MORTON PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
May 14, 2025

ROLL CALL
The Morton Public Library District Board meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. Director Williams and board members Turner, Gryl, Hilliard, Mousty, and Ropp were present. Members Riesberg and Thompson were absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None

MINUTES
The minutes from the April 16, 2025 board meeting were approved as submitted.

OATH OF OFFICE
Scott Mousty was sworn in as a newly elected member of the Board of Trustees.

BOARD OF OFFICER ELECTIONS
Nominations for officers were as follows: Laura Turner, president; Tracy Hilliard, vice president; Heather Thompson, secretary; and Kim Gryl, treasurer.

Ropp moved and Mousty seconded to approve the nominations for elected officers. The motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT
Treasurer Gryl reported that the Better Banks CD was renewed on April 24, 2025 at 4.19%. The Goodfield Bank CD was cashed in and put into the ISC account at Better Banks. Director Williams is keeping a close eye on spending as the fiscal year comes to an end. The library received donations through Caterpillar's Match Day, and donation forms highlighting the Endowment Fund will be included in the Summer Reading Program's gift bags.

Turner moved and Hilliard seconded that the May bills be paid. A roll call vote was held. The motion carried unanimously.

May 14, 2025		
Invoices Paid		$52,156.38
Ameren Illinois		344.52
I3 Broadband		396.66
Morton Utilities		344.00
Total Bills:		$53,241.56
Director		$ 7,620.63

Staff		40,468.17
Payroll Total:		$45,080.62
Employer IMRF		$ 4.840.70
Employer FICA		$ 3,678.78

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Williams highlighted capital projects that were completed this year at the library: new furniture purchases throughout the library, rearrangement of shelving, and the purchase of new chairs and tables for the Reuling Room. No large-scale capital projects are planned for the next two years. Looking ahead at a financial forecast for the library, Director Williams wants to maintain a healthy cash balance. Currently, the library has a cash balance of $775,000 in CDs, and the special reserve fund of $746,797.38 is designated for capital improvements.

Director Williams presented a basic draft for the next fiscal year. No major changes are planned; small increases to some line items are necessary to account for cost fluctuations. Williams plans to lower some capital and furniture line items in order to increase the salary budget. Replacement tax income will be lower in the upcoming fiscal year, but revenue from the community foundation grants will increase.

The Summer Reading Program will hold a kick-off event on May 23, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. Emma Roth and Ashley Valerio have traveled to all Morton schools to encourage participation. Publicity for Groove in the Garden concerts has begun. Ten concerts will be held in celebration of the tenth anniversary of Hannah's Reading Garden. Thank you to Better Banks, Mike Murphy Ford, and Alltrust Financial for sponsoring all ten concerts. The library is partnering with Grimm's Inc. to create t-shirts, blankets, and other promotional merchandise to sell at summer events. Director Williams is celebrating her tenth anniversary as Director of the Morton Public Library.

In regard to the summer reading program, the teen program will use bookmarks this year to transition from the child to adult program.

NEW BUSINESS

Gryl moved and Hilliard seconded to approve the Non Resident Card Fee and Participation. The motion carried unanimously. The non-resident card fee will remain at $142.

Conduct Policy 24-4 was updated to reflect the library's new mission statement. Two changes were made in regard to food and attire. Snacks and drinks are allowed in the library, but food cannot be delivered to the library public areas. Shoes are required in the library at all times. **Ropp moved and Gryl seconded to approve the changes to Conduct Policy 24-4. The motion carried unanimously.**

Director Williams met with the collection development team to discuss the distribution of $14,000 from the Book Endowment Fund at the Morton Community Foundation. The library will purchase a current edition of World Book Encyclopedias and update the presidential biography section for the youth service collection. Money has also been designated to improve Libby services and the large print, classics, and mystery selections. **Gryl moved and Mousty seconded to approve the Book Foundation Distribution 2025 as printed. The motion carried unanimously.**

Changes were made to the Holiday Section of the Personnel Policy. Days for the Library to be closed will be set at the October Board meeting instead of the November meeting. Staff who are scheduled to work on holidays will be compensated at a rate of 1.5 times their regular pay for the hours worked. **Ropp moved and Turner seconded to approve the amendments to the Holiday Section of the Personnel Policy. The motion carried unanimously.**

Gryl moved and Hilliard seconded the disposal of furniture as printed. The motion carried unanimously. The new furniture for the Reuling Room will be delivered in June.

OLD BUSINESS
Last month, the Board discussed employing a Business or Executive Coach for Director Williams. The strategic plan focuses on building a strong internal, collaborative culture; therefore, President Turner suggested that the Board of Trustees shift their search from an individual Business Coach to a consultant or facilitator to work with the staff as a whole.

OTHER BUSINESS
None

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Ropp

The next meeting will be held on June 11, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.