

June 22, 2026 EMPL Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

President Van Thompson called the June meeting of the Library Board to order at 3:31pm

Present: Van Thompson, James A. Hoffman, Deborah VanderBeke, Mereleena Olvera, Evenlyn Stokes, Pam Muehling

Absent: Linda Gates, Linda Nelson

Also Present: Bianca Sierra, Livvy Menage, Dom Mendoza

Introduction of Visitors: Rachel Ricketts

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda ACTION: Reviewed the minutes of the May meeting. Reviewed purchase card spending for May. Reviewed bills paid for May. Debbie made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Pam seconded. Motion passed.

Financial Reports from the City of East Moline: Reviewed Revenue and Expenditure report for 2026 and Account Balance report for May. Director shared that the budget amendment requests were sent to the city last month. The Finance Director has not reviewed them yet. There was discussion on what the process is for a budget amendment. Director will follow up with the Finance Director for more information. It was noted that the May reports should be referenced at the end of the year when determining how much cash in bank the library should have at the end of the year.

Library Report: Happy Human HR has completed initial meet and greets with staff and reviewed personnel files. They will provide a formal assessment at the July board meeting. A full time reference assistant has been hired and is currently completing training. Dom Mendoza was promoted to Assistant Director.

Several juvenile patrons have received bans in June and we have seen increased behavior issues since school has been out. The majority of juveniles visiting the library are actively engaged in activities and following the behavior policy.

The EV chargers should be operational by June 23. The parking lot lines were painted June 22. The water heater had a hole and was replaced by Ragan. After the water heater was removed rusting was found throughout the interior. A sensor on the DOAS unit needs repaired. Ragan is waiting for the part to arrive and then will make the repair. FBG has been cleaning the library for several weeks and has been responsive to feedback and library requests. The library received a grant from the state of Illinois to purchase additional cameras, install a paging system, alarm the four exterior doors, and increase cyber security.

The RAYGUN store is live with \$8-\$10 of every purchase going towards the library vehicle. Steve Strupp memorial donations were approximately \$1000. Dine to donate is July 7 at Village Inn. The FRIENDS are hosting a craft/vendor fair in September.

The library has seen several successful programs in the month of May and June with summer reading kickoff have 250 attendees, Touch a Truck seeing 150 attendees, mahjong growing to 20 people each

week, and high attendance at Hampton programs. We have surpassed previous summer reading signups at currently have 383 participants.

Committee Reports: Reviewed the Finance committee report from May which discussed budget amendments.

Business:

Action 1: The updated nonresident fee for 2026 was reviewed. Van made a motion to approve the nonresident fee of \$102 to go into effect July 1, 2026. Debbie seconded. Motion passed.

Action 2: Director reviewed communication from RIPL Director Angela Campbell regarding commitment to Imagination Library in Rock Island County. James A made a motion to approve a minimum of \$500 commitment in funding and to sign an MOU. Evelyn seconded. Motion passed.

Happy Human HR: Rachel asked board for guidance on responsibilities and major areas of focus for the library director. Several board members provided feedback with main focus being on library operations, community outreach, and problem solving with delegation at the director's discretion.

Documentation of Board Training: Director requested that board members provide information on any training that had been done in 2026 for IPLAR reporting. Director will send sexual harassment training to be completed by that board.

Illinois Standards for Libraries: Reviewed Finance standards. The library is meeting the highest rating for all standards. Director will check to make sure library is posting all required documents to the website or linking to the city website as necessary.

Presidents Items: None

Closed Session: Did not have closed session.

Meeting adjourned at 4:57