

**Crab Orchard Public Library
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
February 17, 2026**

Call to Order: President Bonnie Kucharski called the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. Trustees present were Kucharski, Carolyn Hoffman, Tiffany Huff, Luke Pond, and Fran Wachter. Jennifer Galloway and Susan Rolf were absent. Director Samantha Ralston was also present. The new Program Coordinator, Marsela Markovic, introduced herself and was welcomed by the board.

Public Comment: There were no public comments.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Huff made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 2026 meeting. Hoffman seconded. Motion carried.

Communications: No additional communications were presented.

Director's Report: In addition to the Director's submitted written report, she shared that the Crab Orchard Public Library has been awarded the Fiscal Year 2026 Library Services & Technology Act Grant from the Illinois State Library for her proposal Project Next Generation: The Prosperity Project. This reimbursement grant is for \$16,300. The Director will email board members the grant application for reference.

The Director has been in contact with AASI, The Astronomical Association of Southern Illinois, to purchase a telescope that could be checked out by our patrons. Pond made a motion to purchase the telescope for \$302.00. Hoffman seconded. Motion carried.

The Circulation Clerk position is open. The Director will be interviewing applicants and hiring the new employee.

Financial Report: The financial report was approved and will be submitted for audit. Additionally, Pond made a motion to move \$ 58,190.00 from the checking account to the Special Reserve Fund. This was the amount in checking on June 30, 2025, the end of the fiscal year. Hoffman seconded. The motion carried.

Payment of Bills: Pond made a motion to approve payment of the January bills and purchases as presented, including \$303.76 to EBSCO for magazine subscriptions. Hoffman seconded. Motion carried.

Review Days & Dates Packet: Economic Interest Statements should be received in March and submitted to the Williamson County Clerk.

Unfinished Business:

- a) Program Coordinator/Outreach Van Updates: The January 2026 Program Coordinator's written report was submitted by the Director.

- b) Fundraising Efforts: Friends of the Library have a meeting scheduled on February 25 at 5:00 p.m. Tentative plans include a Book Sale & Open House in March.

New Business:

- a) Review AI Policy: The new AI Policy was discussed. Kucharski called for a roll call vote to accept the AI Policy. All present voted aye.
- b) Board members are to complete the State of Illinois Department of Human Rights Sexual Harassment Prevention Training online and give the Director a copy of their certificate of completion.

Closed Session: There was no closed session.

Adjournment: Pond made a motion to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. Huff seconded. Motion carried.