

Bridgman Public Library Regular Board Meeting Minutes June 23, 2026 - 9:00 A.M.

Meeting Called to Order:

9:02 A.M. by Kole

Roll Call:

Present: Kole (President), Etter (VP), Shaver (Treasurer), Collins (Secretary), Cichon, Janoskey, Noll, Valauskas, Wilk, Worcester

Absent: None

Staff: Abele, Mantei

Approval of Agenda:

Collins motioned to add *Board of Trustees Operational Boundaries* in Discussion Items. Motion seconded by Janoskey. Motion passed 10-0.

Guests:

None

Public Comments (maximum 3 minutes per person):

None

Friends of the Library Representative:

Abele read an email update from Bernstein: June is Friends Membership Month. Membership renewals are coming in. At the beginning of July a reminder will be sent to former members who have not renewed. We recently donated a tent canopy to the library. It was purchased several years ago for some events and has not been used since so the library can use it for the August carnival and any future outdoor events. The Friends will be running the Bingo game at the carnival.

Committee Reports:

Personnel and Policy Committee:

- Updates will be given in the Closed Session.

Facilities Committee:

- The Facilities Committee is creating a list of repairs that need to be addressed.

Finance Committee:

- The Finance Committee is seeking Board approval on the final FY26/27 Budget.

Director's Report:

- Reviewed Hebert's written report in her absence. Highlights include: Summer Reading Program kicked off this week. Hebert and Bartoszek are working to broaden partnerships with the Boys & Girls Club and the RV Senior Center. Two proposals were submitted for potential funding/donations - Berrien Community Foundation's Frederick S. Upton Foundation Grant and Indiana Michigan Power Donation Request.

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes:

- Motion made by Shaver to approve the May 26, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as written. Motion seconded by Worcester. Motion passed 10-0.

Discussion Items:

- **Proposed FY26-27 Budget:** FY26-27 looks to be a challenge with projected expenditures exceeding our expected revenue. Utility costs are increasing and there is a list of building maintenance items that need attention.
- **Millage Verbiage:** Kole motioned to table this discussion until a later date. Motion seconded by Cichon. Motion passed 10-0.
- **Additional Item - Board of Trustees Operational Boundaries:** Collins requested confirmation that the Library Director is being permitted to perform her duties autonomously, without undue intervention from the Board. Etter stated that she recently had a discussion with Hebert regarding this matter and there aren't any current issues.
- **Additional Item:** Cichon recommended that the Library reach out to specific groups at the Library (Gardeners, Yoga Group) and invite them to the upcoming 60th Anniversary Event, as well as to speak to them about the opportunity to donate through the 60/60 Campaign.

Action Items:

- **Bills for May 2026 - \$20,600.22:** Motion made by Etter to approve May 2026 bills totaling \$20,600.22. Motion seconded by Collins. Motion passed 10-0.
- **Motion to Approve Proposed FY26-27 Budget:** Motion made by Valauskas to approve the proposed FY26-27 Budget.. Motion seconded by Cichon. Motion passed 10-0.
- **Entered into a Closed Session:** Motion made by Etter to enter into a Closed Session at 9:44 A.M.. Motion seconded by Wilk. Motion passed 10-0.

- **Reopen Public Session:** Unanimous decision to reopen the public session at 9:55 A.M.

Second Public Comment (maximum 3 minutes per person):

No comments.

Communication and Correspondence:

None

Meeting Adjourned:

Motion made by Kole to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 A.M. Motion seconded by Cichon. Motion passed 10-0.

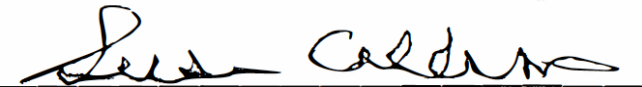
Next Meeting:

July 28, 2026 - 9:00 A.M. at the Library.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Abele

Approved by the Secretary:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Cichon", is written over a horizontal line.

Date:

July 28, 2026
