

Kokomo-Howard County Public Library (KHCPL)
Board of Trustees Meeting
KHCPL Main
July 20, 2026

Members

Mary Baker, President
Alexandra Daniels Durham
Alan Girton
Stephanie Oden
Cathy Stover

Others

TJ Rethlake, Attorney

Staff

Faith Brautigam, Executive Director
Doug Workinger, Chief Operating Officer
Rita Bates, Chief Financial Officer
Trina Evans*
Ginger Hanny, Administrative Assistant
Caele Pemberton**
Lori Seaman*
Aaron Smith
Trisha Shively*
Christie Tate*
Dawn VanBibber*

The meeting was called to order by the President at 4:30 p.m. with five members present. (Board members, attorney, Ms. Bates, Ms. Brautigam, Ms. Hanny, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Workinger attended in person. All others* attended via Zoom.) **Ms. Pemberton arrived at 5:02 p.m. to give a brief highlight of the upcoming Trivia Fundraiser, but was not in attendance for most of the meeting.

There were no public comments in person or via Zoom meeting software chat.

The consent agenda was reviewed as follows (see reports and agenda): Minutes of June meeting; June statistical report; June 9 – July 13 appropriations report; June financial report; June 9 – July 13 allowance of claims; and personnel changes. The consent agenda was approved, following a motion by Mr. Girton and a second by Ms. Oden, by the following vote (aye – Ms. Durham, Mr. Girton, Ms. Oden, and Ms. Stover).

The board approved the Resolution Authorizing Local Library Cards for Active Library Volunteers (see resolution), following a motion by Ms. Oden and a second by Ms. Durham, by the following vote (aye – Ms. Durham, Mr. Girton, Ms. Oden, and Ms. Stover).

The board approved the Surplus List (see document), following a motion by Mr. Girton and a second by Ms. Oden, by the following vote (aye – Ms. Durham, Mr. Girton, Ms. Oden, and Ms. Stover). There was brief discussion regarding the pirate ship, as it has been a favorite of patrons for many years. Mr. Smith, Chief Technology Officer, was in the audience and explained that the ship is made of composite material that has worn down, even with regular maintenance.

Mr. Smith provided the board with a facilities planning update (see document). The update included projects completed in 2026, projects planned for completion in 2026, upcoming projects in 2027 pending budget approval, and long-term projects expected in 2028.

Ms. Brautigam informed the board that the Federal Communication Commission has a proposal out to end the federal e-rate program or to support it only in rural areas. Ending the e-rate program would have a significant impact on the cost of internet services for our library. Ms. Brautigam is waiting for more information regarding what action steps the Indiana Library Federation plans to take.

Ms. Brautigam showed pictures highlighting the transformation of the small piece of land on the west side of KHCPL Russiaville. Over the past couple of years, two Eagle Scouts have beautified this area as their Eagle Scout projects. One

student crafted a park bench that converts into a picnic table. The other student added landscaping and a porch swing. As a result of both projects, this piece of land has been transformed into an inviting outdoor space for library patrons.

There was no Other New Business.

Under Executive Director's Comments • Ms. Brautigam informed the board that Ms. Sosbe has resigned as a board member effective immediately. The Kokomo School Board was made aware of the vacancy and will be appointing a new board member. Ms. Brautigam also informed the board about federal legislation HR7661 which has been placed on the House legislative calendar. Lastly, Ms. Brautigam gave a quick highlight of the upcoming Trivia Fundraiser in September hosted by the Friends of the Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Alan Girton, Secretary

[Minutes prepared by Ginger Hanny.]

The next library board meeting will be on **Monday, August 17** at 4:30 p.m. at KHCPL Main.