

The Monticello-Union Township Public Library Board of Trustees met in regular session at the Temp (934 N. Main St.) on Monday, August 11, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Present were Director Candace Wells, Treasurer/Bookkeeper Sharon Bail, Managers Tammy Criminger and Scott Miller, and trustees Tom Fletcher, Butch Kramer, Chuck Kubly, Don Osten, Jo Piatt, Teresa Puterbaugh, and Emily Thacker.

Call to Order/Approval of Agenda/Public Comments – Board President Don Osten called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. As moved by Butch Kramer and seconded by Emily Thacker, the board approved the agenda as presented, which was again slightly rearranged. (Public Comments - NA)

Approval of the Minutes – The minutes of the July 14, 2025, regular session were approved as presented as moved by Chuck Kubly and seconded by Butch Kramer.

Business and Finance – A) Treasurer/Bookkeeper Sharon Bail noted a couple corrections on the front page of her green HO (June to July and an inverted number in the claims total) and then highlighted our major July expenses, including three (3) payrolls, which made this month's total again higher than our average. She will have the final totals from the art show soon. After reviewing claims from 7/1/25 to 7/31/25, the board approved the financial report and the July claims of \$133,985.93, as moved by Chuck Kubly and seconded by Teresa Puterbaugh. B & D) Sharon presented a revised MUTPL 2026 Budget Proposal and explained the suggested changes (i.e. increased funds for databases), again trying to adapt our funding despite the current fiscal uncertainty libraries are facing due to legislative action. As moved by Chuck and seconded by Jo Piatt, the board approved advertising this revised 2026 budget proposal. **NOTE: A public hearing at 4:45 p.m. will precede next month's regular meeting at 5 p.m. on 9/8/25.** C) The board took no action this month on the revised MUTPL 2026 Salary Ordinance (See HO), which replaces the one from our last meeting because some changes were required.

Old Business – For a more detailed update on the building project, see also Candace's Director's Report. A) The board discussed Terry and Claire Lacy's proposed sound panel art, which had incorporated fabric colors of the new furnishings (See HO). Trustees feedback included a preference for a final version more like their rough draft (softer edges, fewer straight lines, more waves, other color options, etc.). Candace will contact them to see if they could provide a couple other options for us to consider – perhaps at a special session, although time may be a factor. She will let us know. B) Lancer will be doing a check on electrical features in the new construction. C) Trustees checked Candace's list to be sure their names for the plaque on the building are correct.

New Business – The board addressed several items.

1. E-Rate Funding for Year 2026-2027 – We will still have funding. As moved by Chuck and seconded by Emily, the board approved the resolution to again join the Indiana State Library Consortium for Public Internet Access. This will give us an E-rate discount.
2. Library Store – Bookend Order – As moved by Chuck and seconded by Tom, trustees approved the purchase of 1,000 heavy duty bookends at the discounted price (\$12,630.42).
3. Library Store – Book Returns – As moved by Chuck and seconded by Teresa, the board approved the purchase of one rolling cart Atlantis Indoor Book Return at the discounted price (\$3,313.97).
4. American Security Cabinets – Extra Large Book Truck – As moved by Chuck and seconded by Butch, the board approved the purchase of an Extra-Large Book Truck/Transfer Cart for outside book returns (\$1,751).
5. Affidavit for Payment – (NOTE: Don asked that such affidavit for payment requests be placed in the Business and Finance section from now on.) As moved by Chuck Kubly and seconded by Butch Kramer, the board approved the payments by The Huntington National Bank from the Leasing Corporation's construction fund to the creditors listed on the affidavit (See HO for itemized expenditures).
6. Employee Manual – As recommended by Candace, trustees looked over and approved the new Nepotism Policy for the Employee Handbook, as moved by Butch and seconded by Jo. Candace had checked with

other directors who had background in this area as she composed the revision. Butch added that the language in this new policy is pretty close to that used by the White County Council.

Director's Report – Candace again gave a very abbreviated report, asking trustees to please read over the Dir.'s Rpt HO, noting that it is usually a monthly summary. She stated her hopes to do an overall programming review, and she also referenced the great response to the somewhat scaled back Broadway Art Show. Managers then briefed the board on July activities (again, see their HO's), and notable within these reports was that 4,200 people were in the building this month, a 20% increase from July. Candace brought trustees up to date on building construction progress and the South Lawn Project (See HO). She will notify trustees if a special session can be scheduled for the sound panel art decision and any other business that needs immediate attention.

President's Comments/Adjournment – President Don Osten “wants to applaud Candace and the whole staff” for their enthusiasm and hard work on the art show. Trustees agreed that the event was a definite success. Having no further business to come before the board, Don called for any other questions or comments. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 6:23 with no objections.

The next regular meeting of the MUTPL Board of Trustees is scheduled for **Monday, September 8, 2025, at 5 p.m.** at the Temp (934 N. Main St.), **following the 4:45 p.m. public hearing on the 2026 Budget Proposal.**

Respectfully submitted,

Emily S. Thacker, Secretary