

MORTON PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
April 15, 2026

ROLL CALL

The Morton Public Library District Board meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm. Director Williams and board members, Turner, Hilliard, Riesberg, Klopfenstein and Thompson were present. Ropp was absent. Mousty joined the meeting at 4:42 pm.

New Board Member and Trustee Patrick Klopfenstein took the Oath of Office.

MINUTES

The minutes from the March 18, 2026, Regular Board Meeting and the Special Meeting were approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mousty continues to seek the best rates for the Better Banks CDs that are coming due in the next weeks. The board reviewed the third quarter R & E report. Total spending is on track with the budget and 95.1% of revenue has been received for the fiscal year. **Turner moved, and Mousty seconded that the April bills be paid. A roll call vote was held. The motion carried unanimously.**

Month Year		
Invoices Paid		\$46,428.68
Ameren Illinois		392.48
I3 Broadband		389.05
Morton Utilities		557.75
Total Bills:		\$47,767.96
Director		7,245.47
Staff		41,575.98
Payroll Total:		\$48,821.45
Employer IMRF		\$4,687.25
Employer FICA		\$3,734.85

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Williams provided the board with an updated pictorial directory of the MPL staff. Williams presented at the Morton Forecast Breakfast on April 14th and Ropp attended as a board member. Williams advised the community about the Groove in the Garden schedule, the impact of continued increases in e-book pricing, and why our legislators should support the e-book bill.

The board discussed visiting the Bloomington and Normal libraries in preparation for a possible building renovation. The board understands the implications of the Open Meetings Act and will proceed within those parameters. Williams will reach out to those libraries for possible dates, and the visit will be noticed as a special board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Hilliard moved and Thompson seconded to keep all Closed Session minutes closed as listed in the board packet. The motion carried unanimously.

Thompson moved and Turner seconded to dispose of the Closed Session recordings as listed in the board packet. The motion carried unanimously.

The board discussed the Intergovernmental Agreement with Morton 709 School District, which ensures that students and teachers living outside a library district may receive a library card. Teacher Library Cards allow teachers to check out materials for up to six weeks without fines and also provides delivery of materials to the school offices. The number of Teacher Cards issued has increased from 15 to 55. In addition, 642 items were delivered last school year, and more than 1800 materials were delivered already this school year. **Turner moved and Riesberg seconded to renew the Intergovernmental Agreement with District 709. The motion carried unanimously.**

Thompson moved and Klopfenstein seconded to renew the Agreement for Library Services with Bethel Lutheran School. The motion carried unanimously.

Williams presented, and the board reviewed a variety of budget sources for a building project. The board discussed utilizing a professional fundraiser if the plan is to rely on fundraising for a significant portion of the cost of a building project. The board will continue to discuss what might be included in a building renovation and how to fund it.

The board reviewed proposed changes to the Materials Selection Policy, which included new language to address AI. **Tuner moved and Hilliard seconded to approve the updated Materials Selection Policy. The motion carried unanimously.**

The board continued its discussion of the increasing costs of digital materials and how best to manage these costs. The matter was tabled until the May board meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

The board finalized plans for Staff Appreciation Week. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather W. Thompson, Secretary

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 4:30 pm at Freedom Hall Small Meeting Room.