

**Algonquin Area Public Library District Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**2600 Harnish Drive, Algonquin, Illinois**  
**October 22, 2025**  
**7:00pm**

**Call to Order**

President Taylor called the Board Meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Due to Secretary Sharkey's absence, Trustee Becker served as Secretary *pro tempore*.

**Roll Call**

In attendance: Trustee Becker, Trustee Jamison, Vice President Johnson, Trustee Medrano-Sanchez, Treasurer Pelke, and President Taylor

Absent: Secretary Sharkey

Staff present: Executive Director Murray, Assistant Director-Operations Husak, Managers Sam Chiappone, Erin Maiero, Anne Kunzen, Henry Sadowski and Coordinator Doug Cataldo

**Audience to Visitors/Public Comment**

Kent Sprague, Eleanor Mamayek, Cindy Jo Cunningham, and Alice Wainwright from the Friends of the Library. There was no public comment.

**Report from Friends of the Algonquin Area Public Library**

Eleanor reported on the Dine & Share events. McAlisters raised \$107 in September and Portillos raised \$137 in October. Two more Dine & Share events are coming up: Culver's on November 12 and Burger King on December 9. Some of the Friends will be servers at the Culver's event.

**Consent Agenda**

- a) **Approval of Minutes of the September 24, 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**
- b) **Acceptance of September 2025 Financial Statements**

Treasurer Pelke moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

**Approval of October 2025 Disbursements**

Treasurer Pelke moved to approve the disbursements in the amount of \$239,191.69 and Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion passed with a roll call vote as follows:

Ayes: Becker, Jamison, Taylor, Johnson, Medrano-Sanchez, Pelke

Nays: None

Absent: Sharkey

Abstain: None

**FY2025-2026 Levy**

- a) **Adoptions of Ordinance 2025-2026-103, An Ordinance to Levy Taxes for Library Purposes for Fiscal Year 2025-2026**
- b) **Approval of Certificate of Levies**
- c) **Approval of the Certificate of Truth in Taxation Act Compliance**

Vice President Johnson inquired about how the EAV is calculated. President Taylor prefers not to leave unclaimed money but recognizes that we need to levy responsibly for now and in the future. After an explanation of the levy options to Trustees by Executive Director Murray, Treasurer Pelke moved to choose CPI +NG+Buffer (4.6%), which is reflected in Ordinance 2025-2026-103 as presented, and Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion passed with a roll call vote as follows:

Ayes: Jamison, Taylor, Johnson, Pelke

Nays: Becker, Medrano-Sanchez

Absent: Sharkey

Abstain: None

### **Review of Agreement with the Friends of the Algonquin Area Public Library**

Executive Director Murray reviewed the progress since both parties signed the Agreement. There were several positive items of note, but some concerns still remain. There was much discussion by the trustees with input from Executive Director Murray and the Friends in attendance. There was a general consensus that the relationship between the Library and Friends is struggling, and uncertainty about if and how it can be resolved. One trustee mentioned unprofessional behavior from all parties. Another trustee mentioned not seeing unprofessional behavior from library staff, and a third trustee felt that the response from the Friends to the Board's request for clarification on the Friends' purpose was unprofessional and offensive. There was a concern that the list of requests submitted to the Friends over many years could be interpreted as a list of demands, and a counterpoint that it is reasonable for the Library to make requests and one of the purposes of a Friends organization is to respond to those requests. Another trustee commented that we already set reasonable expectations in the Agreement and changes in the Library over time result in changing needs from the Friends and that business as usual might no longer be effective. There was some disagreement about whether or not the give and take between the Library and Friends should be equal. Discussion concluded with the question about whether the relationship could be improved, but without strong indicators that the Agreement should be ended in this meeting. Executive Director Murray suggested putting a pause on the Agreement to allow the Friends to work on improving the structure and mission of their organization.

Trustee Becker made a motion that the Board communicate to the Friends that the current Agreement is on hold for two months while asking for specific requests that Vice President Johnson will help put together and supply to the Friends within the next two weeks.

Trustee Becker amended the motion to state that the Board would communicate to the Friends that the current Agreement is on hold for *six months* while asking for specific requests that Vice President Johnson *and Trustee Jamison* will help put together and supply to the Friends within the next *two months*.

Trustee Becker amended the motion again to state that the Board would communicate to the Friends that the current Agreement is on hold for six months while asking for specific requests that Vice President Johnson and Trustee Jamison will help put together and supply to the Friends *by December 10*.

Vice President Johnson seconded the amended motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote as follows:

Ayes: Becker, Jamison, Taylor, Johnson, Medrano-Sanchez, Pelke

Nays: None

Absent: Sharkey

Abstain: None

Trustee Medrano-Sanchez left the meeting at 8:43pm and did not return.

### **Committee Reports**

Policy: There was nothing to report.

Facilities: Indigo Ecological Design plans are expected to be presented in November. New boilers are being installed at the Harnish location.

Budget and Personnel: The scheduled October 20 meeting did not have a quorum. Executive Director Murray shared levy options with the trustees in attendance.

### **Staff Reports**

Executive Director Murray is working on the library's Strategic Plan and presented slides from the in-service showing results from the Community Survey. Several methods were used to gather data to support the development of the Strategic Plan. ILA Conference was enjoyed by staff, and Executive Director Murray saw all four trustees in attendance.

Legislative meet-ups are coming up in November and December. Trustee Johnson was pleased to see community engagement with STEM kits and e-books. Baker and Taylor's closing has been a big change to many libraries, and Technical Services Manager Sadowski has prepared staff and selectors to handle the changes. Recent activity with Sonic Wall was discussed and Technology Manager Maiero is taking steps to prevent future issues. Trustee Becker asked for clarification on what types of books were ordered through Baker and Taylor, and staff responded that any item still in print and in stock with Baker and Taylor, whether a new release or an older title, could be ordered.

During staff reports, {NAME} left the meeting at 8:54pm and returned at 8:55pm, and {NAME} left the meeting at 8:57pm and returned at 8:59pm.

### Trustee Reports

- Vice President Johnson was unable to attend the ILA Conference as he participated in a half marathon with his daughter in Minnesota.
- Treasurer Pelke discussed the sessions he attended at ILA. He noted that the "Be the Best Trustee" was more of a complaint session, but he found the session about book banning interesting and the advocacy presentation was informative. He also commented on his recent trip Barcelona, which was beautiful, but the locals were anti-tourist.
- Trustee Becker shared details from the session he attended on Strategic Planning, but no ideas stuck out. He was disappointed in the location of the men's room/s at ILA.
- Trustee Jamison had nothing to report.
- President Taylor shared highlights of the "Public Library Standards" action plans session, and noted that there are new sections on HR, advocacy, finance, and circulation. Her children enjoyed the Library's Pokemon trading day program.

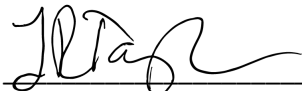
### Correspondence

- Executive Directory Murray shared a heartfelt note from a patron who visited the library recently as well as the latest suggestion box comments and her responses. The attorney sent a note reminding the library that the deadline for the Levy Ordinance is Tuesday, December 2, 2025.


### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by President Taylor at 9:12pm.

APPROVED:



Lindsay Taylor, President



Tracy Sharkey, Secretary