



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of The Board of Trustees
Webster Groves Public Library
July 15, 2026

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Webster Groves Public Library was held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 15. President Anita Radcliffe presided, and Library Director Madison Morris kept the minutes. Also present: Trustees Janey Worthington, Lea Ann Coates, Jenine Harris, Ed Scholl, Dana Cooley, Sherry Taylor, Fred Toelle and City Council Liaison Emily Hixson Shepherd.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment

None.

Minutes of the June 15, 2026 Meeting

Ms. Worthington moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Toelle seconded. All were in favor, and the minutes were approved.

Correspondence

Ms. Morris shared correspondence from FEW CPAs regarding the beginning of the Library's annual audit. Materials provided to the Board included a letter to the Board, a fraud risk document, and the accounting firm's 2024 peer review.

Ms. Cooley asked about the 2024 peer review and how frequently accounting firms undergo the review process.

Board members also discussed language in the letter to the Board identifying management override of controls and improper revenue recognition as areas of fraud risk that would receive additional attention during the audit. There were questions about whether these areas were identified because of concerns related to the Library's previous audits or whether they are standard areas reviewed as part of the audit process. Ms. Morris stated that she would contact the auditor for clarification.

The Board went through the Fraud Inquires of the Board question and unanimously answered the following:

- 1) Do you believe the Library currently has controls and systems in place to prevent a significant fraud from occurring? Yes.

- 2) Are you aware of any known cases, allegations or suspicions of financial fraud within or related to the Library? Limit your response to the time period of July 1, 2025 through the date of your response. No.
- 3) Are you aware of the presence of any motives, pressures or incentives that are present within the organizations or applicable to any employee or other individual that would contribute to material fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets? No.
- 4) Are you aware of any non-compliance with any laws and regulations or Federal grant agreements? No.

The Board President signed off on the document.

President's Report

Ms. Radcliffe thanked Ms. Morris and Ms. Ladd for opening the Library for the Fourth of July celebration. She also shared a recent write-up in *Neighbors of Webster Groves* that included information about Proposition L and the Summer Reading Program.

Librarian's Report

Ms. Morris reported that the Summer Reading Program was going very well. Programs have had strong attendance, and patrons have responded positively to both the programs offered and the Summer Reading Program as a whole.

Ms. Morris also reported that the Library's new Children's Librarian had started and encouraged Board members who had not already done so to visit the gallery exhibit highlighting the history of the Library.

Advanced Planning

None.

Building and Grounds

None.

Finance

Mr. Scholl presented the year-end financial report.

June expenses were approximately \$12,000 over budget, including expenses related to Hoffmann Brothers and Automation. Overall operating expenses for the fiscal year came in approximately \$6,000 over budget.

Mr. Scholl stated that the Library has approximately one year's worth of operating expenses in reserves, though some of these funds will be used throughout the year due to the timing of tax revenue. He also noted that the Library will need to address the roof in the coming year, which will require additional planning and expenditures.

It was noted, in appreciation, that the Friends of the Library contributed more than \$20,000 to the Library during the fiscal year.

Total receipts came in above budget, although tax revenue was lower than anticipated. Overall, the Library finished the year approximately \$94,000 better than budgeted. Mr. Scholl stated that the Library had a good financial year and that, while reserves have been somewhat depleted, they remain strong.

There was also discussion regarding the impact of the senior property tax freeze on Library tax revenue.

Ms. Worthington moved to approve the financial report. Dr. Harris seconded. All were in favor, and the financial report was approved.

Human Resources

None.

Policy

None.

Friends Report

Ms. Taylor reported that the Friends do not meet during the summer but have been busy sharing information about Proposition L and working to coordinate community outreach efforts.

City Hall

Ms. Hixson reported that the City Council had interviewed one candidate for the Library Board and would be interviewing a second candidate at the next Council meeting.

Tax Levy

Ms. Morris provided an update on recent Proposition L outreach/information efforts. She stated that outreach had been going well and that she was expecting another article in the Webster-Kirkwood Times and possibly coverage in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

An informational email is planned for the end of July, and Proposition L information will continue to be shared through the Library's social media pages. Ms. Morris noted that there had

been significant community involvement and that the feedback she had heard thus far had been primarily positive.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Fall Committee Meetings

Ms. Morris stated that she plans to bring several committees together in the fall to work through upcoming projects. She anticipated that the Human Resources Committee would be one of the first to meet. She also stated that, pending the outcome of Proposition L, the Board would discuss at its next meeting whether an additional committee should be formed.

Radcliffe Tentative Agenda Item

This item was struck from the agenda and there was no discussion.

Adjournment

Ms. Cooley moved to adjourn. Ms. Worthington seconded. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.