MORTON PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
Board Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2026

ROLL CALL
The Morton Public Library District Board meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm. Director Williams and board members, Hilliard, Riesberg, Klopfenstein, Mousty, Schieferle-Uhlenbrock and Thompson were present. Turner was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Joe Privett from the Fox Creek HOA made an appearance to speak against the library's change to the reservation policy for use of the meeting room.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT
There is no official Treasurer's Report as the audit is currently underway. The board reviewed the FY25-26 Revenue and Expenditure Summary. Although some line items were slightly overspent, the total operating expenses were under the budget. **Mousty moved and Klopfenstein seconded that the August bills be paid. A roll call vote was held. The motion carried unanimously.**

Total for the August bills: $43,050.37

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Director Williams advised the board that her husband has been diagnosed with a serious medical condition. She will keep the board apprised as to the impact this may have on her ability to be physically present at times; however, she assured the board that between the library staff and being able to work remotely when necessary, the day to day business of the library will continue without disruption.

It was another banner year for Summer Reading. Overall participation and teen participation increased. Elementary age participation was down, however that reflects the decrease in the elementary school age population in Morton. The library fielded a number of responses to the notification regarding the cancellation of Hoopla services. While a couple of the responses were negative, more were appreciative of the explanation as to why the service was being discontinued. Library staff have been versed on talking points to address questions or concerns. The ILA conference Trustee Day will be on October 8th in Peoria. Williams asked board members to let her know if they would like to attend.

NEW BUSINESS

Thompson moved and Mousty seconded to approve Levy Ordinance No. 26-3. The motion carried unanimously.

Klopfenstein moved and Hilliard seconded to approve the FOIA Ordinance 26-5. The motion carried unanimously.

The board discussed the Architect RFQ submissions for concept design services for a renovation and expansion of the library. The board reviewed submissions from six firms; Klopfenstein provided a spreadsheet detailing initial board responses to each submission. **Klopfenstein moved and Hilliard seconded to invite Dewberry, Product Architects, Studio GC, and Williams Architects to interview. The motion carried unanimously.** Board members Klopfenstein, Riesberg, Turner and Thompson will attend the interview process with Williams and possibly another library staff person. Interviews will be scheduled for the week of September 8th, with interviews beginning at 4 pm.

OTHER BUSINESS

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather W. Thompson, Secretary

The next meeting will be held September 23, 2026 at 4:30 pm.

REMINDER: A new board photo will be taken at 4:00 pm in Hannah's Reading Garden, immediately prior to the September board meeting. Board members are asked to wear an MPL t-shirt of their choice.