

**Ella Johnson Memorial Public Library
109 S. State Street, Hampshire, IL 60140
Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
June 22, 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, Kathy Eller, Morgan Kolecke, Suzanne Lattanzio, Judy Pokorny and Linda Wallace.

Absent: None

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

Public: Cindy Jerger, Cathy Czopek from 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:

- A. Regular Meeting:** Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Pokorny to approve the minutes from the Regular Hearing held on May 18, 2026. The minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus.
- B. Special Meeting:** Motion by Trustee Alberth and second by Trustee Dumoulin to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting held on June 8, 2026. The minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus.
- C. Executive Session:** Motion by Trustee Lattanzio and second by Trustee Eller to approve the minutes from the Executive Session held on May 18, 2026. The minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus.
- D. Executive Session:** Motion by Trustee Kolecke and second by Trustee Eller to approve the minutes from the Executive Session held on June 8, 2026. The minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus.

Treasurer's Report:

- Approval of Bills for May and June 2026; Payrolls for May 2026. Motion by Trustee Lattanzio and second by Trustee Alberth to approve the May 2026 Bills in the amount of \$40,707.80 and the June Bills in the amount of \$32,142.82. May Payrolls in the amount of \$36,867.84. The Bills and Payrolls were approved by voice-vote consensus.
- Financial Report-May 2026

Director's Report:

- Department Reports
- Circulation/Programming/Database Statistics
- PrairieCat Administrative Council Brief-June12, 2026
- Ella's Friends Minutes-June 12, 2026

Director's Report:

Director Bero shared that Summer Reading Program stats are on target. This is a very busy time for the library.

Heather Swanson gave an update on the Summer Reading program. Currently the Adults are higher than last year, as well as the Teen and Children. Sign up was different this year with only paper logs. This has not had any effect on the number of patrons signing up. Overall sign-up combo is 968, where last year we were at 877. We currently have 25 patrons who have finished and about 250 who have collected their first prize.

Cathy Czopek, from Ella's Friends shared that the book donations taking place on the 4th Saturday each month from 10-12 is working much better for the Friends group. They can sort items, pack them and take the boxes directly to the shed. This is a great team-building opportunity for them. Septembers drop off will be directly taken to Prairie View Garden Center. The book sale will be on the first weekend in October.

The Village of Hampshire gave the library a plaque for the Anniversary Celebration. Heather Swanson and Susie Stanley accepted the plaque on behalf of the library at the Good Old Days Celebration. Director Bero and the Trustees had a photo taken together to commemorate the occasion at the meeting.

President's Report: President Wallace shared a newspaper article regarding summer reading in the area libraries.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:**A. Adoption of Ordinance 2026-06-01 Setting Meeting Dates for Fiscal Year 2026-2027**

Motion by Trustee Lattanzio and second by Trustee Alberth that the board adopt Ordinance 2026-06-01 Setting Meeting Dates for Fiscal Year 2026-2027. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

B. Appointment of Trustees to the Ad-Hoc Committee for Semi-Annual Review of Executive Sessions of Executive Session Minutes.

Trustee Wallace appointed Trustees Pokorny and Eller to the committee. They will meet before the next board meeting.

C. Adoption of Ordinance 2026-06-02 Tentative Budget & Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Eller that the board adopt Ordinance 2026-06-02 Tentative Budget & Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and to set the Public Hearing for the budget for 6:45 p.m. on August 24, 2026. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

D. Interviews with Construction Management firms/selection of firm to work on renovation project.

Construction firms Lamp, Inc. and Shales McNutt both did their presentations for the Board. After the presentation and question time with the construction firms the board discussed who would be the best fit. The board chose Lamp, Inc. for construction management.

Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Eller that the board select the firm Lamp, Inc to work on the renovation project. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

E. Executive Session to consider the employment of a specific employee of the public [5ILCS 120/2. (c)(1)]

Motion by Trustee Lattanzio and second by Trustee Eller that the board enter executive session at 9:13 PM to consider the employment of a specific employee of the public body. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

Board returned to its regular meeting at 9:23 PM

Action as a result of the Executive Session: Motion by Trustee Pokorny and second by Trustee Dumoulin to correct the board minutes from May 18, 2026, section D under New Business to reflect the dollar amount changed for Director Bero from \$155.00 per hour to \$115.00 per hour. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

Action as a result of the Executive Session: Motion by Trustee Eller and second by Trustee Lattanzio to approve the amendment to the employment agreement with Stephen Bero to \$115.00 per hour effective July 1, 2026. The motion was approved by voice-vote consensus.

Discussion: None

Adjournment: Trustee Dumoulin motioned for the meeting to be adjourned, seconded by Trustee Eller. President Wallace adjourned the meeting at 9:26 p.m. Closing of the meeting was approved by voice-vote consensus.

The next Regular Board Meeting is at 7:00 pm on Monday, July 27, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Luhman, Recording Secretary

Kim Alberth, Board Secretary