

Minutes of the Mississippi Valley Library District After Adjournment of Outgoing Board of Trustees Meeting

Date: May 19, 2025

Time: 7:46 PM

Place: Collinsville Memorial Library

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Jeanne Lomax, President, called the meeting to order at 7:46 PM.

Trustees Present:

Jeanne Lomax, President
Kelly Balaco-Reeder, Vice President
Ginny York, Secretary
Ian Ashcraft, Treasurer
Cathy Kulupka, Trustee
Kathy Murphy, Trustee
Ana Romero-Lizana, Trustee

Trustees Absent: none

Also Present:

Kyla Waltermire, Executive Director
Matt Harris, Assistant Director

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Election of Board Officers

For President:

Romero-Lizana moved and Kulupka seconded to appoint Ashcraft to the position of President. Kulupka read a prepared statement. A roll call vote was taken:

Ashcraft – yes
Balaco-Reeder - no
Kulupka – yes
Lomax – no
Murphy – no
Romero-Lizana – yes

York – no

Yes – 3; No – 4; Abstain – 0; Absent – 0.

Motion did not carry.

York moved and Murphy seconded to appoint Lomax to the position of President. A roll call vote was taken:

Ashcraft – no

Balaco-Reeder – yes

Kulupka – no

Lomax – yes

Murphy – yes

Romero-Lizana – no

York – yes

Yes – 4; No – 3; Abstain – 0; Absent – 0.

Motion carried.

For Vice President:

Lomax motioned and York seconded to appoint Balaco-Reeder to the position of Vice President. A roll call vote was taken:

Ashcraft – no

Balaco-Reeder – yes

Kulupka – no

Lomax – yes

Murphy – yes

Romero-Lizana – no

York – yes

Yes – 4; No – 3; Abstain – 0; Absent – 0.

Motion carried.

For Secretary:

Lomax moved and Balaco-Reeder seconded to appoint York to the position of Secretary.

Ashcraft moved and Romero-Lizana seconded to appoint Kulupka to the position of Secretary.

A roll call vote was taken on the first motion.

Ashcraft – no
Balaco-Reeder – yes
Kulupka – no
Lomax – yes
Murphy – yes
Romero-Lizana – no
York – yes

Yes – 4; No – 3; Abstain – 0; Absent – 0.
Motion carried.

A roll call vote was taken on the second motion.

Ashcraft – yes
Balaco-Reeder - no
Kulupka – yes
Lomax – no
Murphy – no
Romero-Lizana – yes
York – no

Yes – 3; No – 4; Abstain – 0; Absent – 0.
Motion did not carry.

For Treasurer:

Lomax moved and York seconded for Murphy to be appointed to the position of Treasurer. Murphy declined the position.

Kulupka moved and Romero-Lizana seconded to appoint Ashcraft to the position of Treasurer. A roll call vote was taken:

Ashcraft – yes
Balaco-Reeder – yes
Kulupka – yes
Lomax – no
Murphy – no
Romero-Lizana – yes

York – no

Yes – 4; No – 3; Abstain – 0; Absent – 0.

Motion carried.

4. Public Input

The following members of the public spoke:

- Don Koonce

5. Friends of the Library Update

No update at this time.

6. Trustee Comments – none

7. Consent Items

Motion was made by York to accept consent items in their entirety and seconded by Kulupka.

a. Approval of Minutes

b. Communications:

a. Received 3 emails

c. Administrative Reports

Waltermire reminded everyone of the upcoming Summer Reading Program with Life Size Game kick off at both libraries.

Lomax pointed out that Collinsville received a generous donation of \$20,000 to replace flooring in the Children's Library.

Harris commented on the success of the tax help program.

d. Finances

Some discussion occurred

e. Committee Reports – none

A roll call vote was taken to accept the Consent Items

Kulupka – Yes

Lomax – Yes

Murphy – Yes
Ashcraft – Yes
Romero-Lizana – Yes
Balaco-Reeder – Yes
York – Yes

Yes – 7, no – 0, Abstain – 0
Motion passed.

8. Unfinished Business

a. By laws Revision for the addition of the Building and Grounds Committee
A motion was made by Kulupka and seconded by Ashcraft to accept the by laws revision. A roll call vote was taken:

Kulupka – yes
Lomax – yes
Murphy - yes
Ashcraft-yes
Romero-Lizana-no
Balaco-Reeder-yes
York-yes
Yes -6, No – 1, Abstained -0, motion passed

b. Elevator Repairs

Everything seems to be going according to schedule as far as the expected delivery of materials, with the tentative installation date targeted for some time in June.

c. Discussion and possible action on revision to Whistleblower Policy and Anti-Harassment & Non-Discrimination Policy

Lomax brought up that back in March of 2024 a Whistleblower Report was made on her role as library trustee, and Waltermire had responded that individuals “that Lomax has a constitutionally protected right to engage in political activity as a private citizen using her own resources.

Lomax also prefers the wording of the previous policy believing it be most effective in the order of reporting.

Murphy suggests that the new policy leaves the board out of the reporting process. Murphy suggested the Personnel Committee be in the reporting process.

Waltermire says she'll talk to the lawyer, but it goes against his advice.

Murphy suggested that we table this to give the board members time to read through the policies.

Ashcraft made a motion to table voting on this until next month. Kulupka seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken:

Kulupka – yes

Lomax – yes

Murphy – yes

Ashcraft – yes

Romero-Lizana – yes

Balaco Reeder – yes

York -yes

Yes-7, No-0, Abstain-0, motion passed.

The motion to table the Whistleblower Policy was amended to include the Antiharassment and Nondiscrimination Policy. A new roll call vote was taken.

Kulupka-yes

Lomax-yes

Murphy-yes

Ashcraft-yes

Romero-Lizana-yes

Balaco-Reeder-yes

York-yes

Yes-7, No-0, Abstain-0, motion passed.

- d. Update on Repairs to The Fairmont City Library's Field
They have not yet responded to the lawyer's letter.

- e. Discussion and possible action on request from the Collinsville Historical
Museum re: Lease Agreement Renewal

The Museum formally requests continuation of the lease under the payment terms of \$1.00/year. Consensus was that the Board of Trustees would consider this, and would also like to see wording in the new agreement regarding cost-sharing of necessary landscaping/grounds maintenance that impacts the Museum.

9. New Business

a. Discussion and possible action on Draft FY2026 Salary and Wage Scale
York stated that with some cuts that have already taken place to the library, and the extra legal fees involved in unionizing, she felt uncomfortable with a wage increase.

Waltermire explained that the needed funds for legal fees would come from the Liability Fund, and the wages come from the General Fund.

A motion was made to accept the 3% wage increase by Balaco-Reeder and seconded by Romero-Lizana.

A roll call vote was taken.

Kulupka-yes

Lomax-yes

Murphy-yes

Ashcraft-yes

Romero-Lizana-yes

Balaco Reeder-yes

York-Yes

Yes-7, No-0, Abstain-0, motion passed

b. Discussion and Possible Action on Draft FY2026 Non-resident Fee

A motion was made to approve the non-resident fee of \$82.00/household/year along with the expanded Cards for Kids Act provision by Romero-Lizana and seconded by Murphy.

A roll call vote was taken.

Kulupka-yes

Lomax-yes

Murphy-yes

Ascraft-yes

Romero-Lizana-yes

Balaco-Reeder-yes

York-yes

Yes-7, No-0, Abstain-0, motion passed

c. Appointment of Trustees to committees

- Building and Grounds Committee- Kulupka, Ashcraft, Balaco-Reeder
- Finance Committee- Ashcraft, Balaco-Reeder, York

- Personnel Committee – York, Kulupka, Romero-Lizana, Balaco-Reeder, Ashcraft
- Fundraising Committee – Murphy, Balaco-Reeder, Ashcraft

d. Discussion and possible action on request for tax abatement (McDonough Horseshoe Service Center)

A motion was made to request tax abatement for McDonough Horseshoe Service Center by Ashcraft and seconded by York.

A roll call vote was taken

Kulupka- no

Lomax-no

Murphy-no

Ashcraft-no

Romero-Lizana-yes

Balaco-Reeder- no

York-no

Yes-1, No-6, Abstain-0, motion did not pass

e. Review of Serving Our Public 4.0 Chapter 7 (Collection Management)

Lomax asked about criteria for ordering materials for the collection.

Waltermire and Harris gave several examples, such as recommendations by library journals, popular authors, and numbers of requests. There are many factors they consider when ordering materials.

Discussion was cut short due to a severe weather alert.

Ashcraft motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kulupka. A voice vote was taken. All were in favor; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.