



Canton Public Library Board of Trustees General Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2025 – 7:00 PM

The Chairperson, J. Lee, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: H. Abdu, A. Iqbal, J. Lee, A. Wahby, A. Watts

Absent: N. Eggenberger

Also Present: S. Bewick, E. Davis

CALL TO AUDIENCE

Present: K. Bounds, M. Hathaway, D. McHugh, M. Nicholson, C. Swanberg

No comments

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

APPROVAL OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The library will be getting new furniture installed before the end of the year. In the area where adult fiction used to be shelved, there will soon be seating and a study area.

As of July 31, the library was 58% through the fiscal year. The 2nd Quarter Budget Amendment recognizes additional revenues the library has received, including the Wayne County penal fine settlement, and allocates them to expenditures. Next week, the library will be migrating its financial software to the cloud version of BS&A.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve 2nd Quarter Budget Amendment – A. Watts moved, and A. Wahby supported a motion to accept the 2nd Quarter Budget Amendment as presented.

The motion passed unanimously 25/8-21-1 (5-0-0)

2026 Budget – Expenditures: MERS pension contribution – E. Davis advised the library’s proposal is to increase the annual contribution to \$330,000. It is the library’s goal for the MERS fund to eventually be self-sustaining and no longer require annual operating funds. J. Lee asked if it would be possible to make a one-time payment to bring the account to 120% funding. Business Services Department Head Marian Nicholson confirmed the board can initiate this at any time. However, once the funds were disbursed to MERS, the library would no longer have access to the funds in case of market volatility. M. Nicholson and E. Davis will prepare a document detailing several potential options for overfunding the MERS pension contribution account.

1st Draft of 2026 Budget and 2027-2028 projections – M. Nicholson explained that the largest increase in expenditures is in capital outlay, partially due to tariffs and economic uncertainty. Circulation Services Department Head Kat Bounds advised that there are placeholders in the budget to allow for additional postage in case funding is cut for the Michigan eLibrary interlibrary loan program. M. Nicholson confirmed the library is researching ways to mitigate building flooding from severe rain; although the building was designed with flood protection in mind, extreme weather events have become increasingly more frequent, and the storm drains have been unable to keep up with the flow.

Conversion of Communications Specialist from part-time to full-time – A. Watts moved, and A. Iqbal seconded a motion to approve the conversion of one Communications Specialist role from part-time to full-time.

The motion passed unanimously 25/8-21-2 (5-0-0)

2026 Schedule of Board Meetings and Library Closures – E. Davis advised that the township has confirmed Liberty Fest will again be all-day on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Because it would be difficult for part-time staff to make up the missed hours from three full days of closure, the library recommends classifying Thursday, Friday and Saturday as paid holidays. The board did not have any additional questions at this time.

Patron Appeal 2025-08-01 – Closed session to consider material exempted by statute (Library Privacy Act 455 of 1982, MCL 397.603) – A. Watts moved, and A. Wahby supported a motion to move into closed session to consider material exempt from disclosure by the Michigan Library Privacy Act.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yes: H. Abdu, A. Iqbal, J. Lee, A. Wahby, A. Watts

No: None

Abstain: None

The motion passed unanimously 25/8-21-3 (5-0-0)

REGULAR MEETING RESUMED AT 8:21 PM.

Patron Appeal 2025-08-01, to uphold, revise, or revoke trespass – A. Iqbal moved, and A. Wahby supported a motion to uphold the patron’s suspension but modify the terms to allow the patron to return to the library after 3 months.

The motion passed anonymously 25/8-21-4 (5-0-0)

CALL TO AUDIENCE

None

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 PM.

Amy Watts, Secretary-Treasurer