

MEETING MINUTES
Carroll County Public Library Board of Trustees
May 28, 2025

Location: Eldersburg Branch

Members Present: Stephen A. Wantz
David O'Callaghan
Carol Gorsuch
Garima Chaturvedi
Beth Gray
Virginia Harrison

Ex-Officio:

Members Absent: Kendra Hart

Present in addition to the Board were the following staff members: Andrea Berstler, Jill Edelen, Joe Thompson, Bob Kuntz, Lisa Picker, Karen Gonsman, and Laura Bavetta.

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chair Wantz called the meeting to order at approximately 6:05 pm.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Six members of the Board were present, and a quorum was in attendance.

CLOSED SESSION – PERSONNEL

On motion of Ms. Gray, seconded by Ms. Gorsuch and carried, the Board closed session for personnel reasons at 6:06 pm.

On motion of Ms. Gorsuch, seconded by Ms. Gray and carried, the Board voted to open session at 7:25 pm.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Mr. O'Callaghan, seconded by Ms. Chaturvedi and carried, the Agenda was approved.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Ms. Gray, seconded by Mr. O'Callaghan and carried, the Minutes from April 23, 2025, were approved.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

STAFF PRESENTATION

Nadine Rosendale, Eldersburg Branch Manager, updated the Board on programming in the Branch. Ms. Rosendale presented a month-by-month slideshow of the activities staff provides for children, teens and adults. All of the programs have very high rates of attendance.

STAFF ASSOCIATION REPORT

Mikaela Turek, Staff Association Representative, reported on the success of the Hershey Park ticket sales and the Branch Souper-Bowl event. Both events raised money for this year's charity. Ms. Turek also mentioned the effort this year to highlight staff talent outside of work.

FRIENDS REPORT

Julie Ford-Mount updated the Board on the Friends' involvement for Summer Reading Kick-Off events at the branches and book sale events. Ms. Ford-Mount stated there are open Friends Board positions and they will start interviews with prospective candidates soon.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT – INFORMATION

Jill Edelen, Director of Finance, reviewed the most recent Financial Statement. Ms. Edelen stated all numbers are as projected. Ms. Edelen noted potential upgrades to the North Carroll Branch including short, moveable shelving units that will be the model for all branches in the future.

Ms. Edelen noted the telephone upgrade is not necessary at this time so there will be a savings from that item.

FY 2026 PROPOSED BUDGET – DECISION

Ms. Edelen reviewed the FY 2026 Proposed Budget.

On Motion of Mr. O'Callaghan, seconded by Ms. Gray and carried, the FY 2026 Budget was approved.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. BOARD CHAIR

Chair Wantz highlighted recent author events, MLA Mock Trial Award, Battle of the Books events and the visit from State Librarian Morgan Miller.

B. OTHER BOARD MEMBERS

Other Board members recognized murals painted on the windows at North Carroll, helpful staff at Exploration Commons in assisting to reserve meeting room space, fun puppet shows at Finksburg and the consistent volume of customers at all branches at various times of the day. Board members continue to praise staff across the branches and are proud our library system and the recognition it receives across the state.

C. EX-OFFICIO

There was no ex-officio present.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Berstler reviewed events and programs since the April Board meeting. Ms. Berstler noted the upcoming Summer Reading Kick Off events, Staff Day planning and planning meetings for 2026 events.

A. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

There were no other Administrative Matters.

B. ELT REPORTS

There were no ELT reports.

C. CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The most recent press was noted.

OLD BUSINESS

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Mr. O'Callaghan stated recommendations have been forwarded to Board of County Commissioners and we are waiting to hear from them regarding the open Trustee position.

REQUESTED GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURE FOR ACCESS TO LEGAL COUNSEL – DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL

The Board discussed the current draft of this document.

On Motion of Mr. O'Callaghan, seconded by Ms. Gray and carried, the Board voted to approve the document with a spelling change as noted.

NEW BUSINESS

FIXED ASSET POLICY

Ms. Berstler and Ms. Edelen reviewed the amendments to the policy as requested by the Auditors.

On Motion of Mr. O'Callaghan, seconded by Ms. Chaturvedi and carried, the Board voted to approve the revisions to the policy.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Ms. Chaturvedi, seconded by Ms. Gorsuch and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

 Chaturvedi 6/24/25
Approved

