WEST CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 27, 2026
7:00 P.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER: President Jakacki called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:
TRUSTEES PRESENT: Corrine Jakacki, President; Pat Weninger, Vice President; Aimee Cavataio, Treasurer; and Maureen Navadomskis, Member. (Laura Finch, Secretary, entered at 7:02 p.m.)
Absent: Sufiyan Mohammed and Michael Wonderly.

President Jakacki asked Ms. Weninger to serve as secretary until Ms. Finch arrives.

STAFF PRESENT: Benjamin R. Weseloh, Library Director; Jennifer Gunn, Adult Services Manager; Nick Del Giudice, Public Relations Specialist; Jason Rock, Information Technology Librarian; Juan Martinez, Facilities Assistant; Gabriel Cardenas, Circulation Manager; Luke Sutton, Youth Services Manager.

C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:
1. Regular Meeting - June 22, 2026: Ms. Cavataio moved to approve the Board Meeting Minutes from June 22, 2026, as amended; seconded by Ms. Navadomskis. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

(Ms. Finch entered the meeting.)

D. RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC: None.

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

F. AGENDA - ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: None.

G. TREASURER'S REPORT:
1. Approval of the Bills for June and July 2026: Ms. Cavataio moved to approve the July bills, listed with a financial statement date of June 30, 2026, in the amount of 254,259.29; seconded by Ms. Weninger.
Roll Call Vote - Yes: Cavataio, Finch, Navadomskis, Weninger, Jakacki. Motion carried.

2. Financial Statements for June 2026: Ms. Cavataio reported that the Library closed out its fiscal year in a solid position; nearly all the revenue expected was received, and expenses were slightly lower than

budgeted. The Library's fund balances remain healthy with about

$1.6 million across funds.

H. COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Hourly Rate For Legal Services: The law firm that provides legal services to the Library is increasing its hourly rate as of July 1, 2026, to $245 an hour. The previous hourly rate which had been in effect since June 2019 was $225 an hour.

2. Budget & Appropriations Ordinance Reminder: Director Weseloh stated that at the July board meeting, the trustees will be approving the Tentative Budget and Appropriations Ordinance under New Business. The ordinance will be published in the newspaper for 30 days ahead of time; and the public hearing is scheduled for September 14, 2026, which is a special board meeting date for the board.

3. Election of Library Trustees: August 25, 2026 will be the first day to circulate nominating petitions, and Mr. Weseloh will have the nominating packets ready for pickup in the library at that time. The period within which to file the petitions will be the week from November 16 to 23, 2026.

The consolidated election will be held on April 6, 2027, at which time four trustee seats will be up for election. The expiring terms are those of Ms. Jakacki, Ms. Navadomskis, Ms. Weninger, and Mr. Mohammed, who filled the end of Mr. Grotto's term. Trustees were asked to share the information about the available positions within their circles of friends in the community.

I. REPORTS:

1. President: President Jakacki stated the public hearing on September 14, 2026 is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.

2. Library Director: The June financials are unaudited, and the numbers will change slightly after the audit. A PPRT check was received in the amount of $29,224.27, which is not reflected in the financials.

The IRS made an adjustment midyear to the business mileage reimbursement rate, which is now 76¢ per mile, up from 72.5¢ per mile.

Mr. Weseloh was on vacation the first two weeks of July. The RFP for the strategic plan was uploaded on the Library's website the first of July. Mr. Weseloh sent it to five or six consultants for strategic planning that were listed on RAILS; one proposal has been received to date. The deadline to submit a proposal is August 18, 2026.

The Illinois Library Association annual conference is October 6 through 8, 2026; early bird registration is from July 20 to July 31, 2026.

The trustee day for ILA is on Thursday, October 8, 2026. Mr. Weseloh asked the trustees to let him know by August 24, 2026 if they plan to attend.

July 25, 2026 was the ribbon-cutting event for the Full Steam Ahead art initiative, held in Reed Keppler Park. The Ball Horticultural train is installed and on display at Reed Keppler Park. Two large painted trains and three small painted trains were on display for those in attendance.

The trains will be placed throughout the town. There will be passports and a map for people to identify the locations of the trains, the businesses at the various locations will stamp the passports as people visit the locations, and prizes will be awarded to persons who collect all of the stamps for the trains.

The curbside book pickup/drop-off service will be ending August 1, 2026. Patron use has dwindled considerably since the COVID years, down to five patrons per month this past year. Staff hope a drive-up window can be installed to better serve patrons in the future.

Mr. Weseloh reminded the trustees to complete the cyber security training which is very helpful in learning best practices and how to avoid common pitfalls relating to cybercrimes and breaches.

The director stated that on Saturday, August 1, 2026, the Library's Summertime Celebration will be held on the Library lawn from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The event will include a variety of activities, food, and fun for community members of all ages.

Four or five staff members attended the ALA conference.

3. Department Managers: Written reports from department managers were included in the board packets.

J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

K. NEW BUSINESS:
1. Adopt Tentative Ordinance 26-04: Ms. Weninger moved to adopt the Budget & Appropriation Ordinance of the West Chicago Public Library District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending July 30, 2027; seconded by Ms. Cavataio.
Roll Call Vote - Yes: Cavataio, Finch, Navadomskis, Weninger, Jakacki.
Motion carried.

2. Schedule Special Board Meeting Date for September 14, 2026 at 7:15 p.m. to Approve Ordinance 26-04, Budget & Appropriation Ordinance of the West Chicago Public Library District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027. Ms. Weninger moved to approve Ordinance 26-04, scheduling a Special Board Meeting Date of September 14, 2026, at 7:15 p.m.; seconded by Ms. Navadomskis.
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

L. CLOSED SESSION: None held.

M. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: None required.

N. ADJOURNMENT: President Jakacki stated the Board will have two meetings in September; that there was no reason to move into closed session; and that there would be no need to return to open session. President Jakacki adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.