



**Hudson Area Public Library  
Library Board of Trustees  
Meeting Minutes  
August 19, 2025**

- 1. Call to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Paul Berning. Roll call, certification of quorum, certification of compliance with WI open meeting laws and public records laws, introduction of visitors and guests.**

Board members present: Paul Berning, Barb Peterson, Gerry Klecker, Bryan Wells, Sammi Dittloff (zoom), Jim Dalluhn, Bill Fehrenbach, Chad Wiertzema, Rich O'Connor

Board members absent: none

Staff: Jamie Smith, Shelley Tougas

Visitors: Annie Goldberg

- 2. Citizen Comments**

None

- 3. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Consent Agenda Items**

Motion by Fehrenbach to approve consent agenda items a-d

Second by Wells

Discussion: None

**Vote Taken: MOTION CARRIED - 9 Ayes/0 Nays**

- 4. Presentations**

Friends of the Library: Tougas reported for the Friends and said they have approved a grant to send Tougas and Michelle Saifullah to a nonprofit storytelling/marketing conference. It will be covered in full.

Foundation: Klecker and Peterson reported that fundraising for the building is progressing with establishing donors and committees. There is a plan to establish staffing now in order to be ready for the coming expansion.

- 5. Updates/Reports**

President: Berning discussed the need to plan for staffing a larger building and whether the Foundation will be needed to cover additional costs. Nothing reported from the county level.

City of Hudson: O'Connor reported that they are working on the city budget and evaluating all the department requests. Levy limits pose significant challenges

School district: Dalluhn stated that school resumes a week from today.

## 6. Committee Updates

Policy and Personnel: Peterson reported that she and Smith met two times to draft the 360-degree review process for Tougas's annual performance evaluation. This will then go to PPC for further development.

Finance: Wells said they had their meeting and bill payment was approved.

AI Library Integration: Dittloff said the committee didn't have a quorum so didn't meet.

## 7. Director's Report

The written report was presented by Tougas. This report can be found in the LBOT packet dated 8/19/2025.

## 8. PRESENTATION: Research-based Youth Department

Annie Goldberg presented on what she learned after taking a class on the library's role in playful learning for young children. This includes brain development, the foundations of play, the importance of face to face interaction, a strong foundation, and forming early literacy tools.

## 9. PRESENTATION: Budget Revenue Report

Tougas presented via slideshow the 2023-2026 budget comparison covering funding from the county and city as well as grants, and how our level of funding got to the point where it is.

## 10. DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEM: Approval of proposed 2026 budget

Discussion was held about the library's 2026 funding and budget. Dynamics are still playing out and upcoming meetings will help determine the city budget. This will be revisited in September.

## 11. Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn at 8:41pm by Dalluhn

Second by Peterson

**Vote Taken: MOTION CARRIED – 9 Ayes/0 Nay**

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Smith