

MINUTES OF THE DAVIESS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MONTHLY MEETING

October 15, 2025

Members present: Rodney Ellis, Treasurer

Kathi Mattas, Secretary

Kevin Dorth

Tim Kline

Others present: Erin Waller, Director

Debbie Young, Business Manager

Commissioner Janie Marksberry, Fiscal Court Liaison

Absent: Al Mattingly

At 5:00 pm, Secretary Kathi Mattas called the meeting to order in the 2nd floor public lounge.

New board member Tim Kline was welcomed.

Kathi Mattas called for approval of the September minutes. Kevin Dorth motioned to approve, Rodney Ellis seconded, and the motion carried.

Rodney Ellis presented the Treasurer's Report. With no questions or further discussion, Kathi Mattas made the motion to approve, Tim Kline seconded, and the motion carried. Then Rodney Ellis presented the June 30, 2025, Audited Financial Statements. Kevin Dorth made the motion to approve, Tim Kline seconded, and the motion carried.

Erin Waller gave the Director's Report, including:

1. With 2nd floor remodel work beginning, starting in November the board meetings will need to be held elsewhere. Options included meeting virtually, using the 3rd floor boardroom, or meeting off-site at another location TBD. The board agreed to meet in the 3rd floor boardroom in November.
2. New digital service Mango Languages is accessible with a library card and also offers a children's component.
3. Friends of the Library will host their annual book sale this coming weekend.

There was no Old Business.

New Business:

1. Election of Library Board President --

Secretary Kathi Mattas asked for a motion to nominate a president. Tim Kline motioned to nominate Kevin Dorth, Kathi Mattas seconded, then Rodney Ellis nominated Al Mattingly, but it was noted there was already a nomination to discuss and vote on. After discussion, the vote for Kevin Dorth was 3 yea votes by Tim Kline, Kathi Mattas, and Kevin Dorth, and 1 nay by Rodney Ellis. Kevin Dorth was named

board president and handed the gavel.

2. Discussion of changing Filming Policy --

It was asked if, in conjunction with the remodeling, the new meeting area could be wired for the possibility of official recording and livestream. Erin Waller stated that she would look into it. Also, it was noted that if meetings were recorded, the recordings must be kept indefinitely. Rodney Ellis made a motion to table the discussion on the recording policy until the remodel work is finished, Kevin Dorth seconded, and the motion carried.

3. Discussion of changing Circulation Policy -- Permanent Senior Card --

After discussion, Kevin Dorth made the motion to examine the current policy for potential extension of renewal time for senior cards, Rodney Ellis seconded, and the motion carried. Erin Waller will consult with staff on a seniors' card extended time frame to recommend to the board.

4. Discussion of Books -- Sex Plus, Queer, This Book is Gay, and Flamer --

Kathi Mattas noted sexually explicit content in all four books, higher age recommendations from multiple sources, and made the motion to move all four titles to the Adult department. Tim Kline seconded the motion, noting that the standards for obscenity for a minor are not the same as for an adult. Mr. Kline also addressed the publishers' use of the label Young Adult, and their age range for YA materials, versus what is defined as "young adult" by psychology, sociology, and medicine. He noted specific examples of dangerous advice/information in a couple of the titles, such as regarding sexting in Sex Plus and regarding the topic of porn in another book. He discussed the potential danger to young, developing minds not ready to handle such information. Mr. Kline referenced the number of teen suicides connected to sextortion resulting from sexting and the vulnerability of teens to such sexually explicit content in these books. Rodney Ellis countered that if the books violated the KRS statutes mentioned in the RFR, then the books shouldn't be in the library at all. Kevin Dorth called for a vote on the motion to move these four titles to the Adult department. With 3 yea votes by Kathi Mattas, Tim Kline, and Kevin Dorth, and 1 nay vote by Rodney Ellis, the motion passed.

Public Comment

At 5:36 Kevin Dorth called for public comment. There were about 30 in attendance.

Evan Johnson spoke on behalf of the Coalition for an Inclusive Daviess County in support of the library director and staff, expressing appreciation for their professionalism and work.

Robin Scott asked if the library has a display policy, noting she could not find one on the website. She referenced KRS 531.030 violations regarding inappropriate books exhibited where children are present or pass by.

Julie Clark represented an organization seeking to educate and equip parents and children in self-protection regarding sexual abuse through books, other materials, and a website: speakyoursilence.org.

Kevin Whear expressed gratitude for the opportunity to speak and encouraged considering three areas: (1) to carefully discern the appropriateness of our library books, considering the intended age group, to protect the children's innocence; (2) to screen the library's incoming books with discernment, not

merely trusting the opinions of professionals; and, (3) to note classic books removed from circulation in other places because some people just don't like the content. He gave thanks in advance for the support of what is "honorable, good and noble."

Mike Mountain thanked the board for considering his submitted request concerning a policy change to extend senior cards.

Trey Matthews appreciated the review of the four titles and encouraged the board to look at both the policies and the appropriateness of new materials coming in. He stated liking the idea of video recording board meetings.

Commissioner Janie Marksberry asked Julie Clark if she had any materials that could be viewed.

Ms. Clark brought Commissioner Marksberry a book and some flyers, which were then passed to the board, and afterward given to Debbie Young for the library staff to consider.

After public comment, Erin Waller stated that she was "deeply offended" that it was implied that she or library staff were doing anything to harm children. She noted that the board needed to protect the staff and provide very clear guidance through policy.

Treasurer Rodney Ellis noted that the board needs to "get serious" about KRS 531.030 and look at it more carefully regarding location of YA books.

President Kevin Dorth stated to put items on the November agenda regarding the re-examination of policy on the selection of YA materials and policy on public comment.

Tim Kline spoke to clarify that his comments were regarding the books reviewed and not directed at the staff, if there was any question or concern about that.

President Kevin Dorth adjourned the meeting at 5:52 pm.

The next meeting of the Daviess County Public Library Board of Trustees will be held at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, in the third floor board room.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Erin Waller".