

The Board of Trustees of the Eckhart Public Library met on July 9, 2025 at 6:00pm at the William H. Willennar Genealogy Center, 700 South Jackson Street, Auburn, IN. The media and public received proper notice, pursuant to I.C. § 5-14-1.5-5.

President Barbara Morrow presided and called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Members of the Board of Trustees present by roll call were: Connie Fullerton, Pete Kempf, Barbara Morrow, Amy Norton, William Schaab, Nora Schwartz. Absent: David Brown.

Also present: Executive Director Valerie Simmons, Business & Finance Manager Martha Rubrake, and Jeff Peters from Peters Municipal Consultants.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Sherri Sible, Hailey Casto and Sharon Smith from Eckhart Library Foundation

PETERS MUNICIPAL CONSULTANTS PRESENTATION

Jeff Peters from Peters Municipal Consultants presented the economic impact report to the Board.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Board Member Schwartz moved to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2025 meeting. Board Member Norton provided the second.

The motion to approve the minutes as presented carried 5 to 0 by roll call vote of the Board: Fullerton-aye; Norton-aye; Kempf-aye; Schaab-aye; Schwartz-aye.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Board Member Norton moved to approve the financial reports as presented. Treasurer Schaab provided the second.

The motion to approve the financial reports as presented carried 5 to 0 by roll call vote of the Board: Fullerton-aye; Norton-aye; Kempf-aye; Schaab-aye; Schwartz-aye.

VOUCHERS AUTHORIZATION

Presented vouchers from June 12, 2025 through July 9, 2025 in the amount of \$247,905.84.

Board Member Schwartz moved to authorize the vouchers as presented. Board Member Norton provided the second.

The motion to approve the vouchers as presented carried 5 to 0 by roll call vote of the Board: Fullerton-aye; Norton-aye; Kempf-aye; Schaab-aye; Schwartz-aye.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

June 2025 statistics were presented.

Looking ahead to the 2026 Budget season:

- Simmons will attend the ILF Budget workshop at Anderson Public Library on July 11
- Proposed 2026 Budget Hearing date: August 13 @ 6:00 PM
- Proposed 2026 Budget Adoption date: September 10 @ 6:00 PM
 - Note that there must be a quorum for both meetings

Strawberries Around the Fountain (SATF) grossed over \$13,000 from shortcake, shake, and sundae sales. Director Simmons thanked the Friends and Board Member volunteers for their efforts, and expressed gratitude to all helpers and participants for making it a wonderful community event.

EPL's Programming Specialists Tiegna Blasch and Angelica Alvarez will paint the crosswalks connecting the Main and Teen libraries and the Teen Library to the Willennar Genealogy Center as part of the Auburn Main Street "Paint the Crosswalks" project. Their designs feature native plants, Cooper: The Storytime Monster, and other library elements. Painting begins this summer.

Personnel:

Dane Baker started as the Maintenance Coordinator on July 7, 2025.

Gifts and Grants:

- Donation from Tri Kappa Sorority for the Kathy Woodcox memorial fund.

COMMUNICATIONS and CORRESPONDENCE

Letter received from the Indiana State Library and Historical Board stating that EPL is in compliance with all Public Library Standards (590 IAC 6) for 2024.

Thank you note received from Nappanee Public Library staff who toured the library.

Letter from the Clerk-Treasurer's Office indicating that the Commission determined that there is no excess assessed value that may be allocated for 2025 taxes payable 2026.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Updates shared regarding Boyce Cloud Powered by BS&A.

NEW BUSINESS

Libraries Serving Local Communities (LSC) is offering a staff day for member libraries on Friday, September 12 from 9-4 at Peabody Public Library. The Board discussed options for staff to attend.

Board Member Schwartz moved to close EPL Library so staff can attend the local training at Peabody Public Library. Board Member Kempf provided the second.

The motion to approve closing EPL for Staff Training carried 5 to 0 by roll call vote of the Board: Fullerton-aye; Norton-aye; Kempf-aye; Schaab-aye; Schwartz-aye.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Hailey Casto reported that the "Worthy of Thirty" funding effort raised \$4644.73 from 56 donors. A gift matching opportunity will be upcoming. They had a table at the Strawberries Around the Fountain (SATF) for children's crafts.

Hailey relayed a thank you from Steve Graber to each Board Member for their help at SATF.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees for the public hearing for the 2026 Proposed Budget will be held August 13, 2025 at 6pm at the Willennar Genealogy Center, 700 S. Jackson Street, Auburn, IN.

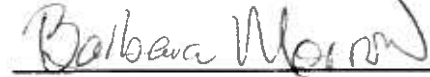
The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on August 13, 2025 at 6:15pm at the Willennar Genealogy Center, 700 S. Jackson Street, Auburn, IN.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board of Trustees, Treasurer Schaab **moved to adjourn the meeting**. Board Member Schwartz provided the second.

The motion to adjourn carried 5 to 0 by roll call vote of the Board: Fullerton-aye; Kempf- aye; Norton-aye; Schaab-aye; Schwartz-aye.

Approved by the EPL Board of Trustees

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Barbara Morrow, President

ATTEST: _____

Connie Fullerton, Secretary