

**Hillsdale Community Library Board of Trustees**  
**Meeting Minutes**

2 March 2026 at 5:00 pm | 11 E. Bacon St, Hillsdale, MI 49242

- I. Call to Order
  - A. President George Allen called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.
- II. Roll Call
  - A. Present: George Allen (President), Jaminda Springer (Vice President), Joshua Paladino (Secretary), Elyse Apel (Trustee), and Rebekah Dobski (Director).
  - B. Absent: Eric Moore (Trustee)
- III. Approval of Agenda
  - A. Springer moved to approve the agenda. Paladino seconded. All in favor: 4-0.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
  - A. Minutes of 2026.02.02
    - 1. Springer motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Apel seconded. All in favor: 4-0.
- V. Visitor Comments
  - A. Matthew Bentley
- VI. Director's Report
  - A. Circulation: Dobski updated the board on several organizational projects.
  - B. Programming: The junior/teenage stitching group and the bingo group have consistently had high turnout.
  - C. Balance Sheet, Library Fund
  - D. Revenue and Expenditure Report
  - E. Annual Budget Development
- VII. Communications
  - A. Communication from the Friends of the Library
    - 1. The Friends gave the library funds for the purchase of two Yoto players. They will soon start a t-shirt fundraiser and run a letter-writing fundraising campaign from April to June.
- VIII. Old Business
  - A. Carpet Replacement

1. Dobski has not received a timeline from the Seelye Group, but the company confirmed that it purchased materials and expects to receive them in 4-6 weeks.
2. Dobski is considering options to keep the library partially open during the carpet replacement project.

B. Capital Improvement Committee

1. Apel and Springer presented concepts for an improved children's area.
2. The board discussed swapping the children's area with the current meeting rooms.
3. The board agreed that Apel, Springer, and Dobski should seek preliminary cost estimates for consulting, design, and construction. These estimates should be included in the capital outlay for the 2026-2027 library budget.

IX. New Business

A. Library Director Annual Evaluation

1. Dobski will submit for self-evaluation to the board by the end of March.

B. Annual Meeting Agenda

1. The board will hold officer elections at the annual meeting on April 6.

X. Visitor Comments

A. Linda Fogarty

XI. Board Comments

- A. The board discussed its lost/stolen materials policy and the library's book-labeling practices.

XII. Next Meeting Date - April 6 at 5:00 p.m.

XIII. Adjournment