

Minutes of the May 1, 2025 Library Board of Trustees Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Wayne Nueman, President. Trustees Linda Bottorff, John Lovell, Linda Graves, and Beth Grove were present. Library Director, Karlie Hunter was also present.

Janet Adix, director of the Ellsworth History Museum was present as a guest.

Agenda was unanimously approved with a motion by Graves and seconded by Bottorff.

The minutes from the April 3, 2025 meeting were unanimously approved with a motion by Grove and seconded by Lovell.

Adix brought updates to the board from what was discussed last meeting. The centennial quilt hanging in the library was purchased and donated to the library by 3 men during the centennial event. It is property of the library. The newspapers that have been digitized through December of 2012 can be destroyed. Adix reached out to the digitizing company that the museum worked with previously and has not heard back on a quote for the more recent papers. The board will contact members of the groups that store records in the filing cabinets to clear out their cabinets. Anything the groups do not want to keep will be given to Adix to go through before they are thrown away.

The financial statement was unanimously approved with a motion by Bottorff and seconded by Grove.

Hunter reported that a friend of the library clerk has taken a look at a couple of the computers that were out of order and fixed the issues. A replacement part for \$20 was ordered.

Hunter presented the monthly circulation statistics.

Hunter reported that the flooring materials are in and ready to install when the library is ready. The board discussed the payment to Gilbert Flooring, and Hunter will ask the city clerk if the council could pre-approve the purchase at their last meeting in June to allow the check to go out July 1 to comply with the fiscal year budgetary constraints.

Hunter received estimates for painting the ceiling, but the city is willing to provide their staff for the labor. Hunter will continue working with the city on that project so the library can provide Gilbert Flooring with an install date.

The board filled out the annual evaluation forms for director Karlie Hunter. Hunter will compile the results into a summary and share with the board.

The board decided to only renew services for two of the four hotspot devices, as Hunter reported that only one hotspot has ever been checked out at one time. Hunter also shared a situation that came up at the Jewell library regarding the hotspots. An addition to the policies to protect against downloads, viruses, and other issues was added with a motion by Bottorff and seconded by Graves.

The board discussed upcoming grant opportunities and decided to apply for funding for a story walk on the Ellsworth side of the Jewellsworth trail.

Hunter shared about the discussion of funding at the last HCLA meeting. The funding formula for the Hamilton county libraries will be revisited in the fall, and Hunter will do some research regarding how other counties divide their county income before meeting with the Supervisors for the next fiscal year.

Hunter brought up the idea of purchasing Roku devices with streaming subscriptions for checkout instead of DVDs. The Jewell library is already doing this, and Illinois libraries have been using this method for about ten years. The board will think about this option and discuss it further at a later date.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43pm with a motion by Lovell and second by Bottorff.