

MINUTES OF THE MARSHALL PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD – August 12, 2026

Call to Order: The Marshall Public Library Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at the Original Burger King in Mattoon, Illinois following our tour of the Mattoon Public Library and History Center. President John Tarble called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m. CDT. Board members present were Devon Burkybile, Mike Cameron, Janet Hasten, and Herman Wallace. Director Alyson Thompson, Head Librarian Jamie Poorman and Library Clerks, Edie Breneman, Stacey Dunn, and Sarah Martin were also present. Jody Green, Jenn Smitley, Melissa Strait, and Steve Schofield were absent.

Public Comment:

Correspondence:

Several items of correspondence had been received. These included:

- Thank you notes from Tina Maurer, the Clark County Democrats, and Audra Cottrell, the state representative for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library
- A letter from Steve Schofield stating that they were moving out of the area. Therefore, he would need to resign as a member of our trustee board.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the July 8, 2026, meeting were reviewed. On a motion by Herman, seconded by Devon, the minutes were approved as presented.

Officer's Reports:

Presentation of the Bills: The invoices on the August bill listing were reviewed. On a motion by Mike, seconded by Herman, payment of bills in the amount of \$24,867.96, plus one add-on for \$100.00 (for staff development guest speaker Janet Cler) was approved with the roll call votes being recorded as follows: John—yes; Mike—yes; Herman—yes; Devon—yes; Janet—yes.

Librarian's Report: Jamie reviewed her report for July 2026. See her report for a detailed listing of topics. Highlights included:

- The summer reading program had the highest number of reading minutes on record.
- A flyer was in our packet that outlined other data from the summer reading program.

Friends of the Library: The Friends had not met since our previous meeting. Their next meeting is scheduled for September 3, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the library.

Marshall Area Public Library District Report: The Area District had not met since our previous meeting. Alyson mentioned in her report that the MAPLD was covering the cost of renovations to her office. Their next meeting is scheduled for August 25, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. at the library.

Director's Report: Alyson reviewed her report for July 2026. See her report for a detailed listing of topics. Highlights included:

- She mentioned that she was having difficulty getting in touch with the insurance company to check on the status of our storm damage claim. Members present felt she should proceed with getting the awning replaced as soon as possible.
- Bank account balances as of the end of July were as follows: Operations--\$83,337.43; Retirement--\$10,000.00; Special Reserve--\$44,494.02; for a Total of \$137,831.45.

Old Business:

- Devon reported on a USDA Rural Business Development Grant that was submitted by the City to pay for half the cost of creating parking lots on Plum Street. The City has submitted more information to the USDA per their request. At this time no announcement has been made about grant recipients.

New Business:

- A motion was made by Herman, seconded by Devon, to close the library on Thursday, August 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for staff development. Motion carried.

Other:

Adjournment: Mike made a motion, seconded by Herman, that the meeting be adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

The next meeting will be September 9, 2026 at 6:00 p.m in the Dale McConchie Meeting Room of the Marshall Public Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Hasten, Secretary