

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
May 19, 2026

The Geauga County Public Library Board of Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at the Geauga West Branch.

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

Present: Karen Delano, Josh Hutchinson, Crist Miller, Paul Newman, Kate Pitrone
Kris Carroll – Director, Lisa Havlin - Fiscal Officer, Katy Farrell – Assistant Director

Also Present: Mary Balog, Nicole Burnside, Rachael Hartman, Dani Hollar, Denise Javins, John Johnston, Erika Noark, Marlene Pelyhes, Mike Pope, Debbie Schrock

Guests: Herby Wilson

Approval of Minutes: Exhibit 05/26/A
The minutes of the April regular board meeting were approved as presented upon motion by Kate Pitrone and seconded by Paul Newman.
The motion passed.

Communications: Exhibit 05/26/B
There were no additions to the communications included in the board packet.

Agenda: Exhibit 05/26/C
Kate Pitrone made a motion, seconded by Paul Newman, to approve the agenda as amended to add Item 17 Executive Session.
The motion passed.

Fiscal Officer's Report: Exhibit 05/26/D
Approval of Disbursements and Gifts Exhibit 05/26/E
Josh Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Paul Newman, to approve the Fiscal Officer's Report including April disbursements and gifts as presented in the board packet.
The motion passed.

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

Director's Report: Exhibit 05/26/F
Approval of Tuition Reimbursements
Josh Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Kate Pitrone, to approve the tuition reimbursement requests as presented in the board packet.
The motion passed.

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

Olivia St. James	MLIS
Kent State University	\$635.50

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
May 19, 2026

LIS-60030-010	People in the Information Ecology
Jonathon Kopp	MLIS
Kent State University	\$1271.00
LIS-60608-020	The Public Library
Allison Rankin	MLIS
Kent State University	\$1271.00
LIS-60030-010	People in the Information Ecology

Kris reported that the county Commissioners had approved the purchase of the Administrative Building. The closing will be in four to six weeks.

Assistant Director's Report:

Exhibit 05/26/G

Katy reminded the board that summer reading will start on June 1st. The theme this year is Stars and Stories. The summer reading kickoff at the fairgrounds will be June 6 with some unique opportunities such as a visit from and photo opportunities with Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln.

Human Resources Report:

Exhibit 05/26/H

Human Resource Actions

Exhibit 05/26/I

Paul Newman made a motion, seconded by Josh Hutchinson, to approve the Human Resource Actions.

Ayes: Delano, Hutchinson, Miller, Newman, Pitrone

Nays: None

Local Manager's Report:

Erika Noark, Geauga West Branch Manager, shared the branch's America 250 summer programs. Planned programs include Plants at War, Daring Through the Decades, All-America Sips and various youth and family programs.

Committee Reports:

None

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Approval of Resolution 26-01 Bond Refunding

Exhibit 05/26/J

Paul Newman made a motion, seconded by Kate Pitrone to approve Resolution 26-01 Bond Refunding as presented in the board packet and discussed in the combined Finance and Facilities Committee meeting.

The motion passed

Ayes: Delano, Hutchinson, Miller, Newman, Pitrone

Nays: None

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
May 19, 2026

Approval of Resolution 26-02 PLF Notes

Exhibit 05/26/K

Paul Newman made a motion, seconded by Josh Hutchinson, to approve Resolution 26-02 PLF Notes as presented in the board packet and discussed in the combined Finance and Facilities Committee meeting.
The motion passed

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

Approval of Resolution 26-03 Post-Issuance Compliance Policy

Exhibit 05/26/L

Paul Newman made a motion, seconded by Josh Hutchinson, to approve Resolution 26-03 Post-Issuance Compliance Policy as presented in the board packet and discussed in the combined Finance and Facilities Committee meeting.
The motion passed

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

May Discard List

Exhibit 05/26/M

Josh Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Kate Pitrone, to approve the discard of items as presented in the board packet.
The motion passed.

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

Board Development:

Kris shared updates on Library Board member appointment terms. There is some confusion of how to implement the recent changes to Ohio Revised Code and the change in length of board terms from seven years to four years. Kris has been in touch with the county prosecutor who informed Kris that the current appointment should be for four years. Delaware County has asked for an Ohio Attorney General opinion to address how to implement the change which will be shared when received.

Foundation Report:

Exhibit 05/26/N

Debbie Schrock reported that April and May have been busy for Foundation and Friends members. The Friends had a book sale at the Chardon Branch during the Maple Festival raising \$1,765. In May, they also sponsored a book donation drive-thru that had 70 cars dropping off books for future book sales. Foundation members parked cars at the Maple Festival and raised nearly \$2,000.

Comments From the Public

Herby Wilson addressed the board with comments concerning construction elements of the library system's current branches. Mr. Wilson asked the board to consider the long-term expense of the proposed design elements of the new Chardon branch. Mr. Wilson reminded the board that they have a duty to spend public funds wisely. Board President, Crist Miller, thanked Mr. Wilson for his comments.

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
May 19, 2026

Executive Session

Kate Pitrone made a motion, seconded by Paul Newman, to move to executive session to consider the sale or purchase of property.

The motion passed and the board moved to executive session at 4:24 pm.

Ayes: Delano, Hutchinson, Miller, Newman, Pitrone

Nays: None

President Crist Miller called the meeting to order and the board returned to regular session at 4:29 pm.

Approval to Negotiate Resolution 24-04

Paul Newman made a motion, seconded by Josh Hutchinson, to approve a resolution authorizing the Director and Fiscal Officer to conduct negotiations with New Covenant Fellowship regarding the potential sale of the Chardon Branch property.

The motion passed.

Ayes: Delano, Hutchinson, Miller, Newman, Pitrone

Nays: None

Adjournment

Josh Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Paul Newman, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Crist Miller, President

Kristen Brickman, Secretary