

MORTON PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
May 13th, 2026
Freedom Hall

ROLL CALL

The Morton Public Library District Board meeting was called to order at 4:37 pm. Director Williams and board members, Turner, Riesberg, Klopfenstein and Thompson were present. Ropp and Hilliard were absent. Mousty joined the meeting at 4:50 pm.

MINUTES

The minutes from the April 15, 2026 Regular Board Meeting were approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Williams noted that replacement taxes received this fiscal year will likely be less than budgeted. In addition, the total cost of books will likely be over budget, due to the rising costs of Hoopla and demand for e-books and audio books. After discussion, the board agreed to continue to make book purchases on the planned timeline, understanding that expenditures will be over budget in this line item. Overall, total expenditures will be within the budget. Beginning in July, all e-book and audiobook purchases will appear in the "non-print" line item for ease of tracking expenditures in this category.

Treasurer Mousty reported that he and Director Williams met to discuss the Draft Budget which will be reviewed by the board next month. He continues to seek the best rates for CDs that will mature in the next weeks. In light of upcoming retirements, the board reviewed the IMRF statement. **Turner moved and Mousty seconded that the May bills be paid. A roll call vote was held. The motion carried unanimously.**

May 2026		
Invoices Paid		\$ 47,506.47
Ameren Illinois		313.27
I3 Broadband		389.98
Morton Utilities		414.14
Total Bills:		\$ 48,623.86
Director		7,245.46
Staff		41,562.71
Payroll Total:		\$ 48,808.17
Employer IMRF		\$ 4,694.83
Employer FICA		\$ 3,733.88

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Williams reported that Summer Reading kick off will occur Friday, May 22nd. This year's goal is to have 900 elementary school sign-ups. Those readers will celebrate with a pool party on July 20th. The park district will host two sessions to accommodate the large number of participants. The YA summer readers will have a campfire and archery party hosted at Bethel Lutheran School on July 20th. Adult Summer Readers can choose from two start times for the mini-golf party hosted at the library on Friday, July 24th. This will include book give aways, food sponsored by Eli's and will be followed by a Groove in the Garden concert.

Williams made some changes to the Hoopla services, including deleting foreign language selections, AI generated material, and any titles that are available on other platforms. These changes led to some minimal savings. Overall, the costs have increased by 30% over a 12-month period, and if it stays at the current level, Hoopla will cost approximately \$65,000 annually.

NEW BUSINESS

The board discussed outsourcing bookkeeping and payroll duties as the current employee performing these duties is retiring. The total cost of these services will be approximately \$8,000 annually. **Turner moved and Riesberg seconded to approve a bookkeeping and payroll agreement with CLA effective July 1st. A roll call vote was held. The motion carried unanimously.**

The board reviewed revisions to Personnel Policies and Procedures. Significant changes include an update to the tuition reimbursement policy and the "floating holiday". **Mousty moved and Klopfenstein seconded to approve the updates to the Personnel Policies and Procedures as presented in the board packet and further amended in the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.**

Thompson moved and Riesberg seconded to approve the Book Endowment Fund Distributions as indicated in the board packet. The motion carried unanimously.

Turner moved and Thompson seconded to approve closing at 4 pm on August 12th for training. The motion carried unanimously.

The board discussed the Building Wishlist which was generated from the Community Survey as well as staff priorities.

OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather W. Thompson, Secretary

The board will conduct site visits beginning with Normal Public Library at 4 pm on June 3, 2026. The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Wednesday June 17, 2026 at 4:30 pm.