

HOWELL CARNEGIE DISTRICT LIBRARY
Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes of August 11, 2026

President Kathryn Tuck called the regular meeting of the Howell Carnegie District Library to order at 7:00 pm.

Bob Ellis moved to approve the agenda as presented. Susan Pominville seconded, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved.

Members present: Bob Ellis, Susan Pominville, Jacob Schlittler, Kathryn Tuck, Lauren Weber, and Heather White. Library Director Holly Ward Lamb and Thomas Dillon of Foster Swift Collins & Smith, Attorneys, were present. Two members of the public also attended.

Member(s) absent: Jennifer Earl.

Susan Pominville moved to excuse Jennifer Earl's absence. Bob Ellis seconded, and a quorum of the board approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

- At 7:01 pm, Bob Ellis moved that the board enter closed session to discuss pending litigation in *Howell Carnegie District Library v. City of Howell, Michigan Tax Tribunal Docket Number 24-003163*. Jacob Schlittler seconded, and the board was polled. All board members, except Jacob Schlittler, who abstained, approved.
- Jacob Schlittler recused himself from the closed session because he is a current member of the City of Howell's council.
- Kathryn Tuck reconvened the open session at 7:35 pm.

After discussing the pending tax litigation involving the City of Howell with counsel, Bob Ellis moved that the board approve the litigation and settlement strategy proposed by counsel and authorize counsel to take action consistent with that strategy. Heather White seconded, and a quorum of the board approved. Jacob Schlittler abstained.

Bob Ellis moved to approve the **consent agenda** as presented, including **a) Minutes of July 14, 2026, b) Bills & Payrolls, including the payment**

register dated 07/01/2026 through 07/31/2026 for the amount of \$251,640.72, c) Resolution 26-17 Authorizing Operating Millage for 2026; Board Training Topics; Board of Trustees Standing Committees 2026-2027; Updated Capital Asset Policy. Susan Pominville seconded, and the board was polled. All board members approved.

Comments from the Public: None.

President Kathryn Tuck reported that dates and information for the upcoming Michigan Library Association have been released and encouraged trustees to attend, if possible, for their own development as trustees. Director Lamb will send the information to all trustees, and library staff will register anyone who wishes to attend. President Tuck also noted that, as a member of the Friends of the Library, she will be working at the Melonfest Book Sale later in the week, and invited the trustees to attend.

The treasurer's report is part of the library board packet. Treasurer Bob Ellis reviewed the report with the board. Since no action is required, the report is filed.

No **committee meetings** were held in July.

Director Holly Ward Lamb noted that the library is one of the emergency shelters for the west end of town on Saturday and Sunday during the Melon Festival. In preparation, she has reviewed all of the library's emergency procedures.

ACTION ITEMS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS, cont.

- Bob Ellis moved to approve a purchase agreement with ThermalNetics for preventive maintenance for the amount of \$17,776.09. Lauren Weber seconded, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION

- The trustees completed their annual review of the board bylaws before the meeting. There were no questions for discussion.
- The trustees performed their annual review of the Ethics Policy. There were no questions for discussion.
- The trustees reviewed the process for appraising the library director's performance. There were no questions for discussion. Director Lamb stated that the appraisal no longer references the three-year budget plan.
- Service Spotlight: Melonfest Book Sale

IN-SERVICE TRAINING

Board Orientation Part 2 presented by Director Lamb.

COMMENTS & CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

Lauren Weber said she attended the “Raise Your Own Luna Moth” event at the library on August 4 and thought it was wonderful.

Without objection, President Kathryn Tuck adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Kathleen Murray, Recording Secretary