



Carnegie Public Library of Steuben County
Board of Trustees
Minutes of the September 8, 2025, Meeting

President Gentry called the public hearing for the 2026 budget to order at 4:00 p.m. Board members in attendance were Haley Billow, Laurie Gentry, Gay Kirkton, Jeanine Samuelson, Bert Schulz, and Sue Shollenberger. Also attending was Director Sonya Dorris.

President Gentry called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Jeanine Samuelson offered, Bert Schulz seconded, a motion to approve the minutes from the August meeting. The motion carried.

Appropriations and Financial Reports

Sonya Dorris presented the August appropriation and financial reports (copies attached).

Budget Status: Monthly spending was \$59,614. Following a discussion, Haley Billow moved to accept the reports, with Jeanine Samuelson seconding the motion, which was approved.

Old Business

- A. Adoption of the 2026 budget: The board reviewed the advertised budget for 2026. After a discussion, Jeanine Samuelson moved to adopt the 2026 budget. Sue Shollenberger seconded the motion. The 2026 budget was adopted.

New Business

- A. Director Dorris presented a resolution to continue the library's membership in the Public Library Internet Consortium for another year. This consortium allows the Indiana State Library to file the e-rate application for Internet access for all members. Haley Billow moved to approve the resolution, with Sue Shollenberger offering a second. The motion was approved.

Director's Report

I attended the Indiana Library Bookkeeping workshop at the end of August. It was very worthwhile. Representatives of Indiana Archives and Records Administration and State Board of Accounts were there to do presentations and answer questions. They also had sessions on the budget process and human resources.

The ILF conference is in Indianapolis in November. Several sessions cover the upcoming budget changes so I registered for both days. They are also offering a trustee track this year. If anyone is interested, let me know and I can send you the list of sessions.

Reagan Wright has been volunteering in the children's department for about 18 months. She has been added to the staff as Aiyanna Skees is now attending college and will only be working a few hours a week.

I've been in touch with Lisa Hewitt from WLKI. We are going to be doing a monthly interview with Andy St. John to cover what's happening at the library. The first one will be Sept. 22.

The library will be closed this Friday for staff training at the Peabody Public Library in Colombia City.

Haley Billow moved to accept the report, Jeanine Samuelson offered and second, and the motion passed. Jeanine Samuelson moved to adjourn the meeting with Gay Kirkton offering a second, the motion carried.