

**NIPPERSINK PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2025; MINUTES
At the Library 5418 Hill Rd, Richmond, IL**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Library Trustees of Nippersink Public Library District at the Nippersink Library was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by President Knobloch.

RECOGNITION OF SECRETARY

Trustee Evenson was recognized as secretary. Staff member Nielson volunteered to act as recorder.

PRESENT

President Drew Knobloch, Vice-President Brett Bieder, Trustees Theresa Sue Rekenenthaler, Heather Evenson, Michelle Jordan, Jean Leete-Knutson, Keith Schleiffer, and Library Director were present.

RECOGNITION OF MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE

Yoni Nielson, Assistant to the Director
Ash Lee Simons, Youth Services Manager
Kristine Ozyuk, Adult Services and Circulation Manager

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

None.

ADDITIONS

None.

MINUTES

- a. Approve August 12, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes
Motion was made by Trustee Bieder, Second by Trustee Schleiffer, to approve the August 12, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes.
Voice Vote: All in Favor
MOTION PASSES

- b. Approve August 12, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes
Motion was made by Trustee Schleiffer, Second by Trustee Evenson, to approve the August 12, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes.
Voice Vote: All in Favor
MOTION PASSES

CORRESPONDENCE AND LIBRARY NEWS

- a. Articles & News
 - i. PrairieCat member Spotlight- July 2025 PrairieCat Newsletter
 - ii. The Trump Administration Is Threatening Libraries, Museums, and Other Nonprofits That Support the Arts, Humanities, and Learning-Center on Budget and Policies Priorities
 - iii. United Against Book Bans Regional Response Volunteers Selected as 2025 Illinois Library Association Intellectual Freedom Award Recipient-ILA
 - iv. E-books are on the line as Congress considers future of library funding-USA Today
 - v. Seventh Circuit Finds University's Social Media Page to be a Public Forum and its "Off Topic" Comment Rule Unconstitutional- Ancel Glink
 - vi. Illinois Governor Signed a number of Bills on August 1st- Ancel Glink
 - vii. Giannoulas Legislation to Enhance protections for Illinois Libraries and Librarians Signed into Law- Secretary of State

- b. Trustee Training
 - i. ILA Annual Conference – Trustees Knobloch, Schleiffer, Leete-Knutson, Jordan and Rekenenthaler are attending.
 - ii. Trustee Training: Robert's Rules of Order
Motion was made by Trustee Schleiffer, Second by Trustee Leete-Knutson, to create an optional Trustee Training Day to view the Robert's Rules of Order on September 27 from 10-11 am.
Voice Vote: All in Favor
MOTION PASSES

TREASURER'S REPORT

- a. Review and Approve Warrant #3*
Warrant #3 in the amount of \$65,338.53 was reviewed for payment.

Motion was made by Trustee Bieder, Second by Trustee Rekenenthaler to approve the Warrant #3 in the amount of \$65,338.53.

Roll call Vote: Ayes: Knobloch, Bieder, Rekenenthaler, Schleiffer, Leete-Knutson, Jordan, Evenson.

Nays: None.

MOTION PASSES

- b. Review monthly budget report

SPECIAL REPORTS

Library Director

Director Fanslow informed the Board about current construction projects and staff and trustee participation in the ILA Conference.

Director Fanslow highlighted ongoing library operations, including the upcoming 2025 facility walkthrough, drainage project, elevator and fire panel updates, and the roof and window projects. The building's recent water test inspection passed successfully. In the Youth Services area, the wall previously used for the bulletin board has been painted, slat walls have been installed, and privacy film has been added to staff areas to enhance safety.

Director Fanslow updated the Board on community partnerships. The Library has been designated as the official emergency location for Nippersink Middle School in the event of an emergency. Ozyuk is collaborating with the Environmental Defenders to install a community fridge and small pantry for public use. September was Library Card Sign-Up Month, during which a \$25 gift card drawing was held for both new cardholders and current users. Additionally, McHenry County library directors organized a night at the McHenry Drive-In Theater on September 19, featuring *Shrek* and *Madagascar*.

Director Fanslow also reported that NPLD has officially been approved for nonprofit postage, the Per Capita Grant funds have been received, and a review of all public-facing policies has begun. Four library staff members will attend PUG Day on September 26, and LIMRiCC's virtual wellness fair has been made available to all employees.

Library Board President

President Knobloch's online report to the Board was discussed.

Strategic Planning

All Strategic Plan Goals has been stated. Director Fanslow reviewed the starting of the initiatives.

Adult Services

Ozyuk reported that the Circulation team is ready to register patrons for fall programs. Total departmental training hours are approximately 30 hours, with about 6 hours of cross-training between departments.

Ozyuk updated the Board that the ongoing weeding project will continue. The completed RAILS delivery count for August included 11 bins and approximately 300 items. The Library of Things collection has been moved out to the public floor.

Ozyuk also met with the Environmental Defenders to discuss the Community Fridge Program.

Youth Services

Simons reported that in October, the Youth Services Department will reach out to Grace Lutheran and Saint Peter's to restart storytime sessions for the school year. On September 8, English teachers from the middle school will visit the library for a mini-lesson on the various e-resources the library offers. There are currently five teen volunteers, and fall registration is now open.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (All possible action items)

- a. By-Law Draft – Suggestions, feedbacks, and discussion followed.
- b. Ordinance No. 2025-9-1, Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance
Motion was made by Trustee Schleiffer, Second by Trustee Bieder to approve the Ordinance No. 202-9-1, Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance.
Roll call Vote: Ayes: Knobloch, Bieder, Rekenhaler, Schleiffer, Leete-Knutson, Jordan, Evenson.
Nays: None.
MOTION PASSES
- c. Cook & Kocher Insurance Flood Proposal
Discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS (All possible action items)

- a. Landscaping & Snow Company
Motion was made by Trustee Bieder, Second by Trustee Schleiffer to approve moving forward with the new Landscaping & Snow Company.
Roll call Vote: Ayes: Knobloch, Bieder, Rekenhaler, Schleiffer, Leete-Knutson, Jordan, Evenson.
Nays: None.
MOTION PASSES

TRUSTEE TRAINING

The Difference Between Policies and Procedures – through iLead Portal

ADJOURN

There being no further business, President Knobloch declared the meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dana Fanslow

Secretary Evenson