

**ST. JOSEPH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
ANNUAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, May 18, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

The Library Board meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by Ruth Warren, Library Board President.

PRESENT

Ruth Warren - President
Alan Feldbaum – Secretary
Hilary Barker – Member
Marvin Curtis – Member at 4:27p
Christine Pochert Ringle – Member
Rhonda Richards – Member

ABSENT

Nicole Garcia – Vice President

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Stephanie Murphy - Executive Director
Onjanette Dancier - Chief Financial Officer
Karen Mann - Chief Resource Officer
Dawn Matthews – Director of Patron Experience
Rona Plummer – Chief Public Service Officer
Kara Yeomans – Director of Human Resources
Lisa O'Brien - Director of Special Projects
Myra Reid – Legal Counsel
Craig Heatherly – Gibson Insurance

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of the Library Board meeting and Library Board Finance meeting minutes of the meeting held on April 27, 2026
- b. Declare Excess Withdrawn Library Materials & Computers donated to the Friends of the Library
- c. Personnel Changes
- d. Bill List

Ms. Pochert Ringle moved to approve the Consent Agenda with amendment to the Information Policies vote to reflect Ms. Richards' abstention. Ms. Barker seconded the motion. Dr. Warren polled the Board for the vote: Ms. Barker – Aye; Mr. Feldbaum – Aye; Ms. Pochert Ringle – Aye; Ms. Richards – Aye; Dr. Warren – Aye. The motion carried.

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Stephanie Murphy gave the director's report. Ms. Murphy began her report by sharing the staff comments for the quarterly report. Ms. Murphy closed her report by sharing photos of the LaSalle ribbon cutting event.

Ms. Richards moved and Mr. Feldbaum seconded to approve the Director's Report. Dr. Warren polled the Board for the vote: Ms. Barker – Aye; Dr. Curtis – Aye; Mr. Feldbaum – Aye; Ms. Pochert Ringle – Aye; Ms. Richards – Aye; Dr. Warren – Aye. The motion carried.

PATRON ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Ms. Rona Plummer presented the patron engagement report. Ms. Plummer began her report by sharing photos of the book vending machine at the Dream Center, as well as from the Culturally Speaking event hosted at Main. She moved on to share that the systemwide gate count is up; while computer minutes are down. Ms. Plummer shared that total circulation remains steady; and that digital use is up 4%. Ms. Plummer ended her report by sharing about the Databases, including Gale Courses, with over 77,000 minutes of usage in 2026 so far.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Onjanette Dancler gave the financial report. Ms. Dancler began her report sharing that the consulting with Abonmarche for the plumbing line replacement has begun. Ms. Dancler shared that the building and grounds lines in the report are higher due to the weather in April, but should start to level out. Ms. Dancler shared that overall funding is remaining in status quo. She moved on to share that the TrustIndiana yield is currently 3.64%. She shared that the component unit audit is underway and is expected to have zero concerns. Ms. Dancler closed her report by sharing that the budget process is currently in the works, and that the dates may change due to legislation.

Mr. Feldbaum moved to approve the Patron Engagement and Financial Report. Ms. Barker seconded the motion. Dr. Warren polled the Board for the vote: Ms. Barker – Aye; Mr. Feldbaum – Aye; Ms. Pochert Ringle – Aye; Ms. Richards – Aye; Dr. Warren – Aye. The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

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NEW BUSINESS

a. Public Service Policy Updates

Ms. Rona Plummer presented on the public service policy updates. Ms. Plummer shared that these updates are to section 1, and reflect current practices.

Ms. Pochert Ringle moved to approve the Public Service Policy Updates. Ms. Richards seconded the motion. Dr. Warren polled the Board for the vote: Ms. Barker – Aye; Dr. Curtis – Aye; Mr. Feldbaum – Aye; Ms. Pochert Ringle – Aye; Ms. Richards – Aye; Dr. Warren – Aye. The motion carried.

b. Insurance Matters

Craig Heatherly from Gibson, presented the annual policy updates. These updates include a 2% price increase and are for the property casualty policy.

Mr. Feldbaum moved to approve the policy as presented. Dr. Curtis seconded the motion. Dr. Warren polled the Board for the vote: Ms. Barker – Aye; Dr. Curtis – Aye; Mr. Feldbaum – Aye; Ms. Pochert Ringle – Aye; Ms. Richards – Aye; Dr. Warren – Aye. The motion carried.

c. LaSalle Change Order #4

Ms. Stephanie Murphy presented the LaSalle Change Order #4 to the board. Ms. Murphy shared that the change order reduces the total cost by \$1,927.89.

Ms. Barker moved to approve the LaSalle Change Order #4. Ms. Pochert Ringle seconded the motion. Dr. Warren polled the Board for the vote: Ms. Barker – Aye; Dr. Curtis – Aye; Mr. Feldbaum – Aye; Ms. Pochert Ringle – Aye; Ms. Richards – Aye; Dr. Warren – Aye. The motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business for the Board.

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATES

Ms. Karen Mann presented on the Sustainability Action Plan.

HEARING OF VISITORS

There were no visitors to address the Board.

NEXT LIBRARY BOARD MEETING DATES:

- Library Board Meeting, Monday June 22, 2026, 4:15 p.m. St. Joseph County Public Library Community Learning Center, 2nd floor, Beutter-Kernan Hall, 305 S. Michigan Street, South Bend IN 46601.

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ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business to come before the Board. Ms. Pochert Ringle moved and Ms. Barker seconded to adjourn the Library Board meeting. Dr. Warren polled the Board for the vote: Ms. Barker – Aye; Dr. Curtis – Aye; Mr. Feldbaum – Aye; Ms. Pochert Ringle – Aye; Ms. Richards – Aye; Dr. Warren – Aye. The motion carried.

The St. Joseph County Public Library Board meeting adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Ruth Warren, President

Nicole Garcia, Vice President

Alan Feldbaum, Secretary

Hilary Barker, Member

Marvin Curtis, Member

Christine Pochert Ringle, Member

Rhonda Richards, Member