

# MANHATTAN-ELWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES

240 Whitson Street \* Manhattan \* IL \* 60442

## BOARD MEETING

March 23, 2026

**Call to Order Monthly Board Meeting** – Meeting called to order at 4:30PM by President Murray

**ROLL CALL:** Present: (voting members): Sharon Gill, Tom Murray, Amanda Dearing, Patti Blatti, Jan Krekel

Library Staff: Ashley Hopper, Director; Marcy Juarez, Business/HR Manager

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**CHANGES TO AGENDA:** None.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS:** None.

**MINUTES:** Minutes from February 23, 2026, meeting were approved as written. The motion to accept made by Trustee Dearing and seconded by Trustee Gill. The motion was passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** February 2026 financials were approved as presented. The motion was made by Trustee Blatti, seconded by Trustee Dearing. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

**PAYMENT OF SPECIAL BILLS:** None.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Given by Director Hopper.

**COMMITTEES:**

- **IL Library Standards** (formerly Serving Our Public)- reviewed chapters 1-2 together.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **224 Mississippi Lot-** Director Hopper met with new village administrator and received a signed agreement to transfer land to the village.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Executive Session- 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)** –Discussion of possible litigation. A motion was made to move to executive session at 5:10PM by Trustee Blatti and seconded by Trustee Gill. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.
  - \***Return to Open Session-** A motion was made to return to open session at 5:19PM by Trustee Blatti, seconded by Trustee Gill. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.
  - \*A motion was made to approve having the library attorney reach out the city of Joliet to discuss annexations. The motion was made by Trustee Blatti, seconded by Trustee Krekel. The Motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.
- **Executive Session- 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)** –Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees. A motion was made to move to executive session at 5:27PM by Trustee Blatti and seconded by Trustee Dearing. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.
  - \*Return to Open Session – A motion was made to return to open session at 5:36PM by Trustee Gill and seconded by Trustee Dearing. The Motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.
  - \*A motion was made to increase the annual salary of the Director by Trustee Blatti and seconded by Trustee Gill at 5:35 PM.

**Board Comments:**

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Gill and seconded by Trustee Dearing at 5:36 PM.

Respectively submitted,  
Marcy Juarez, Business/HR Manager