

**Ella Johnson Memorial Public Library
109 S. State Street, Hampshire, IL 60140
Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
September 22, 2025**

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, Judy Pokorny, and Linda Wallace.

Absent: Kathy Eller and Suzanne Lattanzio

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

Public: Friends of the Library President Cathy Czopek and district resident Cindy Jerger.

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

Changes/Corrections to the Agenda: Addition of Executive Session for employee performance as part of long-range planning.

Questions/Comments-Public/Media: Cindy Jerger read from a prepared written statement that she then submitted to the Board. Cathy Czopek updated the Board on the activities of Ella's Friends, particularly the book sale on the first weekend of October.

Approval of Minutes:

Public Hearing and Regular Meeting: Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Alberth to approve the minutes from the Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on August 25, 2025. The minutes were approved by voice-vote consensus.

Treasurer's Report:

- Approval of Bills for September 2025; Payrolls for August 2025. Motion by Trustee Pokorny and second by Trustee Kolecke to approve the September 2025 Bills in the amount of \$47,594.86 and Payrolls in the amount of \$40,681.37. The Bills and Payrolls were approved by voice-vote consensus.
- Financial Report-Trustees reviewed the monthly Financial Report for August 2025 prepared by J. Scott Chilton, CPA.

Director's Report:

- Department Reports
- Circulation/Programming/Database Statistics
- Ella's Friends Minutes-September 2, 2025

Director Bero answered Trustee Pokorny's question about the remaining work to clean up the library. Bero said that the dust cleaning, carpet cleaning, and window washing were tentatively scheduled for Friday, October 3, 2025, pending the board's approval.

President's Report: Trustee Wallace shared an article about a 4-year-old Illinois boy who has been recognized as a genius. He speaks five languages and loves reading books. He visits his library every day.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- A. Closing the library for cleaning.

Motion by Trustee Alberth and seconded by Trustee Dumoulin that the board close the library on Friday, October 3, 2025, to allow for the cleaning of the entire building. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- D. Transfer of the surplus from the Corporate Fund to the Special Reserve Fund for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and seconded by Trustee Kolecke that the board transfer the surplus of \$250,000 from the Corporate Fund to the Special Reserve Fund for fiscal year 2024-2025. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- E. Long-range planning: SWOT Analysis. Executive Session to consider the performance of specific employees of the public body [5 ILCS 120/2.(1)]

Motion by Trustee Dumoulin and second by Trustee Pokorny to enter executive session at 7:26 pm
The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Board returned to its regular meeting at 8:34 PM

Discussion: None

Adjournment: Trustee Dumoulin motioned for the meeting to be adjourned, seconded by Trustee Alberth. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously by voice vote. President Wallace adjourned the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

The next Regular Board Meeting is at 7:00 pm on Monday, October 27, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Bero, Recording Secretary

Kimberly Alberth, Board Secretary