

**INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
JULY 28, 2025**

The Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library Board met in person at the Southport Branch Library, 2630 East Stop 11 Road, Indianapolis, Indiana, on Monday, July 28, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. pursuant to notice given in accordance with the rules of the Board.

1. Call To Order

President Biederman called the meeting to order. In the absence of Dr. Payne, Dr. Murtadha acted as Secretary.

2. Roll Call

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

Members absent: Dr. Payne and Ms. Woodard

The Chair recognized a quorum.

Mr. Biederman mentioned that this year's Summer Reading Program was one of the Library's most successful programs and that participants have surpassed our goal of 20 million minutes read. He also shared that the Indianapolis community has been displaying yard signs and sharing personal stories about how the Library has impacted them in support of the We Love Our Library campaign.

3. Branch Manager's Report and Department Overview

a. Southport Branch Library Report

Ms. Fiona Duke, Manager, Southport Branch Library, provided the following information:

- The branch moved from a storefront to its current 15,700-square-foot location in 1974 and they celebrated 50 years of service on June 1, 2024.
- The branch serves a diverse community, including a large immigrant and refugee population. As an example, in the Perry Township Schools, over 50% of the students are multilingual representing 84 countries and 86 languages.
- In partnership with the Immigrant Welcome Center, the branch has been a location for the Pathway to Literacy class. The class serves English Language Learners with interrupted formal schooling and prepares them to enter Level 1 ELL classes.

- A story was shared about Southport branch staff member, Alix Clinkingbeard, who recently passed away following a battle with cancer.

b. **Report on Digital Inclusion**

Ms. Karen Moore, Supervisor, Digital Inclusion, discussed the Report. She explained her Tech Learning Team is part of the Program and Development Area and includes six tech learning specialists and one administrative assistant. Her team offers high-quality computer classes to grow foundational skills for something that is now a necessity in life. The team has specialized programs for seniors, self-paced learning platforms for long-term growth and digital creativity programs. They have a pop-up lab of 20 laptops and accessibility tools to bring the classroom to any space. Between June 2024 and June 2025, the Team had 1,607 attendees and 340 programs.

4. **Public Comment**

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

Mr. Corben Haven, a teacher at IPS School 51, noted he appreciates the partnership between IPS and the Library's Shared System. He would like the Library to review policies regarding representatives of nontraditional public schools recruiting students at Library branches.

Ms. Jackie Harrell advised that she is resident of the south side of Indianapolis and appreciates the classes for seniors at the Library. She hopes those classes will continue.

Ms. Carla Schmid, a teacher with Washington Township, spoke on seeing charter schools recruiting at the Michigan Road Branch. It makes it appear that the Library is endorsing the school. She requested that IndyPL review the policy.

Ms. Mary Ann Rueggel, who is a northside resident, commented on the charter schools being given table space at the Library. She noted that by allowing one school to recruit, other schools lose that child.

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

a. **Regular Meeting, June 23, 2025**

The minutes from the Regular Meeting held June 23, 2025, were approved on the motion of Dr. Riolo, seconded by Dr. Murtadha, and the following roll call vote:

Mr. 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; Dr. Khaula Murtadha, TBD)

a. Report of the Treasurer

Ms. Mary Rankin, Treasurer, presented the Report of the Treasurer which noted that as of June 30, 2025, the year-to-date revenue was \$30,203,853 and the year-to-date expenditures were \$26,461,565.

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

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

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

b. President Biederman will Convene a Public Hearing:

President Biederman recessed the Regular Meeting and convened a Public Hearing.

President Biederman announced that this Public Hearing was being held to consider the 2025-2026 Multi-Facility Long-Term Capital Maintenance and Equipment Update Project Bonds.

1) **To consider 2025-2026 Multi-Facility Long-Term Capital Maintenance and Equipment Update Project Bonds advertised on June 13, 2025 in the Indianapolis Star and the Indianapolis Business Journal**

Mr. Jeff Qualkinbush of Barnes and Thornburg and Mr. Jason Tanselle from BakerTilly attended and provided information that these funds will support a long-range plan to address facility needs that came to light after the 2024 Facilities Assessment Study. Chief Operational Services Officer, Mr. Adam Parsons, shared that the primary project for this bond is the West Indianapolis Branch renovation. We are establishing a maximum budget and the total cost can decrease. It is being requested that the Board appropriate a sum not to exceed \$19,800,000.

2) **Invite Public Comment from the Audience**

Mr. Biederman invited public comment at this time.

There were no public comments.

c. President Biederman Will Consider a Motion to Close the Public Hearing

Dr. White made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Dr. Murtadha seconded the motion.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

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

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

The Public Hearing was closed at this time and the Regular Meeting was reconvened.

d. **Resolution 25 – 2025 (Preliminary Determination/Reimbursement and Bond Resolution) (2025-2026 Multi-Facility Long-Term Capital Maintenance and Equipment Update Project)**

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 25 – 2025, it was noted this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Finance Committee. Dr. White seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. 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.

e. **Resolution 26 – 2025 (Appropriation Resolution) (2025-2026 Multi-Facility Long-Term Capital Maintenance and Equipment Update Project)**

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 26 – 2025, it was noted this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Finance Committee. Dr. White seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. 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.

f. **Resolution 27 – 2025 (Marion County Internet Library Grant Database Renewals)**

Ms. Deb Lambert, Chief Collection Management Officer, shared that the Marion County Internet Library (MCIL) is a set of homework and research databases, shared by the education community in Marion County, including eligible high schools, universities, and the Library. Since 1999, the MCIL has received generous grant funding from the Library Fund. The Indianapolis Public Library and the Indianapolis Public Library Foundation have been the grant and database administrators for the Marion County Internet Library. The renewal costs for the 12 MCIL databases, a total of \$533,445, will be funded from the Indianapolis Foundation Library Fund grant for 2025-2026.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 27 – 2025, it was noted this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Finance Committee. Dr. White seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. 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.

g. Resolution 28 – 2025 (Approval of Liability Insurance Policies and Contracted Agency Fees for the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library Risk Management Strategy for the Policy Period of August 1, 2025 to August 1, 2026)

Ms. Lolita Campbell, CFO, noted that the Library contracts for insurance coverage for its risks of various loss exposures related to torts, theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, job-related illness or injuries to employees, natural disasters, and cybersecurity incidents. The fiscal impact overall is an increase compared to the amount paid for the prior year's coverage. Total cost for 2024-2025, including the broker's fee was \$443,227. The amount quoted for 2025-2026 is \$490,183, an increase of \$46,956, or about 10.59% higher.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 28 – 2025, it was noted this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Finance Committee. Dr. White seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. 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.

h. Discussion of 2026 Proposed Budget

Ms. Campbell provided information about the proposed 2026 Budget. It included assumptions for 2026 and a summary of projected revenues and expenditures for 2026 with a comparison to the 2025 adopted Budget. The projected Budget and estimated revenues for the Operating Fund are still in draft form. There might be some changes made before our Public Hearing which is currently scheduled for August 12, 2025. The largest part of the Budget is salaries and benefits. The total proposed Budget for 2026 is \$85,244,474.

7. Diversity, Policy and Human Resources Committee (Dr. Luis A. Palacio, Chair; Dr. Patricia A. Payne, Dr. Eugene G. White)

Dr. Palacio advised that the Committee did not have anything to present this month.

8. Facilities Committee (Dr. Lisa Riolo, Chair; Dr. Patricia A. Payne, Dr. Eugene G. White)

a. Resolution 29 – 2025 (Approval of a Naming Opportunity at the Irvington Branch)

Mr. Parsons and Ms. Roberta Jagers, President, Indianapolis Public Library Foundation, explained that approval was being sought to name the “Michael and Deborah Williams Study Room” at the Irvington Branch Library. Mr. Williams has dedicated his career to IndyPL. In 2009, the Irvington Branch lacked a much-needed study room. Deborah and Michael donated funds to convert the café kitchen into a study room.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 29 – 2025, it was noted this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Facilities Committee. Dr. White seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. 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. Resolution 30 – 2025 (Approval to Award a Services Contract for the New Bookmobiles Project)

Mr. Parsons noted that the Library’s Outreach area utilizes two bookmobiles to facilitate outreach efforts to patrons throughout Marion County. The current bookmobiles are approximately ten years old and near the end of their useful life. The proposed cost of \$605,323.20 for two vehicles by the recommended vendor exceeds the budgeted amount of \$601,889.95. The difference will be covered by a transfer of funds remaining from the updated patron counter project.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 30 – 2025, it was noted this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Facilities Committee. Dr. Murtadha seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. 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.

c. **Resolution 31 – 2025 (Approval to Award a Services Contract for AMH Maintenance)**

Ms. Parsons mentioned that the Facilities Committee is recommending the approval to award a services contract for AMH Maintenance to Lyngsoe Systems, Inc. of Frederick, Maryland, for a total cost of \$211,475 over two years.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 31– 2025, it was noted this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Facilities Committee. Dr. Murtadha seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. 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.

9. **Library Foundation Update**

Ms. Jagers reviewed the Foundation's Update as follows:

News

The Library Foundation's 2025-2027 Strategic Plan, "A Stronger Library, Together," is included in this Agenda and available online at 2025-2027-Strategic-Plan-Highlights.pdf. President Jagers provided a brief overview.

The Library Foundation will host a fundraising briefing and training for Library Trustees on Monday, September 8, 2025 from 12-2 p.m. in the Library Foundation's Board Room. Vice President of Development Bethany Watson will present and ask for feedback on the proposed Agenda (enclosed).

Development Officer Kellie Kierce introduced herself and her role and passed on a patron impact story from the Irvington Branch.

Donors

Major Donors last month: Ascension St. Vincent, Everwise Credit Union, Indianapolis Airport Authority, Indianapolis Indians and Marian, Inc.

Program Support

This month the Foundation provided \$590,000 to the Library for: Marion County Internet Library, Growing Global Citizens and Summer Reading Program.

10. **Report of the CEO**

a. **Confirming Resolutions**

1) **Resolution Regarding Finances, Personnel and Travel (32 – 2025)**

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 32 – 2025, the resolution was approved on the motion of Dr. Murtadha, which was seconded by Dr. Riolo, and the following roll call vote:

Mr. 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 – July 2025**

Mr. Gregory Hill, the Library's CEO, discussed information contained in his Report which included the following:

- On a typical day in June, IndyPL welcomed 101 new cardholders. Library patrons checked out 15,270 items from 25 locations and we had 7,460 visitors.
- The Library hosted 251 adult programs in June, with 1,714 participants. IndyPL had 541 programs for youth with 14,419 participants.
- IndyPL passed the 20-million-minute mark for the Summer Reading Program.
- The Library is installing universal changing stations that are at some branch locations and then shared a video about how they support community members with disabilities.

c. **Quarterly Statistical Report on Library Operations – Quarter 2 – 2025**

Ms. Marianne McKenzie, Strategic Planning and Assessment Officer, provided the following information

- Circulation remains strong, with electronic formats – eBooks, eAudiobooks, eVideos, and eMagazines – continuing to grow in popularity. Electronic circulation increased by 6% over Quarter 2 2024.
- The number of active cardholders is gradually increasing, even as the total number of cardholders has dipped slightly. Currently, 66% of total cardholders are active borrowers. Total cardholder numbers typically rise with the start of the new school year.
- Database usage has decreased, which is common during the Summer months.

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 requested that more information about library services for senior citizens be presented at a future meeting.

- 14. Notice of Special Meetings**

None.

- 15. Notice of Next Regular Meeting**

Monday, August 28, 2025, at the College Branch Library, 4180 North College Avenue, 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 8:55 p.m.

INFORMATION

- 17. Materials**

- a. Notes of July 15, 2025 Finance Committee Meeting.
- b. Notes of July 22, 2025 Facilities Committee Meeting.

- 18. Board Meeting Schedule for 2025 (Notice of Date and Place of Meeting) and Upcoming Events**

- a. Board Meeting Schedule for 2025 will be updated as necessary.

- b. **Library Programs/Free Upcoming Events** may be found at attend.indypl.org.

The July 28, 2025 Indianapolis Public Library Board Meeting is available to view at:

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



Dr. Khaula Murtadha, Acting Secretary to the Board