

Bradley Public Library
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting February 18, 2026
Drassler Conference Room

President Bayer called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

Trustees Present: Jody Andriano, Nick Allen, Karen Bayer, Lucson Edme, Brandon Hawkins, Jessica Trudeau

Trustees Absent: Paula Goodwin

Also Present: Jodie DePatis, Director, Marie Cowden, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Edme made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 21, 2026 Regular Board meeting. Trustee Trudeau seconded and motion carried by unanimous vote.

Trustee Edme made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 21, 2026 Executive Session. Trustee Trudeau seconded and motion carried by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

FINANCIAL REPORT AND APPROVAL OF VENDOR PAYMENTS:

Trustee Bayer made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted and to accept vendor payments in the amount of \$32,760.16 for the month of January 2026. Trustee Hawkins seconded and motion carried by roll call of 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

(Statistical Reports Attached)

Director DePatis stated the following:

- **Computers:** Director DePatis attended the PrairieCat Delegates meeting via Zoom on January 28. All BPL trustees now have L2 accounts that can be used to access RAILS resources online and sign up for continuing education.
- **Programs:** The winter reading program has concluded with 58 youth signing up and 23 active participants and 31 adult registrations and 14 completions. The Short Story Cube currently contains middle school micro-fiction that was started during a Bradley school visit to BPL. Youth Services Department members Dee Vent and McKenna Jones manned an information table at Bradley School District's Family Strong Night on January 29. Upcoming programs include a mobile pantry on March 16 and Prom dress give-away on March 14, 15, and 21.
- **Legal:** The Certificate of Property Tax Exemption for 2026 was completed and returned to the Kankakee County Supervisor of Assessments. The annual certification for the Illinois State Library was completed.
- **Grants:** The FY2026 Per Capita Grant was completed. The Library's annual sam.gov registration was updated. BPL was awarded a FY2026 Project Next Generation grant from the Illinois State Library. STEAM Teens was awarded \$10,687 to purchase a UV printer, sewing machines, pottery wheels, and indoor mini drones for programs on using makerspaces as an entrepreneur and creating drone shows.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Trustee Bayer informed Trustees that the CD at Midland Bank was coming due and she renewed at 3.1% rate. In the future, the CD can be renewed by email.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Statement of Economic Interest:** Trustee Bayer reminded Trustees that they will be receiving an email soon instructing them to fill out Statement of Economic Interest.

NEW BUSINESS: None

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADJOURNMENT: At 6:19 p.m. Trustee Hawkins made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Edme seconded and motion carried by unanimous vote.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Trudeau
Secretary

Marie Cowden
Recording Secretary