

**Aurora Public Library District
Regular Board Meeting
Board of Library Trustees
January 28, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Trustees Ash Draighean, Joe Filapek, Scott McCleary, Melinda, Riddick, Joseph Sánchez

Absent: Trustee Matthew Orr

Also present were Executive Director Michaela Haberkern, Finance Manager Mark Salem, Director of Communications and Marketing Miriam Meza-Gotto, Director of Neighborhood Services Heather Sturm, Director of Human Resources Brenda Blough and Administrative Assistant Kim Gautschi

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

Documents have not arrived regarding the annexing of property and therefore this will not be an action item for the board at this meeting. The subject will be discussed under new business.

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 2025, REGULAR BOARD MEETING:

Scott McCleary moved, seconded by Ash Draighean, the board approved the minutes of the December 17, 2025 regular board meeting.

All in Favor

Absent: Trustee Orr

Vacancy: One

Motion carried

REGULAR BOARD MEETING 12-17-2025 MINUTES APPROVED

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Michaela Haberkern reported updates on the Eola Branch renovation and the library's budget planning process. She also updated the board on the new Facilities Manager and a newly created Phone Bank Coordinator position.

Trustee Vacancy Ad-Hoc Committee Report:

Joe Filapek related the Trustee Vacancy Ad-Hoc Committee met on January 20, 2026 to review options and timeline for filling the vacancy on the board left by Kevin O’Neill’s resignation. The committee had a robust conversation about the possible processes for filling the vacancy, and after considering the various ways that the board has filled previous vacancies, decided to follow the same process that was used to fill the last vacancy. A questionnaire is posted on the library’s website, which will be open for two weeks, and the committee will meet again on February 17, 2026 to review applications and decide on questions for in-person interviews. The committee intends to make a recommendation to the full board at the March 25, 2026 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

One community member addressed the board regarding the upcoming renovations planned at West Branch.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval of December/January Bills

Finance Manager Mark Salem updated the board with an overview of the library’s current financial position and expenditures, revenue, and investments. Mark confirmed the January 2026 expenses and provided answers to the library board’s questions.

Scott McCleary moved, seconded by Ash Draighean, to approve the monthly expenditures as listed on the Authorization Sheet for the period December 11, 2025 to January 22, 2026, in the amount of \$2,233,561.76 and to authorize up to \$208,533.00 in construction costs.

Roll call on motion:

Yes: Trustees Draighean, Filapek, McCleary, Riddick, Sánchez

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Trustee Orr

Vacancy: One

Motion Carried

PAYMENT OF BILLS 12-11-25 TO 01-22-26 APPROVED

Quarterly Investment Report

Mark Salem reviewed the library’s investments through the second quarter ending December 31, 2025. The library’s investments average a 3.86% return.

West Branch Renovation Communication Plan

Communications and Marketing Director Miriam Meza-Gotto walked the board through the communications plan for West Branch renovations.

Ordinance 2026-01 Annexing Property

Michaela Haberkern reported the attorney representing the commercial property requesting annexation advised the petition for annexation would be forthcoming in time for the February meeting.

Ordinance 2026-02 Levy Abatement

Michaela Haberkern introduced the Levy Abatement Ordinance as the board's instruction to the county clerks that the library does not intend to levy additional taxes to support the \$13 million General Obligation bond issued in 2024 for the Eola renovations. The bond was intentionally structured so that the library would not need additional revenues for support. The library will do this every year until the bond reaches maturity.

Upon the adoption of this Ordinance, a certified copy will be filed with the County Clerks of Kane, DuPage, Kendall and Will Counties, Illinois, and it shall be the duty of said County Clerks to abate said tax levied for the year 2026 in accordance with the provisions hereof. After a full discussion thereof, the President directed that the roll be called for a vote upon the motion to adopt said ordinance.

Melinda Riddick moved, seconded by Ash Draighean, to approve Ordinance No. 2026-02 abating the Tax Heretofore Levied which notifies the county clerks not to levy a separate tax in addition to Ordinance 2025-4, the Tax Levy Ordinance.

Roll call on motion:

Yes: Trustees Draighean, Filapek, McCleary, Riddick, Sánchez

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Trustee Orr

Vacancy: One

Motion Carried

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-02 ABATING THE TAX HERETOFORE LEVY APPROVED

Adjournment

Scott McCleary moved, seconded by Melinda Riddick, the board unanimously voted to adjourn at 6:41 p.m.

All in favor
Motion carried

**ADJOURNMENT
CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY**
