

The Urbana Free Library Board of Trustees
Minutes of a Regular Meeting
Held on Tuesday, July 8, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The Urbana Free Library Board of Trustees met in the Lewis Auditorium of The Urbana Free Library on Tuesday, July 8, 2025. The meeting was called to order by the President, Dan Urban, at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Shirese Hursey, Glen Layne-Worthey, Deb Newell, Julia Pollack, Liz Sands, Beth Scheid, Dan Urban, and Darius White

Absent: Erica Bellina

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, MODIFICATIONS OF THE AGENDA

None.

APPROVE THE AGENDA

It was moved by Beth Scheid, seconded by Shirese Hursey, and passed unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Caleb Wilson greeted new Executive Director Taliah Abdullah and expressed appreciation for staff involvement in the Executive Director search. He commented that staff love the library and acknowledged that change is hard, and teamwork makes change easier. They look forward to new Library culture.

PRESENTATIONS.

None.

ACTION ITEMS (CONSENT AGENDA)

Dan Urban asked and saw that there were no requests to separate the items, it was moved by Glen Layne-Worthey, seconded by Darius White, and passed unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented.

ACTION ITEMS (INDIVIDUAL)

It was moved by Shirese Hursey, seconded by Julia Pollack, and passed unanimously to accept the slate of officers for FY26 as Dan Urban as President, Beth Scheid as Vice-President, Erica Bellina as Secretary/Treasurer, and Glen Layne-Worthey as Secretary *pro tem*.

It was moved by Glen Layne-Worthey, seconded by Liz Sands, and passed unanimously to approve the FY26 budget amendments.

It was moved by Beth Scheid, seconded by Shirese Hursey, and passed unanimously to approve the Ameren invoice for \$11,943.61.

After discussion, it was moved by Shirese Hursey, seconded by Glen Layne-Worthey, and passed unanimously to approve the temporary hours of operation.

It was moved by Darius White, seconded by Shirese Hursey, and passed unanimously to approve the Cincinnati insurance invoice.

DISCUSSION ITEM

The Board discussed the draft Annual Report to City Council per 75 ILCS 5/4-10. FY25 was a busy year, and the report went from five pages last year to eight pages this year. Board members were impressed with how much staff had accomplished and commented on the fact that 70% of Staff Picks are checked out at any given time.

REPORTS OF LIAISON OFFICERS

Friends of the Library

Dan Urban gave the report Friends of the Library report for Erica Bellina. The book sale sorting area will be used by library staff as a place to work during the remodel. Due to the renovation, the Friends are halting book donations, and there will be no book sales through the end of the calendar year.

The Urbana Free Library Foundation

Dan Urban reported that the Foundation has a new president, Shannon Morber. The Foundation raised over \$170,000 this campaign, with almost 40% of the donors being new donors. Eighty people attended the Giant Desk Concert, and twenty businesses helped to sponsor the event.

Illinois Heartland Library System

Darius White reported that IHLS has reintroduced networking events to help Board and member library staff connect. There will be a ribbon cutting for the new automated materials handling system on July 22 and the Champaign service center. Pre-registration is required.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Taliah Abdullah thanked the Board for the opportunity to lead at TUFL. She is looking forward to helping to shape what is to come, and working with the Board, staff, and community. She thanked Rachel Fuller for her leadership as Interim Director and thanked the staff and the community for welcoming her.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT

Dan Urban (and Glen Layne-Worthey) reported that the Board received many emails to welcome Taliah Abdullah and in support of the staff.

Dan appointed Erica Bellina as the Friends liaison, himself as the Foundation liaison, and Darius White as the IHLS liaison. Taliah Abdullah and Becky Brown were appointed as FOIA officers.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Glen Layne-Worthey and seconded by Shirese Hursey to adjourn at 7:26 p.m.

Supplementary information is available in the Board packet of July 8, 2025.

This meeting was taped for later broadcast.