

**NIPPERSINK PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
May 12, 2026; 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 called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Knobloch.

PRESENT

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

RECOGNITION OF SECRETARY

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

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 April 14, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes
**Motion was made by Vice-President Bieder, Second by Trustee Evenson, to approve the April 14, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.
Voice Vote: All in Favor
MOTION PASSES**

CORRESPONDENCE AND LIBRARY NEWS

- a. Correspondence
 - i. Patron comments

“Longtime regular patron LOVES all the changes. Took some seeds to try to grow-this is new for her! She said that she avoided this library a few years ago and now she loves it! - Mary S.

Regular patron thanked us for being so thoughtful during her recovery(I wrote her a personal note to check in) And now she knows my name! BONUS-she brought us DONUTS! (KO) - Regina S.

This Mom wanted a manager to know how wonderful Jon is! She has 4 kids that are BIG readers, and he is so willing to help, always offering to locate items and look items up for them. They are so happy to see him when they come in for books! - Alicia S.

She lives right down the street and has never been here, came in for a tax appointment. Nadia was at the desk and gained experience in signing Jen up as a New patron! After searching through the stacks, she came to the desk to ask for our help to reach a book on display. It was just out of reach, Jen uses a wheelchair. We had a nice conversation about ADA Compliance. She stated that our space was quite easy to navigate, and she was so positive and appreciative of our willingness to help, and our efforts to be ADA Compliant here at NPLD. I let her know that ADA Compliance is VERY IMPORTANT to our Library Director, and all of us! She also toured the YS Dept and cannot wait to bring her 2 young sons in for books and programs! - Jen

Thanks us all so much, says we are all AWESOME! - April K.

Thinks the changes to the library have been awesome and that we are all doing an amazing job! - Linda W.

Thinks the changes to the library have been awesome and that we are all doing an amazing job! - Stacey Z.

Has difficulty using Vega to look up books. Says that the website is clunky and not user friendly and that she has trouble looking up books, especially when not logged in. - Jane J.

b. Articles and News

Discussions and questions regarding the articles and news submitted.

- i. 'Dangerous' bill inviting government censorship passes House committee- ALA
- ii. ii. Reminder of updated Web Accessibility Requirements- Ancel Glink
- iii. Tennessee library director fired after refusing to move LGBTQ+-themed kids' books to adult section- the Guardian
- iv. White House FY27 budget proposal repeats threats to eliminate IMLS- ALA
- v. Trump administration withdraws appeal, securing historic victory for libraries and IMLS- ALA
- vi. ALA and AFSCME Prevail in Fight to Protect Libraries and Museums Nationwide- ALA
- vii. 2025 Annual Report- RAILS

TREASURER'S REPORT

- a. Review and Approve Warrant #11 in the amount of \$26,944.18
Motion was made by Vice-President Bieder, Second by Trustee Rekenhaller to approve the Warrant #11 in the amount of \$26,944.18.

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

Nays: None.

MOTION PASSES

- b. Review of monthly budget report

Director Fanslow updates the Board of the expenses: library and building operations, trustee expenses, capital equipment, library materials, outside professional services, and personnel.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Library Director

Director Fanslow updates the Board of April Statement of Activity and Budget vs. Actuals reports; library statistics; reference questions and time spent; program participation; new library cards (22); mobile apps users; circulation of items; and e-resources.

Director Fanslow updates the Board on library operations: eight garden beds have been installed in the community garden and planting will begin in the middle of May and the picnic table, too; the native flowers have been re-planted - special thank you to the

Wildflower Preservation and Propagation Committee for their donation; story walk will be installed from the parking lot to the community garden (Youth Services Department will oversee the updates).

Director Fanslow updates the Board on Summer Newsletter: new program called Community Chats will be held every first Friday of the month at 10am by the fireplace; there will be curbside pick-up (two parking spots); and online forms for reservation of meeting room, volunteering, and program presenter are available in the website; Summer Reading kick-off will be on June 13 at 11am to 1pm; the eBook bill (HB5236) passed the House with 99-0 vote and will now be moving to the Senate.

Library Board President

None.

Strategic Planning

An email link was sent before the Board Meeting and followed by discussion.

Adult Services

Ozyuk reports that the new hires are on schedule for learning and training; there are 201 items added in the collection; 970 items are weeded; 48 hours of training in the department; the pantry & fridge usage is consistent; seed library is well received; Operation Drop Box will be on the month of May.

Youth Services

Simons reports that the school visits from Richmond Grade School is a success; programming for the fall is starting; the remaining AV budget will be allocated to Playaway's.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (All possible action items)

- a. Library Trustee Forum Spring Webinar Discussion
Board of Trustee discussion started.

NEW BUSINESS (All possible action items)

- a. HVAC Contracts
Motion was made by Trustee Schleiffler, Second by Trustee Jordan to approve the using of Midwest Mechanical as our HVAC Service provider
Roll call Vote: Ayes: Knobloch, Bieder, Evenson, Rekenenthaler, Schleiffer, Leete-Knutson, Jordan.
Nays: None.
MOTION PASSES

b. Elevator Contracts

Motion was made by Vice President Bieder, Second by Trustee Leete-Knutson to approve Colley Elevator as our Elevator Service provider.

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

Nays: None.

MOTION PASSES

c. FY2627 Budget initial review

Questions and answers followed.

d. Board Meeting start time

Motion was made by Trustee Jordan, Second by Trustee Schleiffer to approve starting our Board Meeting to 6:30 PM starting July 1, 2026.

Voice Vote: All in Favor

MOTION PASSES

TRUSTEE TRAINING

a. Introduction to Policies – iLead Portal

ADJOURN

There being no further business, President Knobloch declared the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dana Fanslow

Secretary Evenson