

**Ella Johnson Memorial Public Library
109 S. State Street, Hampshire, IL 60140
Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
September 28, 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, Beth Keppler from Dewberry, Jason Rosko from Falcon Moving, Jared Neuman from N2 Solutions, Cathy Czopek and Bonnie Keegan from Ella's Friends.

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

Changes/Corrections to the Agenda: None

Questions/Comments-Public/Media: None

Approval of Minutes:

Public Hearing: Motion by Trustee Lattanzio and second by Trustee Eller to approve the minutes from the Public Hearing held on August 24, 2026. The minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus.

Regular Meeting: Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Pokorny to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on August 24, 2026. The minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus.

Executive Session: Motion by Trustee Lattanzio and second by Trustee Kolecke to approve the minutes from the Executive Session of the Board of Trustees held on June 22, 2026. The minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus.

Executive Session: Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Lattanzio to approve the minutes from the Executive Session of the Board of Trustees held on August 24, 2026. The minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus.

Treasurer's Report:

- Approval of Bills for September 2026; Payrolls for August 2026. Motion by Trustee Pokorny and second by Trustee Alberth to approve the September 2026 Bills in the amount of \$41,395.11 and August 2026 Payrolls in the amount of \$40,713.25. The Bills and Payrolls were approved by voice-vote consensus.
- Financial Report- August 2026

Director's Report:

- Department Reports
- Circulation/Programming/Database Statistics
- Friend's Minutes – September 1, 2026

Director's Report: Director Bero highlighted the final Summer Reading statistics and noted the end-of-summer circulation increase reflected in the Department Reports.

President's Report: President Wallace praised Ella's Friends for their continued hard work and dedication to the Library, particularly as they prepare for their upcoming book sale.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

**A. Proclamation: National Friends of the Library Week, October 18-24, 2026.
President Wallace read the Proclamation aloud.**

Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Lattanzio that the board adopt the Proclamation for National Friends of the Library Week, October 18-24, 2026. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

B. Transfer of the surplus from the Corporate Fund to the Special Reserve Fund for fiscal year 2025-2026.

Motion by Trustee Kolečke and second by Trustee Lattanzio that the board transfer \$150,000 in surplus funds from the Corporate Fund to the Special Reserve Fund for fiscal year 2025-2026. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

C. Building remodeling project update.

Beth Keppler presented the color palette and finish selections for the remodeling project. The Board discussed the selections.

Bruce Burklow Jr., Robenette Burlow and Kathy Madden joined the Regular Meeting at 7:19 pm.

D. Executive Session I: To consider the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)]

Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Kolečke that the board enter Executive Session at 7:40 pm to consider the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)] The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

Board returned to its regular meeting at 8:10 pm.

E. Action as a result of the Executive Session:

Motion by Trustee Lattanzio and second by Trustee Dumoulin that the board does not use the Burklow property as a temporary location during the remodeling project. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

F. Executive Session II: To consider the employment of a specific employee of the public body [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)]

Motion by Trustee Alberth and second by Trustee Eller that the board enter Executive Session at 8:18 pm to consider the performance of specific employees the public body [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)]
The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

Board returned to its regular meeting at 8:50 pm.

G. Action as a result of the Executive Session:

Motion by Trustee Lattanzio and second by Trustee Dumoulin that the board adopt the plans and goals for Executive Director Stephen Bero as presented. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

Discussion: A special board meeting was set for Wednesday, November 4, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. Subject will be the building project.

Adjournment: Trustee Dumoulin motioned for the meeting to be adjourned, seconded by Trustee Alberth. Closing of the meeting was approved by voice-vote consensus. President Wallace adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

The next Regular Board Meeting is at 7:30 pm on **Monday, October 19, 2026**

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Swanson, Recording Secretary

Kim Alberth, Board Secretary