

Hillsdale Community Library Board of Trustees
2 February 2026 at 5:00 pm | 11 E. Bacon St, Hillsdale, MI 49242

- I. Call to Order
 - A. Acting President George Allen called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.
- II. Roll Call
 - A. Present: Allen (President), Jaminda Springer (Vice President), Joshua Paladino (Secretary), Elyse Apel (Trustee), Eric Moore (Trustee), and Rebekah Dobski (Director).
 - 1. Note that Springer arrived after the approval of the agenda and minutes.
- III. Approval of Agenda
 - A. Allen motioned to approve the agenda. Paladino supported the motion. All in favor: 4-0.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Minutes of 2026.01.05
 - 1. Allen motioned to approve the minutes. Apel supported the motion. All in favor: 4-0.
- V. Visitor Comments
 - A. None
- VI. Director's Report
 - A. Balance Sheet, Library Fund
 - B. Revenue and Expenditure Report
 - C. Annual Budget Development
 - 1. Springer motioned to request a legal opinion from the city attorney regarding the library's contracts with Hillsdale and Jefferson townships. Allen seconded the motion. All in favor: 5-0.
- VII. Communications
 - A. Communication from the Friends of the Library
 - 1. The Friends did not meet in January.
- VIII. Old Business - None
- IX. New Business
 - A. New Board Member: Eric Moore introduced himself to the board.
 - B. Carpet Bid

1. Apel motioned to approve a carpet bid from the Seelte Group LTD for \$56,292. Springer seconded the motion. All in favor: 5-0.
2. Paladino motioned to direct the library director to seek budget amendments for the capital outlay budget and any other line items that need amendment. Springer seconded the motion. All in favor: 5-0.

C. Capital Improvement Committee

1. Springer and Apel reported that the committee met and began discussing possible improvements to the library, particularly regarding the children's spaces.
2. Springer motioned to increase the 2026-2027 capital outlay budget to \$100,000 to prepare for these renovations. Paladino seconded the motion.
 - a) The board expressed interest in continuing to pursue capital improvements, but there was disagreement about whether the board should increase the capital outlay budget before the capital improvement committee gives recommendations with cost estimates.
 - b) Springer and Allen voted in favor of the motion. Moore and Paladino opposed the motion. The vote failed 2-2.

(1) Note: Apel had to leave the meeting before the vote.

X. Board Comments

A. None

XI. Next Meeting Date - March 2nd at 5:00 pm

XII. Adjournment

- A. Paladino motioned to adjourn. Springer supported the motion. All in favor: 4-0.
- B. The meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.