Bradley Public Library
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting September 16, 2026
Drassler Conference Room

President Bayer called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

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

Trustees Absent: None

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Edme made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 19, 2026 Regular Board meeting. Trustee Hawkins seconded and motion carried by unanimous vote.

Trustee Edme made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 19, 2026 Public Hearing. Trustee Hawkins 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 $37,849.72 for the month of August 2026. Trustee Trudeau seconded and motion carried by roll call of 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

(Statistical Reports Attached)

Director DePatis stated the following:

- **Legal**: The proposed FY2027-28 levy was posted. The FY2027-28 Budget & Appropriations Ordinance and 2% Building & Maintenance Levy were filed with the Kankakee County Clerk. The FY2027-28 Budget & Appropriations Ordinance was published in The Daily Journal. The FY2025-26 Illinois Public Library Annual Report and the ILLINET Interlibrary Loan Report were submitted to the Illinois State Library. Annual audit paperwork was signed and returned so the audit should begin shortly.
- **Building**: The Drassler meeting room carpet and a couple stains were cleaned on September 9. Serve Pro wrapped the book stacks in plastic and staff covered workstations and equipment the day before the sprinkler flushing to protect library property in case there was a major leak.
- **Collection Development**: The Switch and PS5 videogames are now in circulation. The Switch games are very popular and had 41 circulations in the first 10 days. VOX books, which are a print book with an attached audiobook component, have been added to the juvenile collection. They are particularly helpful to struggling or new readers because they can read along with the book.
- **Programs**: August is a light programming month for staff to finish summer reading programs and get ready for fall programs. Fall programming got a late start due to the sprinkler maintenance. Information Services Coordinator Christina Loraine is working on the Library's scarecrow display which will be going up on Friday, September 18 at Perry Farm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Friends of the Library:** Trustee Bayer mentioned the next book sale occurring on October 2nd and October 3rd with set up taking place on Thursday, October 1st. She mentioned a possible Bradley Public Library t-shirt being designed for sale in the future. She stated the following financial figures for the Friends group:

Friends Group Financials	Income	Expenditures	Balance
Balance Carried			$2,809.13
Culver's Donation	$330.00		$3,139.13
Gift for Member		$30.00	$3,109.13
Amazon-Purchase of Switch 2		$499.00	$2,610.13

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **2027 Trustee Elections**: Trustee Bayer encouraged Trustees to bring election forms to the October board meeting and assistance will be provided to fill out forms.
- **Fire Sprinkler Flushing**: Director DePatis stated the fire sprinkler flushing went well. The process was successful in flushing out enough debris to be within code standards. A leak was detected in the attic along with a couple more minor leaks indicating a few repairs. In approximately 5 years, the current system might need replacing.
- **Roof Repairs**: Director DePatis stated that she had contacted an architectural group nd was waiting for a response from them regarding facilitating the roof repairs.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Approve FY2027-28 Levy Ordinance (26-03)** Director DePatis distributed and Trustee Andriano made a motion to approve. Trustee Trudeau seconded and motion carried by roll call of 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.
- **FY2025-26 Annual Report Review:** Topic tabled until next month.
- **Health Insurance Renewal:** Health insurance plans were distributed and discussed. Director DePatis informed Trustees of a 33% increase in cost in maintaining the current plan through BlueCross BlueShield. Due to the large cost increase, employees will be given a choice of 3 plans to choose from. Trustee Allen made a motion to offer BlueCross BlueShield Plans 1 & 2 at no cost to employees and Plan 3 (current plan) if chosen, would cost employees $45.00 per pay period. Trustee Hawkins seconded the motion and motion carried by unanimous vote.
- **Director Evaluation:** Trustee Bayer distributed director evaluations to Trustees and asked them to complete and return to her.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:08 p.m. Trustee Allen made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Edme seconded and motion carried by unanimous vote.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be Wednesday, October 21, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jessica Trudeau
Secretary

Marie Cowden
Recording Secretary