

Albion District Library
Board of Trustees, Regular Meeting
September 25, 2025
Naomi Lane Room

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Bollman at 6:12 pm.

Roll Call

Present: Laura Bollman, Eric Krause, Kathryn Brautigam, Phillip Kidder, Rebecca Soltis, Alma Morgan, Tiffany Weitzel

Absent: None

President Bollman read a prepared statement concerning the flag honors topic, the email received by Trustees, letters to the editor on the topic, and the full understanding of the ADL Board of Trustees on the matter, for the benefit of residents wishing to speak during public comment. This included that ADL, as a local municipality, is not subject to Governor's orders to state buildings and grounds for flag honors. ADL does not have a policy on flag etiquette or honors, but has an established practice of lowering the flag on Memorial Day, Patriot Day (September 11), and Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (December 7), with rare exceptions at the discretion of the library director.

Public Comment

Dr. Wesley Arden Dick - Libraries are a cornerstone of American democracy, but are also under attack. Let this tragedy [school shootings, Charlie Kirk assassination] lead to common ground and reconciliation.

David Atchison - Identified self as author of the email to Trustees and the letters to the editor. Did not call for "termination" or "firing," but instead that the Board should ensure that Director Stanczak is held fully accountable for administrative misconduct on not lower the flag in accordance with the Governor's order, and that ADL should adopt a flag policy.

Teri Nelson - Resident, patron, and former worker in a library. Supports the library.

John Greeman - Made a political statement of his views, unrelated to the flag issue.

Robert Wall - Resident, regular library user. Supports the library director and board.

Chris Brown - Resident. Supports the library and its adherence to policy [practice].

Leslie Dick - Resident, former Albion Public Library employee (Local History Room historian/archivist), supports the library board and director.

Syd Dulaney - President of Friends of ADL. Welcomed the public present to the library and encouraged them to learn more about the library, the Friends group, and peruse the books still available for sale as part of the annual book sale before they left.

[Unknown Speaker/Name Not Recoverable] - Supports free speech and political independence, called for unity.

Janice Best - Resident, former employee of ADL, read a prepared statement from Rev. Dr. Lorraine Grinnell, Salem United Church of Christ, supporting the library, freedom of speech, and addressing the current political climate and distrust.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Weitzel to approve the agenda as presented, 2nd by Krause. All in favor, motion carried.

Old Business

August 28, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

Director Stanczak noted three errors (call to order time, trustees present, trustee comment). Motion to accept the minutes with correction made by Krause, 2nd by Morgan. All in favor, motion carried.

Financial Statement Review

Report by Treasurer Brautigam

- Profit & Loss Budget (vs) Actual, August 2025
 - Local Millage/Taxes: \$ 760,722.20 104.7% pg 1
 - Total Income: \$ 876,477.67 98.3% pg 2
 - Personnel: \$ 345,547.05 60.5% pg 2
 - Building/Grounds: \$ 98,720.94 78.4% pg 3
 - Total Expenses: \$ 586,572.17 66.1% pg 4
 - Net Income: \$ 290,763.90 pg 4
- Balance Sheet, August 2025
 - Total Checking/Saving: \$ 911,637.30 -8.0%
 - Total Library Trust: \$1,388,739.39 19.7%
 - Total Assets: \$2,300,516.09 7.0%
 - Total Current Liabilities \$ 133,402.20 4.6%
- Check Detail, August 2025
Nothing unusual or unexpected.

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Motion to accept financial report made by Weitzel, 2nd by Morgan.
Motion to approve Financial Report by Krause, 2nd by Brautigam. Roll call vote:
Bollman-yes, Krause-yes, Brautigam-yes, Kidder-yes, Weitzel-yes. Motion carries.

Committee Reports

- Personnel: Upcoming closed session
- Facility: May meet in October to review the new concept designs from Wightman
- Policy: not met
- Finance: met September 11, will meet again in October to work on draft FY2026 budget

New Business

Closed Session

The Library Director requested a closed Session under the Open Meetings Act (Section 15.268 (a), PA 267 of 1976, as amended) to consider the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, or to consider a periodic personnel evaluation of, a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual agent, if the named person requests a closed hearing.

Motion to move into closed session by Krause, 2nd by Brautigam. Roll call vote:
Bollman-yes, Krause-yes, Brautigam-yes, Kidder-yes, Weitzel-yes. Motion carries at 7:03 pm. Public in attendance were asked to adjourn to the hallway (or other parts of the library) until the meeting returned to open session.

Motion to end the closed session and return to open session at 7:33 pm, made by Krause, 2nd by Weitzel.

Motion to direct the Board's President and Vice President to draft a response letter to Mr Atchinson's email with assistance from the library's attorney, on behalf of the Board, as discussed during the closed session. Roll call vote: Bollman-yes, Krause-yes, Brautigam-yes, Kidder-yes, Weitzel-yes. Motion carries.

Directors Report

Not available at meeting time.

Public Comment (3 mins)

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David Atchison - Notice that he had submitted another FOIA request to the library, this time for the policy handbook. Suggested that the Board consider adding a flag policy.

Chris Brown - Asked about the Library's policies on collection development/selection and reconsideration.

Board Comments

VP Krause thanked those who present for their attendance, interest, and comments.

Motion to Excuse Absent Trustees

None absent

Adjournment

President Bollman adjourned the meeting at 7:42 pm.

Next Board Meeting: October 23, 2025
Includes Public Hearing for FY 2026 Original Budget