

TIPPECANOE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

627 South Street, Lafayette, Indiana

August 4, 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 30, 2026 in conformity with the Indiana Open Meeting Act.

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Stephen Bultinck, Treasurer
Terry Gilbert, Member

GUESTS

Brantly McCord, Staff member
Karen Hibdon, Staff member
Lily Pendleton, Staff member
Sloan Marshall, Staff member
Jos N. Holman, County Librarian

President Connie Harper chaired the regular Board meeting and called it to order at 7:01 p.m. Board member, Melissa McCandless led the Board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board member, Kay Walton moved the **Board Minutes** of July 7th, 2026 be approved as presented. Board Vice President, Sallie Fahey, provided a second for the motion. The motion passed.

The Human Resources (HR) Report, produced by HR Coordinator, Steve Berman, was very short. No action was taken on the report.

Under the heading of **Personnel Actions**, Mrs. McCandless moved to approve the **Personnel Actions** of August 4th, 2026 as presented. Mrs. Walton provided a second to the motion. The motion passed.

There were no **Committee Reports**.

Under the heading of **Other Reports**, the County Librarian reviewed the 2027 Budget Outline with the Board. Mr. Holman shared highlights of the budget process including the relevant deadlines and the current tax rate. This topic was informational only.

Under the heading of **Old Business**, the Board considered the revised draft of the Public Comment Policy. At the July Board meeting, the Board thoroughly discussed the initial draft and made suggested changes. The County Librarian presented a revision that included all the suggestions. After deliberation of the revision and a couple of deletions and additions, there was consensus on a final policy. Mrs. Walton moved to approve the Public Comment Policy. Mrs. Fahey seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Under the heading of **New Business**, the County Librarian shared background information related to the attorney Bob Bauman's review of TCPL's current Access to Public Records Policy. The policy was last adopted in 1996 and had not been formally reviewed since then. Mr. Bauman indicated that the policy covered all the necessary topics but that some of the language could be tweaked to clearly reflect the language in the Indiana Code. A version of Mr. Bauman's red-lined edits along with a clean copy without any red-lines was presented to the Board. After a brief discussion, Mrs. Fahey moved to approve the Access to Public Records Policy. Mrs. McCandless provided a second to the motion. The motion passed.

Under the heading of **Other Business**, in the absence of Board Treasurer, Steve Bultinck, Mrs. Walton presented information on the August 4th, 2026 Claims Listing. Mrs. Walton stated the prewritten claims are numbered 530 through 563 and the regular claims are numbered 564 through 615 plus 181. The prewritten claims totaled \$559,402.22 and the regular claims totaled \$246,763.14 for a grand total of \$806,165.36. Mrs. Walton moved to approve the claims as presented. Mrs. McCandless seconded the motion. The County Librarian requested permission to update the Board on the July Board claims which involved a rescinded motion resulting in the claims not being approved. After Mr. Holman's confirmation the July Board claim totals included the reissued check, Mrs. Walton presented the July 7th Board claims. The prewritten claims are numbered 439-472 for a total of \$703,777.08 and the regular claims are numbered 473-529 for a total of \$129,757.59 making a grand total of \$833,534.67. Mrs. Walton moved to approve the July 7th Board claims as presented. Mrs. Fahey seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Under the heading of the **County Librarian's Report**, Mr. Holman highlighted several items from his report starting with a consistent presence on Star City TV's community bulletin board over the summer. This resulted in various TCPL summer programs being advertised on multiple days. Mr. Holman continued by sharing that he and Human Resources Coordinator, Steve Berman have a scheduled meeting with CIGNA representative, Michele Vachon and Jim Gothard of Paradigm Consulting, Inc. The meeting will focus on a mid-year review of TCPL's use of the health insurance package. This meeting helps determine TCPL's actual health insurance renewal and any required or optional changes to the health insurance plan. Finally, Mr. Holman reminded Board members of the plans for the Wyandotte Branch 10th Anniversary celebration on Saturday, August 22. The activity starts at 10:30 a.m. and is being planned by Branch Manager, Leanne York. Activities include library giveaways, refreshments, and a performance by Adzooks Puppets. Mr. Holman provided an updated flyer on the activity.

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

Under **Comments from the Board**, President Harper made several observations about library operations. She acknowledged the Friends activity that recognized their volunteers and indicated it was great recognition for them. She mentioned the upcoming Foundation Board meeting and Mr. Bultinck's attendance. Finally, she commented positively on the quarterly reports written by TCPL department heads.

As there was no other business to come before 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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