

LaGrange County Public Library Board Meeting  
Wednesday, January 21, 2026  
**LaGrange County Public Library**  
**Main Library Community Room**  
**203 W. Spring St., LaGrange, IN 46761**

Board members present: Jody Blake, Shannon Chavis, Daniel Hobbs, Rita Lehner, Sam Plew, Maranda Randol, Gloria Sherwood.

Others present: Anna Mendoza, Deb Gulley, Jerry White

**Board President Jody Blake called the election meeting of the Library Board to order at 5:35 p.m.**

Jody called for nominations for 2026 President of the board. **Maranda nominated Dan as president. Rita seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote of the board with no further discussion.**

Jody called for nominations for 2026 Vice President of the board. **Gloria nominated Sam. Rita seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote of the board with no further discussion.**

Jody called for nominations for 2026 Secretary of the board. **Sam nominated Shannon. Rita seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote of the board with no further discussion.**

It was suggested that the new board by-laws include the ability of the board to appoint a recording secretary. The recording secretary will provide the board secretary with attendance and any other information that is required.

At this time Jody closed the election meeting of the board and turned over the regular meeting of the board to newly elected president Dan Hobbs.

**Board President Dan Hobbs called the regular meeting of the Library Board to order.**

Dan called for a review of the December minutes. **Rita made a motion to approve the minutes of the December meeting as written. Sam seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote of the board with no further discussion.**

**Public Comments:** None

**Treasurer's Report:** Anna reviewed the fund balances report (attached). Anna reported that the Board Treasurer will be attending tonight's meeting, but is running late. When she arrives, the board will convene into the meeting for the financial review of 2025 balances.

**Reports and Claims:** Anna presented reports and claims. Claims included checks 31198 through 31256 written out of the Operating account, and check 1215 written out of the Gift account, and checks 1056 through 1065 written out of the Grant account for total disbursements of \$499,714.36 Anna noted that the amount is significantly higher than normal due to the bond payment, final payment to Schrock Commercial for Shishewana construction, and payment to KPC Architectural Products for Shishewana shelving. She also reported that the Shishewana construction is complete and paid in full. **Sam made a motion to approve the Reports and Claims as presented. Jody seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote of the board with no further discussion.**

**Director's Report:**

- Shishewana: the new door is hung and exterior siding complete. That completes the construction project. The balance of the new shelving will be shipping February 6. Once that is received and set, the total project will be finished.
- The Financial Report for 2025 is in process. It is due by the end of March.
- The 2026 Budget Order has been received, specifying the amount of monies to be received from the County. (attached)

- A quote from the Havel company is forthcoming to take over maintenance on the branches, in addition to servicing the Main Library. The company currently used for the branches has not been quickly responsive to problems. If Havel assumes responsibility for the branches, all properties will be under the same provider and contract.
- A resolution was presented to approve the annual clean-up of accounts. Sam made a motion to accept the resolution. Maranda seconded. **Motion approved by unanimous voice vote of the board with no further discussion.**
- The Capital Assets Policy and Asset Inventory was presented. This is a report requested by the State Board of Accounts.
- The statistical report was presented.
- The staffing report was presented.
- There was a discussion held regarding the Genealogy room of the Main Library. Rita noted that some tables and shelved items had been removed. Anna reported that the tables were moved to the study rooms in Shipshewana, still leaving 4 sets of tables and chairs in Genealogy. The shelved items are currently being properly cataloged for the department.
- Dan inquired about a breakdown of the genre of books purchased by the library for the collection. He would like to see a report.

**Hiring Committee Report:** The committee is still in the process of the decision of the new director. Another meeting will be scheduled tonight for a later date.

**Personnel Committee Report:** Nothing to report.

**Facilities Committee Report:** Nothing to report.

**Policy & Procedures Committee Report:** Nothing to report.

**Correspondence to the Board:** The PLAC report was passed to be signed by board members. None were sold this period.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

**At 6:11 p.m. Rita made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Sam seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote of the board with no further discussion.**

**Board President Dan Hobbs call the 2025 Financial Meeting of the board to order at 6:12 p.m.**

Board Treasurer Sarah Walker presented her reports. She noted that the corrected final 2025 report will be emailed to all board members within the next week. It is due to the state by the end of January.

Sarah reported that the INTrust CD is doing well, with over \$700,00.00 in the account currently. The board has capped the account at \$1 million, so she recommends moving excess funds in the General Account to the Trust, and will be doing that in the near future. Those funds can always be returned to the General Account with out penalty if needed. It was also noted that the interest rate has dropped from the original rate, but is still competitive with other institutions. It was agreed that the board should investigate the interest rates annually for any more profitable options.

After discussion of the various account balances, **Jody made a motion to move \$187,000.00 from the General Fund to the Rainy Day Fund as of December to be included in the 2025 report. Maranda seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote of the board with no further discussion.**

The schedule for Sarah's attendance at board meetings in 2026 was discussed. She will plan to also attend the March, August, and December regular board meetings in 2026.

**Gloria made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Sam seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote of the board with no further discussion.**

**At 6:42 p.m. Rita made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sam seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote of the board with no further discussion.**

Through agreement of the board, future regular board meetings will be held the third Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the board will be held Wednesday, February 18 at 5:00 p.m. at the LaGrange Main Library.

*Minutes written and submitted by Debra Gulley, Recording Secretary*

---

Jody Blake: \_\_\_\_\_

Shannon Chavis: \_\_\_\_\_

Dan Hobbs: \_\_\_\_\_

Rita Lehner: \_\_\_\_\_

Maranda Randol: \_\_\_\_\_

Sam Plew: \_\_\_\_\_

Gloria Sherwood: \_\_\_\_\_