

TIPPECANOE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

627 South Street, Lafayette, Indiana

July 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, July 2, 2026 in conformity with the Indiana Open Meeting Act.

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

GUESTS

Brantly McCord, Staff member
Karen Hibdon, Staff member
Robert Gump, Guest
Timothy Norman, Guest
Sheila Koontz, Guest
Jake Guffey, Guest
Jos N. Holman, County Librarian

President Connie Harper chaired the regular Board meeting and called it to order at 7:02 p.m. Board member, Melissa McCandless led the Board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Treasurer, Stephen Bultinck moved the **Board Minutes** of June 2nd, 2026 be approved as presented. Board member, Terry Gilbert, provided a second for the motion. The motion passed.

After the Board's cursory look at the Human Resources Report, Mr. Holman reported that virtual interviews for the Head Adult Services Librarian were being scheduled. No action was taken on the report.

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

Under the heading of **Committee Reports**, Facilities Committee Chair, Terry Ashlock conveyed a brief update to the committee's work regarding searching for a suitable property in the northeastern part of Tippecanoe county. All three members of the committee and the County Librarian toured the county, developed six options to consider and agreed on follow-up assignments. Mr. Ashlock indicated there is no timeline, but the Facilities committee will update the full Board when there is something to share.

Under the heading of **Other Reports**, Youth Librarian. Cc Nguyen presented information on TCPL's Summer Reading Program. Cc reported on the initial school visit, the

May kickoff night, the number of participants at each branch and the number of teen volunteers. Prizes for participants were shown to the Board. President Harper thanked Cc for the presentation.

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

Under the heading of **New Business**, the County Librarian provided background information on the formal request by the Indiana State Library (ISL) for the Board to review TCPL's Computer Use Policy. The request from **ISL** was generated by TCPL's response on the annual report. The Board briefly discussed the policy by asking a few questions and discussing a couple of future revisions in the policy based on the suspension of TCPL's Youth Internet Waiver. **ISL** requested to be notified once the review is complete. No action was taken on this topic.

The Board moved on to consider TCPL's Public Comment Policy. The County Librarian informed the Board that TCPL did not have a current policy regarding public comment at monthly Board meetings. Mr. Holman suggested the Board consider a policy to offer clarity for members of the public and offered a draft policy for Board discussion. The Board discussed various elements of the Policy including time limits to speak and if individuals needed to have a library card or live in the library district. After a thorough discussion, the Board considered if the policy should be tabled to insert changes in the draft policy brought up during the discussion. Mr. Holman indicated the changes could be made and the Board agreed the topic would be considered at its next meeting. Board Vice President, Sallie Fahey moved to table the Public Comment Policy. Mr. Ashlock provided a second to the motion. The topic was tabled. There was no other **New Business** to consider.

Under the heading of **Other Business**, Mr. Bultinck presented information on the July 7th, 2026 Claims Listing. Mr. Bultinck stated the prewritten claims are numbered 439 through 472 and the regular claims are numbered 473 through 529. The prewritten claims totaled \$703,777.08 and the regular claims totaled \$129,757.59 for a grand total of \$833,534.67. Mr. Bultinck moved to approve the claims as presented. Mrs. Walton seconded the motion. The motion passed. The County Librarian shared information related to the May 1st to May 25th Pre-claims where an adjustment needed to be made related to the Voucher 447, Harland Clark, an ACH payment for TCPL checks. The best way to formalize this adjustment was to re-approve the May claims. Mr. Bultinck moved to approve the May Pre-claims with the adjustment and the new total. Mrs. Fahey provided a second to the motion. The motion was approved. The change did create a couple of questions about the July 7th claims and if the total was included or not. Mr. Bultinck moved to rescind the motion to approve the June claims as presented. Mrs. Walton provided a second to support the rescension. The motion was approved.

Under the heading of the **County Librarian's Report**, Mr. Holman highlighted a few items from his report. He mentioned TCPL continues its migration to Microsoft 365 under the leadership of Neal Starkey, Divisional Librarian of Technology and Support Services. The various changes made thus far are providing more firewall protections, increased internet speed and reducing ongoing network issues. Parallel to this work, TCPL has initiated the necessary planning to transition to a new website. The Board will continue to be updated on these changes. Mr. Holman moved on to comment on the inappropriate use of the library by a few individuals experiencing homelessness. He described a couple of recent situations and how they were handled and resolved. Mr. Holman emphasized TCPL

will need to continue to use its current Building and Property Use Policy until a revised policy is presented sometime in September. He also commented on the approach being taken to revise the policy. Finally, Mr. Holman informed the Board TCPL is in the process of modifying its "Staff Recognition" program. Led by Wyandotte Branch Manager, Leanne York and a small group of staff members, efforts are being made to review the various elements and criteria of the program. These changes will be shared with staff during the monthly staff meeting. A copy of the revised Staff Recognition Guidelines was shared with the Board members. Mr. Holman ended the **County Librarian's Report** with a reminder the Friends of TCPL fund the Staff Recognition program.

Under **Comments from the Public**, several members of the public introduced themselves and addressed the Board. Two individuals with ties to the neighborhood of the Holman Branch commented on the circumstances associated with individuals experiencing homelessness and their nuisance related activities on library grounds creating a sense of the neighborhood and the library not being safe. A different individual spoke to the Board indicating the safety of library staff is questionable at the Holman Branch based on the activities of individuals using the library. Finally, a fourth individual addressed the Board about public access to records of public institutions and provided documentation to each Board member representing the individual's stance and knowledge on the topic. President Harper thanked each member of the public who spoke.

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

Mrs. Fahey moved to adjourn the regular Board meeting at 7:59 p.m. Mrs. McCandless seconded the motion and it carried.

Terry Ashlock, Secretary

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