

MANHATTAN-ELWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES

240 Whitson Street * Manhattan * IL * 60442

BOARD MEETING

January 26, 2026

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

ROLL CALL: Present: (voting members): Keri English, Sharon Gill(4:42pm), Tom Murray, Amanda Dearing, Patti Blatti, Jan Krekel, Julie Mason (4:43pm)

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: None.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS: None.

MINUTES: Minutes from the November 24, 2025 meeting were approved as written. The motion to accept made by Trustee Blatti and seconded by Trustee English. The motion was passed unanimously with a roll call vote. The Executive Session minutes from July-December were also signed off.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

FINANCIAL REPORTS: November and December financials were approved as presented. The motion was made by Trustee English, seconded by Trustee Blatti. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

PAYMENT OF SPECIAL BILLS: None.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Given by Director Hopper.

COMMITTEES:

- **Serving Our Public-**

OLD BUSINESS:

- **224 Mississippi Lot Options-** A motion was made to offer the Village of Elwood land for services plus costs of transferring landownership and incurred costs from previous years. The motion was made by Trustee English and seconded by Trustee Gill. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Library of Things Agreement and Waiver** – A motion was made to approve the addition of a Library of Things Agreement and waiver for patrons. The motion was made by Trustee Blatti and seconded by Trustee Dearing. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.
- **Library of Things Policy Addition-** A motion was made to approve the policy addition for the library of things. The motion was made by Trustee Blatti and seconded by Trustee Mason. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.
- **Playroom Renovation and Updates** – A motion was made to approve the renovation of the playroom of up to \$13K. The motion was made by Trustee English and seconded by Trustee Blatti. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.
- **Purchase of Additional Shelving-** A motion was made to approve the purchase of additional picture book shelving in the amount of \$8,122.74. The motion was made by Trustee English and seconded by Trustee Dearing. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Board Comments:

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Mason and seconded by Trustee Blatti at 5:22PM.

Respectively submitted,
Marcy Juarez, Business/HR Manager