

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
THE FOUNTAINDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT  
WILL AND DUPAGE COUNTIES, ILLINOIS  
HELD NOVEMBER 20, 2025  
BOLINGBROOK, ILLINOIS**

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Fountaindale Public Library District, Will and DuPage Counties, Illinois was held in the Margaret J. "Peggy" Danhof Board Room, 300 West Briarcliff Road, Bolingbrook, Illinois on Thursday, November 20, 2025 at 7 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Celeste Bermejo.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was called by recorder, Juanita Lennon and a quorum was established.

**PRESENT**

Present at roll call were Marcelo Valencia, Kathryn Spindel, Sarah Siska, Jim Daunis Jr. and Celeste Bermejo.

**ABSENT**

Trustee Bobby Armstrong and Trustee Meraj Alam.

Trustee Armstrong was out of town for work and could not attend the meeting.

Trustee Alam was still at his place of employment working and could not attend the meeting in person.

## **FOUNTAINDALE STAFF PRESENT**

The following staff was present: Paul Mills, Juanita Lennon, Ben Jansen, Jose Robles and Jennie Nguyen.

Nancy Korczak was present online.

## **PUBLIC PRESENT**

The following public was present: Jody Hargett, Jennie Mills, Cassidy Navigato and Aimee Paradee.

## **APPROVAL OF TRUSTEE PARTICIPATION IN NOVEMBER 20, 2025 BOARD MEETING BY MEANS OTHER THAN BEING PHYSICALLY PRESENT**

President Bermejo reported that per Section 7 of the Open Meetings Act, she and Board Recorder Juanita Lennon received a written request from Trustee Meraj Alam to attend the November 20, 2025 Board Meeting by means other than being physically present. Trustee Alam wrote that due to his work obligations, he could not attend the Board Meeting this evening in person. Bermejo noted that employment purposes is one of the allowable reasons under the Open Meetings Act to request attendance and participation by means other than being physically present. Bermejo further reported that per Board Bylaws in Article III, Section 8, the trustees who are physically present shall determine by majority vote whether a trustee who is not physically in attendance may participate by other means – in this case, Zoom. If the vote is in favor, the trustee may vote on matters before the Board. A motion to approve the Trustee Meraj Alam’s request to participate in the November 20, 2025 minutes by other means other than being physically present was made by Spindel, seconded by Valencia.

AYES: Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Daunis, Bermejo

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Armstrong

## **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Bermejo asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

A motion was made by Spindel, seconded by Daunis.

AYES: Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Armstrong

## **MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 16, 2025**

The minutes of the board meeting held October 16, 2025 were presented. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Siska, seconded by Valencia. Minutes were approved as read.

AYES: Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Armstrong

## **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

President Bermejo recognized Ben Jansen for his five years of service and presented him with a pin and certificate.

## **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No comments were made.

## **FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

Jody Hargett provided an update for the Board. Hargett shared that the Friends Vice President Nahum Aragon gave his resignation. He will continue to finish his project on the Friends' new PC. Currently two new volunteers are being trained to work in Book Cellar. The Friends are receiving more large donations due to the completion of the parking lot project.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Acceptance of Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2024/2025**

Aimee Paradee and Cassidy Navigato from Lauterbach & Amen, LLP summarized the Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 and answered questions from the Board.

A motion to accept the Financial Report Fiscal Year 2024/2025 was made by Daunis, seconded by Valencia.

AYES: Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Armstrong

### **Approval of Ordinance 2025-3 – Tax Levy Ordinance**

Executive Director Mills reviewed the tax levy ordinance and reported that the levy is in the amount of \$11,262,106.

A motion to approve Ordinance 2025-3, Tax Levy Ordinance was made by Siska, seconded by Daunis.

AYES: Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Armstrong

### **Approval of Statement of Receipts and Disbursements Fiscal Year 2024/2025**

Mills reported that the Statement of Receipts and Disbursements is a summary of income and expenditures from the previous fiscal year. It is prepared by our Finance Department with information from our auditors and other sources.

A motion to approve the Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 was made by Daunis, seconded by Spindel.

AYES: Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Armstrong

### **Approval of Resolution 2025-9 – Resolution Regarding the Issuance of Non-Resident Library Cards**

Mills reported that the library needs to make the decision annually whether or not to participate in the non-resident reciprocal borrowing program. The proposed 2026 fee is \$646.49.

A motion to approve Resolution 2025-9, Resolution regarding the issuance of non-resident library cards was made by Daunis, seconded by Valencia.

AYES: Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Armstrong

## **Approval of Certified List of Trustees and Staff for Filing with Will and DuPage Counties for Statements of Economic Interests**

A motion to approve the certified list of Trustees and Staff for the Statements of Economic Interests for filing for both Will and DuPage Counties was made by Spindel, seconded by Daunis.

AYES: Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Armstrong

## **LIBRARY PROJECTS**

The parking lot project has been completed. Mills expressed his gratitude to the Village of Bolingbrook for providing extra parking for staff.

The digital sign project is paused while the existing foundation is evaluated.

The outdoor holiday lighting has been installed but will not be turned on until after Thanksgiving.

The interior lighting project is moving ahead with meetings.

The DCEO Grant project, which will provide new children's shelving and a book vending machine continues to move along as well. Staff are being trained on the vending machine before it is installed and implemented.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The library received a “What do you love about your library” letter from patron Emma M.

The Board received a copy of a State of Illinois Senate Resolution that was adopted by the Senate in October 2025.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's Report for October, 2025 was presented by Treasurer Spindel and will be filed for audit.

## **BILLS FOR APPROVAL**

### **Bills Paid Report – November 2025**

Bills paid for the month of Month in the amount of \$80,667.72 was presented for approval. A motion to approve was made by Daunis, seconded by Spindel.

AYES: Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Armstrong

### **Bills Payable Report – November 2025**

Bills payable for the month of Month in the amount of \$231,286.80 was presented for approval. A motion to approve was made by Daunis, seconded by Spindel.

AYES: Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Armstrong

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT – October 2025**

Mills thanked Jennie Nguyen and her team for their work on all of the financial documents discussed this evening.

Mills reported that the Libraries of Illinois Risk Agency met today and approved a favorable insurance renewal. Mills also shared that he was re-elected to the Executive Committee.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

## **REPORTS**

### **Building**

None.

### **Finance**

The Finance Liaisons met on November 13. Treasurer Spindel reviewed the reports.

### **Strategic Plan**

None.

### **Internal Board Operations**

None.

## **AGENDA BUILDING FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

A representative from Tria Architecture will present at the December Board Meeting.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Trustee Siska shared that the library is hosting The Kids Start-Up Market on Saturday, November 22 in Meeting Room A.

Trustee Alam extended thanks to the library for the Volunteer Open House event.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. was made by Spindel, seconded by Valencia.

AYES: Valencia, Spindel, Siska, Alam, Daunis, Bermejo

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Armstrong

/s/ Robert Armstrong  
Secretary, Board of Library Trustees  
FOUNTAINDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT  
WILL AND DUPAGE COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

/s/ Celeste M. Bermejo  
President, Board of Library Trustees  
FOUNTAINDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT  
WILL AND DUPAGE COUNTIES, ILLINOIS