for the last move they have asked for an extra day because of all the shelving
    - ii. The paint color needs to be picked for the Phase 2b
    - iii. A motion was made by Keavney and seconded by Geiger for the approval of authorization to spend \$36,473.14 of the General Contingency Allowance for unsuitable soil, staff lounge ceiling and systems work, room 121, 122, 123 furring, plan modifications, beam and obsolete system removal, door revisions (credit), owner provided material (credit) 7-0
- 4. Correspondence, Communications, and Public Comment**
  - a. None
- 5. Consent Agenda**
  - a. A motion was made by Keavney and seconded by Keegan to approve the consent agenda minus the Grundy County checking account 7-0
  - b. Cummings motioned to approve the Grundy County checking account and Keegan seconded the motion 7-0
- 6. Ordinances**
  - a. Ordinance 20260511-02
    - i. Cummings motioned and Geiger seconded the confirming and ratifying use of funds for expansion project 7-0
  - b. Ordinance 20260511-03
    - i. A motion was made to confirm and ratify establishment and administration of endowment funds was made by Cummings and seconded by Russell 7-0
- 7. Finance**
  - a. Presentation and discussion of Proposed Budget FY2026-27
- 8. Interim Director's Report**
  - a. Community
    - i. Burton attended a meeting about Community Organizations Active in Disaster. The library will become a partner by offering space for families to come with their children during a disaster
    - ii. April 24, the ICS Preschool came for a special storytime and tour of the library. We had 39 visitors, Greiff and Murray led the program
    - iii. Circulation numbers were good despite being closed for five days due to the expansion project
  - b. Programs
    - i. We will be partnering with Compudopt to provide free tech education programs for school age children through a grant from LyondellBassell. This is an incredible opportunity for our community where each participant will receive a free laptop after they complete the program.
    - ii. Burton has a new source for program grants for live music performances. Our first program was held in April with over 20 attendees
  - c. Building
    - i. Our second move went smoothly thanks to Hallett Movers. The next and final move should be within the first few weeks of June

- ii. We had our spring maintenance on the HVAC. All A/C units are currently working. Two units will still need repair before the heating season
  - d. Professional Development
    - i. Staff logged over 75 hours of Professional Development in April
    - ii. Barowsky attended the mandatory PrairieCat delegates meeting
    - iii. There are still two Board trustees who have not turned in their sexual harassment prevention training. Also they are reminded to turn in any training through the link provided for IPLAR reporting
  - e. Follow up
    - i. There is still water an the bottom of the stairs in the main stairwell
    - ii. Barowsky had another meeting with the Grundy County History Museum
    - iii. New cleaning company uses 100% green non-toxic cleaning supplies
  - f. Other Information
    - i. There were several items updated in the Policy Manual Appendix
    - ii. There is a small group of patrons interested in forming a Friends of the Library organization. Barowsky provided them with information from the American Library Association regarding the role of a Friends Group and how it can support the library.
    - iii. The Illinois State Library contacted the library to have an in-person meeting in regards to the FY 26 Per Capita grant funds
- 9. **President's report**
  - a. Update on Director Search
    - i. Keavney read an email from Deiters & Todd updating us on where we are in the process
    - ii. The two finalists will be interviewed Wednesday, May 13
- 10. **Vice President's Report**
  - a. None
- 11. **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
- 12. **Review of Illinois Library Standard - Barowsky**
  - a. Finance & Budget
- 13. **Unfinished business**
  - a. Motion to approve the Library's updated Computer, Internet and Electronic Resources Use Policy was made by Cummings and seconded by Geiger
  - b. Cummings motioned and Keavney seconded a motion to approve the new Teen\Tween Gaming Area Policy, as recommended by the Personnel and Policy Committee
  - c. A motion to approve FY 26-27 Library Pay Scale was made by Cummings and seconded by Keegan 7-0
- 14. **New Business**
  - a. The elevator door repair had been tabled to seek other quotes
  - b. A motion was made to approve the Director and Assistant Director Job Descriptions as recommended by the Personnel and Policy Committee was made by Cummings and seconded by Keegan
  - c. Keegan stated that Barowsky saved the Library
- 15. **Other**
  - a. Peterson had to leave the meeting at 9:06 p.m.
- 16. **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.

**17. Action on Executive Session**

- a. None

**18. Adjournment**

- a. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 P.M. by Cummings and seconded by Geiger

\_\_\_\_\_, Board Secretary