

Minutes of Marshall Library Board – July 9, 2025

Call to Order:

The Marshall Public Library Board of Trustees met in regular session on Wednesday, July 9, 2025. Treasurer Jenn Smitley called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. Board members present were Janet Hasten, Bob Nelson, Steve Schofield, Jenn Smitley, and Melissa Strait. Alyson Thompson, Director and Jamie Poorman, Head Librarian, were also present. Mike Cameron, Jody Green, John Tarble, and Herman Wallace were absent.

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed by the trustees.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Correspondence:

Rosemary Lutz Wilson thanked the library for sending a copy of an obituary notice for one of her family members. She included a \$25.00 donation with her note. A thank you note was received from the Clark County Democrats, along with a \$300.00 donation. Jerry Forsythe had handwritten a greeting on a copy of a letter he had received from Alyson. He included a \$10,000.00 check to fund the Dolly Parton Imagination Library with his note.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes from the June 11, 2025, meeting were reviewed. On a motion by Melissa, seconded by Steve, the minutes were approved.

Officers' Reports:

There were no officers' reports.

Presentation of Bills:

The invoices on the July bill listing were reviewed. There were no add-ons this month. On a motion by Melissa, seconded by Steve, payment of bills in the amount of \$5,209.05 were approved. A roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows: Steve – yes; Melissa – yes; Jenn – yes; Bob – yes; Janet -- yes

Librarian's Report:

Jamie presented the Librarian's Report for June. Patron registration increased by 33 and total circulation was 3,260. Jamie noted that Facebook views were almost 51,000 and Flickr was just over 10,000. She noted that summer reading is going very well. She and Alyson were also very pleased with the expansion of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library county-wide. This expansion has sparked a new spirit of collaboration among libraries in Clark County. Marshall currently has 287 active participants in DPIL, with 1,097 children who have "graduated" from the program.

Friends of the Library Report:

The Friends of the Library met on July 2, 2025. They voted to sponsor the summer reading Spoon Man program. They also discussed their role as administrators of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library and the Garcia Scholarships. Their next meeting will be September 10, 2025, at 5:00 pm.

Marshall Area Public Library District Report:

The Area District met on June 24, 2025. Attorney Rich Bernardoni presented the previous year's Tax Levy to the board to help determine "this year's Levy" based on 2025 EAV. The Area District will enter Truth in Taxation due to rising EAV totals, which have created an increase of more than 5% year over year. Their next meeting will be on August 26, 2025, at 4:30 pm.

Director's Report:

Alyson updated the trustees on several events and activities in June. Alyson was notified on June 19 that we had been awarded the ISL Technology Grant for \$12,500. This will help offset the Hyder Tech costs. MPL has also received the EIU

Digital Equity Grant for \$12,000; however, this grant is contingent on EIU receiving funding for it. Alyson submitted the MPL IPLAR to the Illinois State Library on 6/25. The Per Capita Grant awards were received on 6/30: MPL was granted \$5,657 and the MAPLD received \$5,822. West and Co. has initiated their fiscal audit, with documentation presented to them on 6/26. A new event, a Semi-Annual Book Sale, has been scheduled for August 19-30 in the Illinois Room. At the end of June, the Library accounts held \$60,842.59 in Operations, \$10,000.00 in Retirement and \$10,000.00 in Special Reserves, for a total of \$80,842.59.

Old Business:

Board members received the new Courtesy Card Policy to be placed in their binders.

New Business:

- On a motion by Melissa, seconded by Steve, the Board set the Non-Resident Card Fee at \$130.00.
- On a motion by Melissa, seconded by Steve, a modification was approved to the Patron Behavior Policy. Item #5 was added in the section on Unattended Children. It reads as follows: "Children younger than 8 years old must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or responsible caregiver when using the library elevator."

Other Business:

Board members were asked to sign up for the Annual Library Tour which will be at the Twelve Points Branch of the Vigo County Public Library on August 13, 2025. Departure will be at 5:00 p.m. A Dutch treat dinner at Piloni's Restaurant will follow the tour.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 on a motion by Steve, seconded by Melissa.

Next meeting will be on August 13, 2025, at 6:00 pm at Piloni's Italian Restaurant, 1733 Lafayette Avenue, Terre Haute, IN 47804.

Janet Hasten, Secretary