BOURBONNAIS PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RECORD OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING PROCEEDINGS
September 21, 2026

President David Stejkowski called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Bourbonnais Public Library District at 7:00 p.m. on September 21 2026.

Trustees Present Mary Kay Blankestyn, Kate Burgess, Jen Corke-Kafer, Laurie Hofman, Jessica Prentkowski, Ellen Stringer, and David Stejkowski.

Also Present Library Director Kelly McCully and Assistant Library Director Stacey Van Kley

Introduction of Visitors and Public Comment None

Review Agenda for Additions/Changes None

Consent Agenda- Action

Approve August 17, 2026 Minutes

Approve Financial Report and Payment of Bills for August 2026

Approve Check Registers

Blankestyn made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Stejkowski seconded the motion. Burgess, Corke-Kafer, Hofman, Prentkowski, and Stringer voted in the affirmative.

Officer's Reports

Correspondence & Communications None

Director's Report

Several staff members celebrated work anniversaries in September. Reference Assistant Ivonne Citron and Marketing/Adult Services Assistant Kat Rosene celebrated 5 years. Technical Services Assistant Anna Dumey celebrated 30 years of dedicated service with BPL.

The Marketing Department put together and shared our annual stats for FY 2025-2026. These stats demonstrate how the library is so much more than books. But also, books! We averaged almost 10,000 items circulating each month.

As the November election approaches, Marketing is sharing more information about the referendum. The ROI series on the proposed tax increase aims to show the value of your library card in the context of the increase. Another way we're sharing information is through storytelling videos with Kelly, which will help our Bourbonneighbors feel more informed about the referendum by breaking down why we are asking our community to invest in the future of

the Library. Library departments have been busy with many outreach activities. Some outreach builds visibility, while other outreach engages stakeholders to share information about the referendum.

In the coming weeks, several outreach activities are planned with KCCOLT, Rotary, and residents of Arbor Grove. All of these groups want to learn more about the Library as a community resource and information about the referendum. Kelly and Stacey have been inviting stakeholders to two events in October. These events are designed to share information in a casual but intentional way.

The aging sprinkler system continues to have new leaks. Matco has evaluated the current leaks and will be repairing piping above the magazine seating area and the patrons' computers.

We have several roof leaks that have appeared during recent storm activity. A claim has been filed with Utica National Insurance Group to evaluate if any roof repairs or replacement could be covered by our commercial insurance package.

The Library will be updating its people-counting software. Our current visitor-counting method doesn't capture people who only enter our lobby, Cardinal, and White Oak rooms. This new software will give us more accurate counts and data on library usage.

Congratulations to Teen Services Supervisor Alex Johnson on receiving a Pizza Hut Slice of Literacy Community Grant. $1,025 will fund a Teen Reaching Challenge that starts in September 2026 and goes through May 2027.

Our Technical Services Team, consisting of Supervisor Nicole Brown and Assistant Anna Dumey, works diligently to add new materials and maintain BPL's many collections. They are currently running a Technical Services Assessment to get a good picture of how items move through processing. Nicole will start MARC training in October; this will allow her to transition from copy cataloging to original cataloging at BPL.

Committee Reports

Finance None

Personnel None

Policy None

Building & Grounds None

Long Range Planning None

Old Business

Discuss 2024-27 Strategic Plan Goal: Strengthen Financial Stability & Sustainability: The Board discussed potential staff retirement options and continued discussing the long-term sustainability of library funds.

New Business

ACTION: Discuss & Approve FY2026-2027 Health Insurance Renewal: Library Director McCully presented the renewal rates provided by HomeStar Insurance Services for Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) health insurance and Principal Insurance dental, vision, life, and short-term disability coverage. The renewals reflected 10% rate increases. Stejkowski made a motion to approve the FY2026-2027 Health Insurance Renewal. Prentkowski seconded the motion. Blankestyn, Burgess, Corke-Kafer, Hofman, and Stringer voted to approve it.

Discuss FY2025-26 Annual Report Statistics: The Board is impressed with the FY2025-26 annual report statistics. Library card signups saw a significant increase this year.

Discuss Midland Banking Online Access Updates: Midland Bank updated online banking sign-ins. Committee chairs need to validate the new sign-ins. Kelly offered to walk through the steps for trustees that needed support.

Public Comment None

Adjournment: Hofman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. Prentkowski seconded the motion, and it passed with a unanimous vote of the present trustees.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kate Burgess
Secretary