

MINUTES
BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS

September 30, 2025 | 5:15 pm
111 Library St NE | Board Room

Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.

1. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:	Rachel Anderson, Justine Bryant, Kathryn Dilley, Bryan Holt, Lauren Woolsey
Board Members Absent:	Kelly Boston (with notice), Kevin Peterson (with notice)
Administration Present:	Robert Adcock, Natalie Drew, Lindsay Laplow, John McNaughton, Jen Vander Heide; Patrick Beatty
Staff Present:	Megan Biggins, Matt Black, Meghan Elwell, Jennifer Heatley, JR Martin, Courtnei Moyses, Hannah Snow, Willow Tyler, Aubrey Wagg
Public Present:	Carter Brown, Travis Dickinson, Emily Z-Lin, Lansing Community College

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING ON AUGUST 26, 2025

MOTION: By Commissioner Woolsey, supported by Commissioner Holt, that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting of August 26, 2025.

No comments.

ACTION: AYES 5 – 0

Motion passed.

3. BOARD COMMENTS

Holt comments that he attended the Community Resource Fair and GRPL’s Resource Navigator, Sabrina Slenk did an excellent job organizing it. He adds that attendance was high and it was a great community venture. McNaughton adds that there were higher numbers in attendance than when it was hosted last year.

Anderson congratulates the Van Belkum Branch on their event for the building’s new mural. She attended the event and said there were enthusiastic attendees. She adds that Director of Public Services, Megan Biggins and Van Belkum Branch Manager, Erin Keener did a great job.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Legislative

Bryant states that a call to action was put out by MLA regarding contacting legislatures about Michigan's FY26 budget in support of libraries. She adds that Peterson attended MLA's advocacy hour in September. Anderson asked if MLA provided a script to contact legislatures. Bryant answers no and Woolsey suggests looking at another resource.

Woolsey states that the committee had a once per month meeting cadence and they have now shifted to once every 2 months.

b. Policy

Anderson states that there will be a rewriting of the Asset Management Policy 40-1 and the Board should anticipate this to be brought forward at the October meeting.

c. Board Retreat

No comments.

5. STAFF & FOUNDATION REPORTS

a. Library Director's Report

McNaughton introduces Ottawa Hills Branch Manager, Courtnei Moyses. Moyses introduces herself and presents on the Ottawa Hills Branch.

McNaughton states that work on the Strategic Plan is still moving along.

i. GRPL + GREIU Contract Negotiations

Drew states that GRPL and GREIU met last week and reached a tentative agreement. She adds that this will likely be before the Board at the October meeting.

McNaughton thanks everyone involved in contract negotiations. The Board thanks everyone as well.

b. Financial Report

Adcock states that we are in good shape financially.

Anderson thanks Adcock for making the reports so straightforward.

c. Foundation Update

No comments.

6. OLD BUSINESS

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. FY26 Budget Amendment – Patron Printing

Adcock explains that GRPL is exploring a new patron printing model.

MOTION: By Commissioner Holt, supported by Commissioner Woolsey, that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids approve the proposed FY26 budget amendment, effective September 30, 2025.

Holt asks if people will need to begin paying for copies and prints. Adcock answers that the restriction will still be set at 50 free pages. Holt asks if there is a way for organizations to pay for printing in advance for clients in need of the library's printing services if they exceed the 50 free pages. McNaughton answers that it will be possible to ensure that clients in need of library printing services are able to get prints of needed materials.

Woolsey asks if there are currently a lot of people printing more than 50 free pages per week. McNaughton answers yes.

Anderson asks if the goal is to be able to keep free printing for patrons while also making it easier for staff to maintain and provide to patrons. McNaughton answers yes. Adcock states that it also brings additional scanning features. Vander Heide adds that because more people are using mobile printing, the new model will provide an improved user-experience as well as a way for staff to manage this.

Adcock thanks the team, including team leads Librarian, Andrew Coulon and Adult Services Manager, Nic Coppernoll, team members Business Office Administrative Assistant, Sarah Scott, Platform Administrator, Tim Gloege, Yankee Clipper Branch Manager, Monica Willits, and Library Assistant, Brian Hall.

ACTION: AYES 5 – 0

Motion passed.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Media Index

No comments.

b. Staffing Report

No comments.

c. Statistical Reports for August 2025

Woolsey recommends August's listed popular video game, *Chants of Sinnaar*.

9. GRAND RAPIDS EMPLOYEES INDEPENDENT UNION

No comments.

10. AGENDA ITEMS FOR REGULAR BOARD MEETING: OCTOBER 21, 2025

- Summer Reading Program Evaluation

Anderson asks the Board to please let her and McNaughton know if they would like anything added to the agenda.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS

JR Martin comments that they are encouraged that there is a tentative agreement on the Collective Bargaining Agreement that incorporates the Library Pages into the GREIU. They express their appreciation to the GREIU's bargaining team.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: By Commissioner Holt that the Board of Library Commissioners of the City of Grand Rapids adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:36 pm.