

**INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 24, 2026**

The Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library Board met in person at the Lawrence Branch Library, 7898 Hague Road, Indianapolis, Indiana, on Monday, August 24, 2026 at 6:30 p.m., pursuant to notice given in accordance with the rules of the Board.

1. Call To Order

Mr. Biederman presided as President and called the meeting to order. Dr. Riolo acted as Secretary.

2. Roll Call

Members present: Mr. Biederman, Dr. Murtadha, Dr. Palacio, Dr. Riolo and Dr. White.

Members absent: Ms. Johnson and Ms. Woodard.

The Chair recognized a quorum.

Mr. Biederman noted that the City of Indianapolis recently hosted the 25th Annual Mayor's Celebration of Diversity Awards. The Indianapolis Public Library was among the organizations nominated for recognition. Mr. Biederman also mentioned the upcoming Library Card Days which will take place September 26-28, 2026 at all locations. These days will highlight the benefits of having a library card with the community.

3. Branch Manager's Report and Area Overview

a. Lawrence Branch Report

Ms. Monica Taboada, Manager, Lawrence Branch, provided some information about their branch and community as follows:

- This branch has served the Castleton and Lawrence community since 1967. They moved to their current location in 1983. The branch was remodeled in 2020 to provide an open layout and three study rooms.
- The Lawrence collection includes more than 82,000 items. The world language collection includes materials in Spanish, French, Haitian Creole, Arabic and Braille.

- Adults take part in computer workshops, exercise classes, arts and crafts, and a monthly book club. Children's librarians host storytimes twice a week for babies, toddlers and school-age children and a Pajama Storytime on Monday evenings. They are increasing their teen programming, which is drawing in youth from nearby Lawrence High School.
- In 2025, the branch served 96,862 visitors.

b. **2026 Summer Reading Program Report**

Ms. Devery North, School Age and Family Program Specialist and Mr. Alexander Hampton, Adult Program Specialist, reviewed their Report for the 2026 Summer Reading Program.

- The Summer Reading Program provided a joyful environment where kids, teens and adults strengthen literacy habits through reading, incentives and workshops.
- This year, the Program saw a 20% increase in adult male participation, a 14% increase in teen participation and a 27% increase in senior participation.
- The target zip codes (Beech Grove, Wayne, Fort Ben and Martindale-Brightwood) where we typically see lower participation. Those all saw growth this year. Martindale-Brightwood and Beech Grove experienced particularly significant growth.
- At the end of the Summer, participants logged over 27 million minutes of reading with 28,992 total participants.

4. Public Comment

a. **Public Comment** (Name and summary of comments follows)

There were no petitions to come before the Board.

5. Approval Of Minutes: Executive Session, Regular and Special Meetings

a. **Regular Meeting, July 27, 2026**

At this time, the minutes from the Regular Meeting held July 27, 2026, were approved on the motion of Dr. Palacio, seconded by Dr. Murtadha, and the following roll call vote:

Dr. Murtadha – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye
Dr. Riolo – Aye

Dr. White – Aye
Mr. Biederman, President – Aye

b. **Special Meeting, August 11, 2026**

At this time, the minutes from the Special Meeting held August 11, 2026, were approved on the motion of Dr. White, seconded by Dr. Murtadha, and the following roll call vote:

Dr. Murtadha – Aye
 Dr. Palacio – Aye
 Dr. Riolo – Aye

Dr. White – Aye
 Mr. Biederman, President – Aye

COMMITTEE REPORTS

6. Finance Committee (Dr. Eugene G. White, Chair; Ms. Elizabeth N. Johnson, Dr. Khaula Murtadha)

a. Report of the Treasurer

Ms. Mary Rankin, Accounting Director and Treasurer, shared the Report of the Treasurer for July 2026. As of July 31, 2026, the year-to-date Revenue was approximately \$31.4 million and the year-to-date Expenditures were approximately \$33.5 million.

The Report of the Treasurer was approved for filing for audit on the motion of Dr. Murtadha, seconded by Dr. Riolo, and the following roll call vote:

Dr. Murtadha – Aye
 Dr. Palacio – Aye
 Dr. Riolo – Aye

Dr. White – Aye
 Mr. Biederman, President – Aye

b. Resolution 31 – 2026 (Resolution for Appropriations and Tax Rates)

Ms. Rankin noted that it is required under Indiana Code to submit an adopted Budget and Tax Levies to the City-County Council Clerk by August 31st. On August 1 and August 8, 2026 the Library published Notice of a Public Hearing on August 11th and the adoption of the 2027 Budget for August 24th in the Indianapolis Star and the Court and Commercial Record.

Resolution 31 – 2026 includes the information for the Library's 2027 Budget as follows:

- Operating Fund	\$69,181,573
- Bond and Interest Redemption Fund	23,829,279
- Library Reserve Fund	125,000
- Rainy Day Fund	1,000,000
- TOTAL:	\$94,135,852

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 31 – 2026, it was noted this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Finance Committee. Dr. Murtadha seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Dr. Murtadha – Aye
 Dr. Palacio – Aye
 Dr. Riolo – Aye

Dr. White – Aye
 Mr. Biederman, President – Aye

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

7. Diversity, Policy and Human Resources Committee (Dr. Luis A. Palacio, Chair; Dr. Eugene G. White, Ms. Natissa S. Woodard)

Dr. Palacio advised that the Committee did not have any items to report but they continue to discuss policies and staff development.

8. Facilities Committee (Dr. Lisa Riolo, Chair; Ms. Elizabeth N. Johnson, Ms. Natissa Woodard)

Dr. Riolo advised that the Facilities Committee did not have any items to report.

9. Library Foundation Update

Dr. Riolo provided the Foundation Update as follows:

News

Circulate: Night at the Library was held Saturday, August 15, 2026. This year was the fifth year for our fundraiser. We hosted 220 guests and raised more than \$130,000.

Donors

Major Donors last month: Charles Schwab Foundation, Corteva, Paganelli Law Group, and Urban Libraries Council.

Program Support

This month the Foundation provided \$130,000 to the Library for: Bilingual Storytime, Conversation Circles, Fall Fest 2026 Slammin' Rhymes Challenge XX – Hope, Seed Library and Nonprofit Workshops.

10. Report of the CEO

Mr. Gregory Hill, CEO of the Indianapolis Public Library, gave his Report as follows:

a. Confirming Resolutions

1) Resolution Regarding Finances, Personnel and Travel 32 – 2026)

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 32 – 2026, the resolution was approved on the motion of Dr. White, seconded by Dr. Murtadha, and the following roll call vote:

Dr. Murtadha – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye
Dr. Riolo – Aye

Dr. White – Aye
Mr. Biederman, President – Aye

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

b. Report of the CEO – August 2026

Mr. Hill discussed his Report which included information on programs, services and initiatives from the month of July, as follows:

- In the month of July, there were 481 youth programs, 266 adult programs and 63 all age programs.
- On July 25, 2026, Central Library welcomed more than 500 people for the Day of Chess.
- The next Heart of Every Neighborhood Event is scheduled for Tuesday, September 22, 2026 at the Southport Branch from 5-6:30 p.m. Also, Library Card Days will take place September 26-28, 2026 at all branches throughout the Library system.
- Mr. Hill shared a story about a truck driver who used audiobooks from the Library and felt they had a positive impact on his well-being,

c. 2025-2027 Strategic Plan Progress Report – Quarter 2 - 2026

Ms. Marianne McKenzie, Chief Strategy and Analytics Officer, shared the following information:

- The KPIs related to Belonging are performing well. There has been an increase in web traffic per capita, while our people count per capita has remained steady.
- Under the Learning KPIs, there has been a slight decrease in circulation, while e-resource use and feedback from learning programs have remained steady. It was noted that there are shifts in how people are borrowing materials.
- The Wellbeing KPI is holding steady. Approximately 94.5% of our Wellbeing partners reported that their partnerships resulted in meaningful benefits for the community.
- It was announced that Objective B5.4, which explores the idea of an innovator-in-residence, will not continue. Instead, the Library will focus on two other partnerships related to B5.4, namely:
 - Better Together Event which was recommended for continuation as an annual event due to its inaugural success.
 - Urban Libraries Council's Civic Maker Lab for adults with nine per libraries. This initiative will result in programs that will assist young adults acquire civic knowledge and skills.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11. None.

NEW BUSINESS

12. None.

DISCUSSION AND AGENDA BUILDING

- 13. Future Agenda Items** – This time is made available for discussion of items not on the Agenda which are of interest to the Library Board members and the opportunity to suggest items to be included on future Library Board Meeting Agendas.

Dr. Murtadha noted that it is important that the Library pay attention to the kinds of programming that is being done for teens. She would like to make certain that there is some very specific demographic and breakdown data, which is quantitative and qualitative, where we could find out more about what's happening at each of our branches in regard to our teens.

- 14. Notice of Special Meetings**

None.

- 15. Notice of Next Regular Meeting**

Monday, September 28, 2026, at the Glendale Branch Library, 3660 East 62nd Street, at 6:30 p.m.

- 16. Adjournment**

The Secretary announced that there was no further business to come before the Board.

The Chairman then declared the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

INFORMATION

- 17. Materials**

- a. **Notes of August 11, 2026 Diversity, Policy and Human Resources Committee Meeting.**
- b. **Notes of August 11, 2026 Facilities Committee Meeting.**
- c. **Notes of August 11, 2026 Finance Committee Meeting.**
- d. **Notes of August 11, 2026 Strategic Planning Committee Meeting.**

- 18. Board Meeting Schedule for 2026 (Notice of Date and Place of Meeting) and Upcoming Events**

- a. **Board Meeting Schedule for 2026 will be updated as necessary.**
- b. **Library Programs/Free Upcoming Events may be found at attend.indypl.org.**

The August 24, 2026 Indianapolis Public Library Board Meeting is available to view at:

<https://www.indypl.org/about-the-library/board-meeting-times-committees>

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Riolo', written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Lisa Riolo, Secretary to the Board

*Nikki Johnson, Acting Secretary
for Dr. Lisa Riolo*