

Rock Island Public Library Board Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, April 21, 2026
5:00 p.m.
Rock Island Public Library – 2nd Floor, Downtown Library

Type of Meeting: Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

Meeting Facilitator: Jenni Swanson

Invitees: Deborah Freiburg, Nick Hammond, Jacki Nelson, Jo Noon, Aleatha Quarles, Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh, Elizabeth Russell, Shelly Johnson; Eudell Watts III (Emeritus Board Member); Angela Campbell, Library Director; Daniel Cuneo, Business & Facilities Director; Lisa Lockheart, Marketing Manager; Kathy Lelonek, Foundation Director.

- I. Call to Order – President Swanson called the meeting to order at 5 P.M.
- II. Attendance – Trustee Noon, Emeritus Board Member Watts, and Foundation Director Lelonek were absent.
- III. Public Comment – None.
- IV. Approval of Minutes –
 - Trustee Nelson moved to approved the minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting on March 17, 2026. Trustee Russell seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed via voice vote with all in favor.
- V. Board Education –
 - Done with the first full review of the State Standards. We will begin again in June/July.
 - The Board requested that Director Campbell begin a new, full review of these standard with the incoming Board members, to provide basics and fundamentals of a public library as part of their onboarding.
- VI. Correspondence –
 - Thank You from the Afterschool Club – World Relief donated a composite piece of art that their students completed as a thank you to the Library. Director Cuneo wants to place it on a backing board and display it at the Southwest Library for a season.
 - Thank You to Anna – Director Campbell noted that Anna is well-loved by our patrons and we’re lucky to have her. The Board agreed.
- VII. Committee Reports
 - A) Finance – Jenni Swanson
 - President Swanson moved to approve monthly bills for March in the amount of \$37,799.32. Trustee Freiburg seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed via roll call vote: all ayes, no nays.
 - Presentation of both the CY25 Year-End Financial Statements and CY26 Quarter 1 Financial Statements were pushed until the May meeting at the request of Director Cuneo, to give him time to analyze the data.

- B) Art & Facilities – Director Cuneo explained recent non-preventative maintenance on the HVAC systems at the Downtown and Watts-Midtown libraries. While service of this kind is typical when transitioning from heating to cooling for the first time each year, he wants to discuss long-term replacement planning and budgeting during the next committee meeting. As Trustee Nelson is rotating off of the Board, President Swanson will serve as facilitator. The meeting was then set for May 7, 2026 @ 2 P.M. in the Watts-Midtown conference room.
- C) Personnel & Policy – Trustee Debbie Freiburg acknowledged that the committee held their scheduled meeting immediately prior to present Board meeting and would share details during New Business.
- D) Planning & Community Relations – Trustee Grandberry-Pugh wants to discuss possible informational programming for parents on the developmental stages of children. She believes it would foster a community network of parents who otherwise don't know where support exists. Director Campbell will add an agenda item in May to schedule a committee meeting.
- E) Technology Ad-hoc Committee –
 - Color printing & faxing (New Business) – Trustee Hammond mentioned that color printing and faxing at all locations has finally been greenlit by the City. There will be a vote for approval in New Business.
 - Technology Ad-hoc Committee and future assignments – Director Campbell asked the Board for a directive on whether to continue the Technology Ad-hoc Committee now that its longstanding goals had been achieved. President Swanson said she would like to keep the committee active now that the City has signed a contract with Factor to assist City IT. They will be doing long-overdue replacement planning on IT infrastructure and President Swanson wants to ensure the Library is considered and included in the process.

VIII. Foundation Updates – Foundation President Kathy Lelonek submitted a written report for reading:

“Birdies for Charity” mailers were sent out during National Library Week. It would be nice to have 100% participation from both boards [sic]. Any amount is appreciated.

“Food for Thought” is on June 18th at [the] Hauberg [Estate] from 6:00-8:30.

The Book Sale is this Friday and Saturday at the Downtown Library from 10:00-12:00.

The Foundation's next meeting is on May 14th at 4:00 in the Downtown Library's Community Room. Kim Hoffman from Hoffman & Tranel will present the Foundation's [financial] audit. All are welcome to attend.

- Director Campbell added that there'd been discussion with Mike Halpin's office about the Imagination Library program. The main concern of the Library and the Foundation is being responsible for raising funds to support the entire county. After investigation, Senator Halpin and his team concluded that their main barrier is that they don't have a

501(c)(3) to hold and disburse the funds. Dawn Shelton [from the Halpin's office] didn't seem worried about finding the money to support the program and promised to talk directly with Senator Halpin about it.

IX. Administrator Reports –

- Director's Report: Director Campbell gave a summary of the key elements of her monthly report. She thanked the Board for their support in sending her to the Public Library Association's annual conference, saying that she took extensive notes and came back with many ideas and inspirations. She'll present some of that information to the Board in May.

Director Campbell also gave an overview of the extensive work the Library is doing for Mental Health Awareness Month in April, thanks to ARPA funding.

- Statistics – Continuing to trend up. Library staff will be crunching the annual data as part of the upcoming CY27 budget process.
- The next meeting of the Milan Blackhawk Area Public Library District will be April 23, 2026 at 4 P.M. at the Southwest Branch

X. Unfinished Business

1. Gate count and hours discussion: Next count scheduled for April 5 – 17. Results will be available at the May Board meeting.

XI. New Business

1. Slate of officers, as nominated at the March 17, 2026, meeting:
 - Jenni Swanson, President
 - Jo Noon, Vice-President
 - Dr. Yolanda Grandberry-Pugh – Secretary/Treasurer

There were no nominations from the floor.

Trustee Johnson moved to approve the slate of officers for the Library Board of Trustees, beginning May 1, 2026, and running through April 30, 2027. Trustee Freiburg seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed via roll call vote: all ayes, no nays.

2. Trustee Freiburg to approve the consent agenda for Library policies. Director Campbell then walked the Board through the 4 policies with extensive revisions: Behavior, Electronic Access, Incident Reporting, and Mobile Hot Spots.

Director Cuneo explained that while the Library only has a legal mandate to post Policy Statements, RIPL takes the view that increased transparency is incumbent upon a public institution with a strong social obligation, such as public libraries, and that thinking informed this year's policy revision.

Changes to both the Behavior and Incident Reporting policies were made after discussion with and review by LCSWs and were made expressly to meeting the mandates of the Board's Strategic Plan.

Director Campbell then explained that constant issues with return violations and replacement costs on mobile hot spots have pushed the associated policy to the proposed, more-punitive version. She noted that she and the other Librarians are loathe to remove hot spots from circulation altogether, but this latest policy change is their final attempt to support mobile hot spots. Should the problems continue, hot spots will no longer be a responsible financial cost for the Library to maintain.

The Board then voted and the motion passed via roll call vote: all ayes, no nays.

3. Bylaws Review – None.
4. Trustee Freiburg moved to approve charging 50 cents per color photocopy. Trustee Quarles seconded. There was no discussion. The motioned pass via roll call vote: all aye, no nays.
5. Trustee Russell moved to **not** charge a fee for sending faxes. Trustee Johnson seconded, and Director Campbell clarified that the Library doesn't currently charge for outgoing faxes at Watts-Midtown. This motion would apply the same practice to the Downtown and Southwest libraries once fax equipment was furnished. The motion passed via roll call vote: all ayes, no nays.
6. Trustee Nelson moved to approve Phase 1 of the Downtown Master Plan Service Contract. Trustee Hammond seconded. Director Campbell then explained what Phase 1 entails, and that approval of Phase 1 does not obligate the Library to the remainder of the project in any way. She also said that she likes that Phase 1 is a flat fee – the payment of which could come from the Library's Assigned Reserves. The motion passed via roll call vote: all ayes, no nays.

XII. Information Sharing

- Unique Management Reports
- Board Standing Committees
- Board Contact Info & Terms
- Bucktown Signed Contract
- Imagination Library Research
- RI County Final Tax Computation Report for 2026

XIII. Executive Session – *if needed*

XIV. Announcements

- A huge “thank you” to Elizabeth and Jacki for their nine years of service on the Rock Island Public Library Board! The Library would be honored to purchase a book in your

name (with bookplate!) and place it on our shelves. Please let Angela know what item you would like us to include in the collection.

- Next Board Meeting – May 19, 2026 at 5pm, Downtown Library
- President Swanson addressed the Board to explain why, in her capacity as a City Alderman, she pulled the City Council agenda item including Board appointments during the Council meeting. She said that she has always championed consistency in governmental process and was dismayed to learn that Mayor Harris had not performed his due diligence in contacting or interviewing all of the applicants for the Library Board. Although it's unlikely he will change his mind on whom he appoints, President Swanson feels that following City process and procedure for Board appointments is necessary, even if it's done, in this case, for posterity. She's spoken to the Mayor, and he has promised to call and speak with the other applicants for the Library Board.

XV. Adjournment – President Swanson adjourned the meeting at 5:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Cuneo
Business & Facilities Director