

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting

April 15, 2025

The Geauga County Public Library Board of Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at the Geauga West Branch.

Call to order and roll call: President Karen Delano called the board meeting to order at 4:00 P.M. and the roll call was conducted.

Present: Kristen Brickman (4:02), Karen Delano, Josh Hutchinson, Crist Miller, Paul Newman, Kate Pitrone
Kris Carroll - Director, Lisa Havlin - Fiscal Officer

Also Present: Mary Balog, Nicole Burnside, Rachael Hartman, Dani Hollar, Denise Javins, John Johnston, Judy Lasco, Erika Noark, Mike Pope, Debbie Schrock and Jo Groh

Approval of Minutes: Exhibit 04/25/A
The minutes of the March regular board meeting were approved as presented upon motion by Kate Pitrone and seconded by Crist Miller.
The motion passed.

Communications: Exhibit 04/25/B
There were no additions to the communications included in the board packet.

Agenda: Exhibit 04/25/C
Josh Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Kate Pitrone, to approve the agenda as presented in the board packet.
The motion passed.

Ayes: Delano, Hutchinson, Miller, Newman, Pitrone
Nays: None

Kristen Brickman arrived at the meeting.

Fiscal Officer's Report: Exhibit 04/25/D
Approval of Disbursements and Gifts Exhibit 04/25/E
Paul Newman made a motion, seconded by Kate Pitrone, to approve the Fiscal Officer's Report including March disbursements and gifts as presented in the board packet. Lisa also added that the board members had received a draft copy of the recently completed Ohio Public Employees Retirement system audit.
The motion passed.

Ayes: Brickman, Delano, Hutchinson, Miller, Newman, Pitrone
Nays: None

Director's Report: Exhibit 04/25/F
Director Kris Carroll highlighted several items from her written report. Kris attended Legislative Day, but no local representatives were available to meet with library

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting

April 15, 2025

representatives. The CMR contract was sent to Regency with the requested changes but hasn't been returned yet. Community engagement for the Chardon project has been completed. Chardon's lift has been repaired, and the Geauga West roofing project has been completed. Kris and Debbie met with Dr Stoddard from Berkshire Local Schools to discuss his experience with capital campaigns.

Assistant Director's Report:

Exhibit 04/25/G

In the Assistant Director's absence, Kris shared highlights from Katy's report. Several new programs and updates took place on April 1st including the My Next Read program, moving study room reservations to an online form, the Digital Legacy Labs were fully available at all locations, and new Library of Things items were added.

Human Resources Report:

Exhibit 04/25/H

Human Resource Actions

Exhibit 04/25/I

Josh Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Paul Newman, to approve the Human Resource Actions including first quarter Outstanding Service Awards as presented in the board packet. The motion passed.

Ayes: Brickman, Delano, Hutchinson, Miller, Newman, Pitrone

Nays: None

Local Manager's Report

Gauga West building manager, Erika Noark introduced Outreach Librarian, Jo Groh. Jo discussed her first six months with the board, highlighting some of the updates she made to the outreach program. Jo worked with Mobile Services to learn what services were being offered and was able to streamline some procedures. She was also able to again provide services and programming to local care homes. Jo also shared the new outreach GCPL website page.

Committee Reports:

None

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Approval of Updates to Operating Policy 940 Support Groups

Exhibit 04/25/J

Kate Pitrone made a motion, seconded by Paul Newman, to approve the updates to Operating Policy 940 (previously OP 410) Support Groups.

The motion passed.

Ayes: Brickman, Delano, Hutchinson, Miller, Newman, Pitrone

Nays: None

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting

April 15, 2025

Approval of Updates to Operating Policy 515 Technology Use Exhibit 04/25/K

Paul Newman made a motion, seconded by Josh Hutchinson, to approve the updates to Operating Policy 515 Technology Use (previously Technology Privacy) as amended at the meeting to remove the phrase “and must receive prior approval by their supervisor or designee” from the subsection titled Appropriate Use.

The motion passed.

Ayes: Brickman, Delano, Hutchinson, Miller, Newman, Pitrone

Nays: None

Approval of Updates to Operating Policy 545 Animals in the Library Exhibit 04/25/L

Paul Newman made a motion, seconded by Kate Pitrone, to approve the updates to Operating Policy 545 Animals in the Library.

The motion passed.

Ayes: Brickman, Delano, Hutchinson, Miller, Newman, Pitrone

Nays: None

Approval to Delete Operating Policy 581 Bulletin Boards Exhibit 04/25/M

Josh Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Kate Pitrone, to approve the elimination of redundant Operating Policy 581 Bulletin Boards.

The motion passed.

Ayes: Brickman, Delano, Hutchinson, Miller, Newman, Pitrone

Nays: None

Approval of Operating Policy 731 Exhibit 04/25/N

Kate Pitrone made a motion, seconded by Paul Newman, to approve the updates to Operating Policy 731 Loan Periods, Renewals, Fines & Fees.

The motion passed.

Ayes: Brickman, Delano, Hutchinson, Miller, Newman, Pitrone

Nays: None

Approval of the Discard List Exhibit 02/25/ O

Kristen Brickman made a motion, seconded by Josh Hutchinson, to approve the discard list as presented in the board packet.

The motion passed.

Ayes: Brickman, Delano, Hutchinson, Miller, Newman, Pitrone

Nays: None

Board Development Exhibit 04/25/P

Kris shared information about the May 8th Trustee workshop and asked interested board members to contact her for registration. Kris also discussed state budget bill updates from the Ohio Library Council which include non-funding proposals that impact libraries such as **Library Materials**: The House budget requires public libraries to place material related to

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting

April 15, 2025

sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression in a portion of the library that is not primarily open to the view of minors. **Library Board Terms:** The House budget includes language that reduces the number of years a trustee serves from seven to four years. **Menstrual Products:** The House budget prohibits a government entity from placing menstrual products in men's restrooms. **County Budget Commission:** The House budget makes a change in the makeup of the County Budget Commission by removing county prosecutors and replacing them with a county commissioner.

Kris went on to discuss the results of the Chardon Online Community Survey that were included in the board packet. Josh questioned why three respondents reported that they did not feel welcome in the library. Kris and Kristen both shared that they had heard from parents that because of the limited space in the current Chardon branch, they did not feel welcome with their children in the library. Karen added that she heard from older patrons that they look forward to a quiet space in the new building. Kris offered to share the comments with the Board.

Foundation report:

Exhibit 04/25/Q

Development Coordinator Debbie Schrock reported that the 2025 Foundation mini golf event was a success with \$3,000 more collected than in 2024 and 40 additional participants. The Foundation will also be parking cars at the Maple Festival and the family drive-in is planned for Sunday, June 22nd.

Comments From the Public:

Chris Takas, League of Women Voters representative asked whether there was any discussion about House Bill 257 allowing virtual meetings. Kris replied that the board had not yet approved a virtual meeting policy. Chris also stated that the League was considering creating a book banning policy and asked for the library's policy. Kris replied that GCPL has a collection and Materials Selection policy and a Materials Reconsideration procedure and information for patrons. Both items would be available to Chris at the Geauga West reference desk.

Executive Session

Josh Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Kate Pitrone, to move to executive session to discuss the purchase or sale of property. The board invited Director Kris Carroll, Fiscal Officer, Lisa Havlin, and Library Representative, Larry Corbus to join them in Executive session.

The motion passed and the board moved to executive session at 4:31 pm.

Ayes: Brickman, Delano, Hutchinson, Miller, Newman, Pitrone

Nays: None

The board returned to regular session at 4:46 pm

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting

April 15, 2025

Adjournment:

Josh Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Kristen Brickman, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 4:46 P.M.

Karen Delano, President

Crist Miller, Secretary