

2025 EPL Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 13, 2025

6:00pm, Central Branch

Attendees:

Trustees Present

Scott Serazin	Jeff Breese	Maggie Leglise
Ray Armstrong	Stori Zinkhann	Koneake Lawrence
Dwayne Redding (arrived at 6:05pm)		

Trustees Absent

Patrica Schrull	Debbie Kroupa	Sam Battle
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Staff:

Jennifer Starkey	Debby Perkins	Frank Szuch
Jen Harmon		

Visitors: none

The Board met at the Central Branch Library. Ray Armstrong called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Ray welcomed all Attendees.

Consent Agenda Items:

a. **Approval of September 2025 monthly meeting minutes**

b. **Personnel Actions:**

New Employees:

Emma Konn – Librarian, Bookmobile/Outreach

Change of Status:

Jennifer Harmon – Deputy Director

c. **Memorials & Contributions:**

Susan Mabry	\$25.00	In memory of Wanda Mae Currier
Eileen French	\$100.00	In memory of Thomas Crouse
Met Life Trust	\$28.94	Unrestricted
Linda Sesock	\$20.00	In memory of Mike Harmon
Vandemark Jewelers	\$25.00	In Memory of Theresa Gebhardt
Vandemark Jewelers	\$25.00	In Memory of Regina Comerford
Vandemark Jewelers	\$25.00	In Memory of Elizabeth Warden

Dwayne Redding joined the meeting at 6:05pm.

The bond payment is due December 1st. The money needs to be transferred into the designated account by November 15th. Maggie Leglise motioned to transfer \$650,137.50 from the General Fund to the Debt Service fund for the bond payment. Scott Serazin seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion by Roll Call Vote (**Resolution #84.25**)

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ray Armstrong	X			
Sam Battle				X
Jeffrey Breese	X			
Debbie Kroupa				X
Koneake Lawrence	X			
Maggie Leglise	X			
Dwayne Redding	X			
Patricia Schrull				X
Scott Serazin	X			
Stori Zinkhann	X			

Jeffrey Breese moved to approve the Fiscal Officer's Report. Scott Serazin seconded the motion. The Board approved the Fiscal Officer's Report. (**Resolution 85.25**)

Director's Report:

Operations Updates:

- The HVAC project at West River will begin in late October. The facility will remain open during the project except for one or two days when the roof top units are installed.
- During National Library Card month ELP issued 308 new cards exceeding the goal of 300.
- Stacks of Appreciation winners for September and October were Bethany Briggs and Tanya White.
- The primary book distributor, Baker & Taylor, will cease operations by January 2026. The TSD team has been searching for alternative vendors.

- Collective bargaining contract negotiations will begin October 21st.

Legislative Updates:

- The Lorain County Commissioners voted to double the Homestead Exemption credit and Owner-Occupied Credit. This will reduce EPL's levy income in 2026.
- January 1st, 2026, replacement levies are no longer an option.
- There are many bills being discussed in the State Legislature regarding property taxes. We will continue to monitor the statuses and provide updates.

Upcoming Events: staff day will be October 24th at Oberlin College and will include staff service awards as well as speakers on intellectual freedom and supporting the deaf community.

Koneake Lawrence moved to approve the Director's Report. Maggie Leglise seconded the motion. The Board approved the Director's Report. **(Resolution 86.25)**

President's Report:

- The nominating committee for next year's officers will be Scott Serazin, Ray Armstrong, and Dwayne Redding.
- Board members should provide their feedback for the performance reviews of Jennifer Starkey and Debby Perkins by Monday, November 3rd and Monday, December 1st respectively.

Dwayne Redding moved to approve the President's Report. Scott Serazin seconded the motion. The Board approved the President's Report. **(Resolution 87.25)**

Committee Reports:

EPL Friends: the book sale was a success! Any left-over books were either recycled or donated to other organizations. The Friends also received their check from Connect to a Cause.

Keystone Friends: the Keystone Friends will host their Annual Book Sale on November 13th – 16th. An author event is scheduled for July 2026.

Foundation: at the September 23rd meeting, the Foundation welcomed Richard Mole as a new Board member.

Ad Hoc Committees: n/a

Finance & Audit Committee: next meeting will be November 3rd.

Maggie Leglise moved to approve the Committee Reports. Jeffrey Breese seconded the motion. The Board approved the Committee Reports. **(Resolution 88.25)**

Old Business: n/a

New Business: n/a

Executive Session:

Stori Zinkhann moved to enter Executive Session at 6:46pm to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee or official. Jennifer Starkey and Debby Perkins were invited to the Executive Session. Dwayne Redding seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion by Roll Call vote. **(Resolution 89.25)**

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ray Armstrong	X			
Sam Battle				X
Jeffrey Breese	X			
Debbie Kroupa				X
Koneake Lawrence	X			
Maggie Leglise	X			
Dwayne Redding	X			
Patricia Schrull				X
Scott Serazin	X			
Stori Zinkhann	X			

Scott Serazin moved to exit Executive Session at 6:59pm and return to the regular meeting. Maggie Leglise seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion by Roll Call vote. **(Resolution 90.25)**

Roll Call Vote	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ray Armstrong	X			
Sam Battle	X			X
Jeffrey Breese	X			
Debbie Kroupa				X
Koneake Lawrence	X			
Maggie Leglise	X			


Dwayne Redding	X			
Patricia Schrull				X
Scott Serazin	X			
Stori Zinkhann	X			

After the Executive Session a motion was raised:
 Jeff Breese moved to approve the manager and non-union staff pay increase of 3% effective October 1st as discussed in the Executive Session. Dwayne Redding seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion by Roll Call Vote. **(Resolution 91.25)**

Roll Call Vote Yes No Abstain Absent

Ray Armstrong	X			
Sam Battle				X
Jeffrey Breese	X			
Debbie Kroupa				X
Koneake Lawrence	X			
Maggie Leglise	X			
Dwayne Redding	X			
Patricia Schrull				X
Scott Serazin	X			
Stori Zinkhann	X			

Adjournment: Maggie Leglise moved to adjourn the meeting. Koneake Lawrence seconded the motion. The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 pm **(Resolution 92.25)**.


 VP President


 Secretary