TIPPECANOE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
627 South Street, Lafayette, Indiana
December 2, 2025

MINUTES

Notice of the date, time, place and agenda for this meeting was posted in prominent public view at the Library and mailed to requesting media on Wednesday, November 26, 2025 in conformity with the Indiana Open Meeting Act.

PRESENT:
Grant Fischer, President
Connie Harper, Vice-President
Terry Ashlock, Secretary
Stephen Bultinck, Treasurer
Kay Walton, Member
Sallie Fahey, Member
Melissa McCandless, Member

ABSENT:

GUESTS
Various TCPL staff members and their guests
Jos N. Holman, County Librarian

Before the start of the monthly Board meeting, a "holiday dessert reception" was held for TCPL Board members, staff members and their guests. President Grant Fischer chaired the regular Board meeting and called it to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was declared to conduct business for the library. Board member, Sallie Fahey led the Board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Treasurer Steve Bultinck moved the **Board Minutes** of November 4th, 2025 be approved as presented. Board Secretary, Terry Ashlock provided a second for the motion. The motion passed. Board member, Kay Walton abstained.

President Fischer commented briefly on the Human Resources Report. No action was taken on the report. He thanked Human Resources Coordinator, Steve Berman for his work.

Under the heading of **Personnel Actions,** Board Vice President, Connie Harper, moved to approve the **Personnel Actions** of December 2nd as presented. Board member, Melissa McCandless provided a second to the motion. The motion passed.

At this point, President Fischer moved to the Longevity Recognitions. County Librarian, Jos Holman shared the approach of the presentations for the evening. Staff members who achieved longevity were recognized by their direct supervisor. A new name tag and monetary compensation was given based on the length of time worked at TCPL. President Fischer presented the name tag and live check. Seventeen staff members were recognized. Mr. Holman thanked them for their work and longevity with TCPL.

There were no **Committee Reports.** Also, no reports were presented under the heading of **Other Reports**.

There was no **Old Business**.

Under the heading of **New Business** three items were considered. The first two items were a couple of traditional year-end actions. First, the Board considered the 2026 Closed Days. These days include ten federal holidays when the library will be closed and three "floating holidays" when the library remains open. Mr. Holman asked to delay deciding on the date for the 2026 Staff Day, which is usually held on Indigenous Peoples' Day. Mr. Ashlock moved to approve the 2026 Closed Days as presented. Mrs. Walton provided a second and the motion passed. Next, the Board considered the meeting dates for its regular meeting cited in Board bylaws as the first Tuesday of each month. Mr. Holman pointed out no adjustments were made for election days in 2026. The starting time for the meeting will continue to be 7:00 p.m. Mr. Ashlock moved to approve the 2026 Board Meeting Dates as presented. Mrs. Harper provided a second and the motion passed. The third item was the election of Board officers for the 2026 calendar year. President Fischer requested to postpone conducting this election, based on the slate is not complete and additional discussions among Board members is necessary. No one objected to delay. President Fischer stated the election will be held during the December 17th, 2025 special Board meeting.

Under the heading of **Other Business,** Steve Bultinck, presented information on the December 2nd, 2025 Claims Listing. Mr. Bultinck stated the prewritten claims are numbered 795-827 and the regular claims are numbered 828-872. The prewritten claims totaled $882,511.79 and the regular claims totaled $89,140.52 for a grand total of $971,652.31. Mr. Bultinck shared a couple of observations regarding the claims. He reminded the Board of a $3 million-dollar transfer from the Old National Bank (ONB) checking account into an ONB Money Market account with higher interest. Also, he mentioned the $500,000 transfer from the Operating Fund into the Rainy-Day Fund. Without that transfer the claims would total, $471,652.31. Mr. Bultinck moved to approve the claims as presented. Mrs. Harper seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Under the heading of the **County Librarian's Report,** Mr. Holman shared several things from his report. He started by mentioning the Douglas Eberle Governance Series for nonprofit boards hosted by the Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette. The series will begin again in February 2026 and continue through November 2026. Mr. Holman suggested TCPL purchase a registration that is shared by all Board members. He reminded the Board that individual registrations can be purchased when multiple Board members want to attend the same session. President Fischer suggested the County Librarian track which session each Board member would attend. Mr. Holman said he would do so. Next, Mr. Holman briefly reported TCPL's Foundation met on November 18th, 2025 to discuss several topics. One of their key decisions was approval of the topic for the 2025 "Annual Appeal" letter. The focus of the letter will be a *Library of Things (LOT).* Mr. Holman made a few comments about the *LOT*. He indicated as TCPL develops and plans this new collection, it will start with smaller items that can easily fit inside backpacks. Each backpack will have a theme and will be labeled "Adventure Kits" or "STEAM Kits". In summary, he stated Head Adult Services Librarian, Jen Casey and Head Circulation Librarian, Ethan Shepherd are leading the staff group working on this project. Finally, Mr. Holman pointed out that, during October, an original piece of artwork was displayed for the first time in the circle of the wood slatted wall in the Circulation area. The artwork is a piece from local artist, Dan Annarino, who previously taught at Purdue and worked commercially as a graphic designer. There was a bit of discussion about the future approach to selecting artwork to be displayed. Mr. Holman indicated there is more thought and work that is needed about this activity.

There were no **Comments from the Public.**

Under **Comments from the Board,** Mrs. Fahey reported on her recent attendance and participation at the Douglas Eberle Series on Non-Profit Board Training. She shared her takeaways from the event, including the four key objectives and offered to forward information related to "succession planning" to Mrs. Harper. President Fischer thanked her for the report.

Prior to adjourning the meeting, the County Librarian asked to share one more thing. Mr. Holman proceeded to recognize President Fischer for the conclusion of his term on the TCPL Board of Trustees. Mr. Holman thanked him for his service to and leadership on the Board. He also joked with President Fischer about making his final meeting in a couple of weeks. President Fischer assured everyone, he would be there. He also commented positively on his time serving on the Board and indicated it was a good experience.

Mr. Bultinck moved to adjourn the regular Board meeting at 7:47 p.m. Mrs. Harper seconded the motion and it carried.

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Terry Ashlock, Secretary

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