TIPPECANOE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
627 South Street, Lafayette, Indiana
April 7, 2026

MINUTES

Notice of the date, time, place and agenda for this meeting was posted in prominent public view at the Library on Thursday, April 2, 2026 in conformity with the Indiana Open Meeting Act.

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

ABSENT:

GUESTS
Karen Hibdon, Staff member
Brantly McCord, Staff member
Jos N. Holman, County Librarian

President Connie Harper chaired the regular Board meeting and called it to order at 7:31 p.m. A quorum was declared to conduct business for the library. Prior to the Board meeting, an Executive Session was held to discuss the performance evaluation of individual employees. No topics were added to the agenda as a result of the Executive Session. Board Vice-President, Sallie Fahey led the Board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Treasurer, Stephen Bultinck moved the **Board Minutes** of March 3rd, 2026 be approved as presented. Board Secretary, Terry Ashlock provided a second for the motion. The motion passed.

President Harper asked the County Librarian if there were any comments on the Human Resources Report. There were none. No action was taken on the report.

Under the heading of **Personnel Actions,** Board member Melissa McCandless, moved to approve the **Personnel Actions** of April 7th, 2026 as presented**.** Board member, Kay Walton provided a second to the motion. Mrs. Fahey abstained. The motion passed.

There were no **Committee Reports.**

No information was shared under **Other Reports.**

There was no **Old Business** to consider.

Under the heading of **New Business,** the County Librarian provided background on the status of TCPL's strategic plan which ended on December 31, 2025. In order to meet Indiana State Library (ISL) standards a new plan needs to be developed and approved by TCPL's Board of Trustees. The County Librarian recommended the Board consider the adoption of an interim plan that was developed by TCPL's Management Team. An interim

plan would meet the ISL standard for 2026. The interim plan contains revisions and modifications to the outdated plan and would be in place until a new multi-year plan is created. The approach to develop a new strategic plan includes hiring a consultant in the fall of 2026 to work with the library and community to develop the new plan. After a review and discussion of the recommended interim plan, there was consensus to support both recommendations of the County Librarian. Mr. Bultinck moved to adopt the interim plan as presented by the County Librarian. Mrs. McCandless seconded the motion. The motion passed. Also, under **New Business**, the County Librarian briefed the Board on the inaugural activity of the Creativity Suite. Mr. Holman shared comments from Head Adult Services Librarian, Jen Casey, on how the Creativity Suite's open house fared. He indicated the materials TCPL staff used to train with and demonstrate during the open house, were paid for by funds raised during the TCPL Foundation's "annual appeal." Mr. Holman stated the Creativity Suite must implement fees to recoup the cost of materials that will be used by individuals creating items. It is the Board's responsibility to set all fees for the library. An initial set of fees to offset the cost of materials were recommended to the Board. Mrs. McCandless moved to approve fees for the Creativity Suite. Mrs. Walton provided a second to the motion. The motion passed.

Under the heading of **Other Business,** Mr. Bultinck presented information on the April 7th, 2026 Claims Listing. Mr. Bultinck stated the prewritten claims are numbered 202-234 and the regular claims are numbered 235-282. The prewritten claims totaled $395,545.84 and the regular claims totaled $586,061.53 for a grand total of $981,607.37. Mrs. Walton moved to approve the claims as presented. Mr. Ashlock seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Under the heading of the **County Librarian's Report,** Mr. Holman spoke in depth about two items on his report. First, he shared the activities TCPL planned for National Library Week (NLW), April 19-25. TCPL's newest collection, the *Library of Things,* will debut during NLW. This collection allows library customers to check out non-traditional materials beyond books, DVDs and musical CDs. The first items will be identified as "adventure backpacks" and made available at each TCPL location. Each backpack contains a number of items that encourage exploration of specific local spaces. The second activity is an "Author Fair" scheduled from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on April 18. Attendees will meet local authors, talk with them about their books and hear them read directly from their books. This is the second year for this event in its current format. It is sponsored by the Friends of TCPL. Also, for NLW, TCPL will offer an opportunity for library visitors to "trade pins" designed and produced by youth librarians. The pins have positive sayings about using public libraries as well as the names of all branches. Continuing with his report, Mr. Holman mentioned an upcoming training for the Partners in Youth Suicide Prevention (PYSP) $5,000 grant that TCPL received. Taking place on Monday, April 27th at Ivy Tech, the full day training will include an introduction to the PYSP Toolkit, information to identify and support youth at risk of suicide, and promote youth wellbeing. Maggie Andrejko, Sandy Davis and the County Librarian will represent TCPL at the training.

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

Under **Comments from the Board,** a few general comments were made about the Creativity Suite Open House. Several Board members who attended made positive comments about the Adult Services staff and their enthusiasm and knowledge of the Suite's activities. Overall, they thought the staff did a good job. Also, there was a comment about

the Area Plan Commission and their director. The suggestion was made to have Ryan O'Geary make a presentation about future growth in the county. No action was taken on any of these topics. Finally, there was a brief review of upcoming dates for the Eberle Governance Series. The May 6th date is still unassigned.

Mrs. Walton moved to adjourn the regular Board meeting at 8:20 p.m. Mrs. Fahey seconded the motion and it carried.

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Terry Ashlock, Secretary

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