

PINCKNEY COMMUNITY PUBLIC LIBRARY HYBRID BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 20, 2026
9:30 AM
HYBRID REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER at 9:30 am

Present: Shelly Wagnitz, Acting President; Kate Robertson, Treasurer; Patti Nicholson, Secretary; Judy Wismont, Trustee; Hope Siasoco, Director; Sara Castle, Youth Librarian/Assistant Director; Tyra Schmitter, Staff Liaison; Stephanie Hall; Scott Mills, Library Building Coordinator; Emily Cogswell; Richard Kennett; and Katie Beemer

President's Announcement regarding Public Comment Section

PUBLIC COMMENT

Note: Public Comment for this hybrid meeting is made available in advance of the meeting through this publicly available Google Document: <https://forms.gle/JbZBfHEmfhJqgp8R7> or email: hsiasoco@pinckneylibrary.org or during the time of the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

-  **CORRECTION/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA.** Judy asked for an update on Wilson grant to be included on the agenda. Correct the bullet point under Library Progress Report: "Library Partnering with PCYDI". Shelly requested adding "Thank You to the Public" under Millage Results.

-  **READING OF MINUTES FROM JULY 16, 2026 HYBRID BOARD MEETING**

-  **PRESENTATION OF BILLS:**

- o August 2026 Bills for Review

Judy Wismont made a motion to approve the consent agenda with corrections and additions. Kate Robertson seconded the motion. All approved and motion carried.

SPECIAL ISSUES

- o Pinckney Library Board Vacant Seat -- Putnam Township seat on the board is currently vacant and they have requested the library board review the three applicants and to recommend a candidate to the Putnam Township Board Members before their September 16 Board Meeting. The library board chose to set a special meeting to discuss the review of board candidates on Thursday, August 27th, at 9:30 am.
- o New Library Website and PR/Marketing Plan -- Form Subcommittee -- Kate Robertson volunteered to chair this subcommittee. Patti volunteered to serve on this subcommittee. Tyra Schmitter will be a staff liaison for this subcommittee.
- o I.T. Server Security -- Form Subcommittee -- Shelly Wagnitz volunteered to chair this subcommittee. Judy volunteered to serve on this subcommittee. Sara Castle will be a staff liaison for this subcommittee.

OLD BUSINESS:

- o Wilson grant update -- We still need to do a space planning needs assessment. Hope will check if this is something she can put a request for during Round 2 of grant applications. Round 2 application isn't open yet, but Hope will keep an eye on the schedule posted on the grant's website. Hope has spoken with other grant recipients and is working on gathering information to help make our grant request successful.

NEW BUSINESS:

Reports:

-  Library Progress Report
 - New Library Assistant: Jin Lobach (will start August 1, 2026)
 - Building Maintenance Update -- Guest: Scott Mills
 - Snow Plowing Contract 2026-2027 Season. All the contractors are raising prices. Scott is able to provide this service in-house for this 2026-2027 season to help the library save money. Judy Wismont motions to move the snow removal in-house at the price of 2025-2026 season. Insurance is already provided by Scott Mills via the existing cleaning contract. Shelly seconded the motion. All approved and motion passed.
 - Parking Lot Lights Update. On hold for now. Scott spoke to two contractors about the options for replacing parking lot lights.
 - Highlights from August 14, 2026 Library of Michigan Directors Meeting
 - Outreach Services for the Michigan Braille and Talking Book Library (BTBL)

- LSTA Five-Year Plan Survey -- Trustee Survey Version
 - Michigan eLibrary (MeL) News
 - LAW -- Data Privacy Reminder
 - Q&A Topics of Interest -- Q1. Costumes & Library Staff Use during Programs/Events, Q2. Bingo as Library Fundraiser, and Q3. City Libraries and Staff Bonuses
- Library Partnering with PCYDI/The Hub on Monday, August 17 and Thursday, August 20 for “Are You Ready for Algebra Workshop”
 - REMINDER: Library Closed on Monday, September 7 in observance of Labor Day
 - REMINDER: 2026 Summer Reading at the Pinckney Library: Unearth a Story Youth Summer Reading - June 15 - August 14, 2026; Adult Summer Reading Program - July 1 - September 8, 2026
 - Update on Library Events:
 - Drop In Tech Help - Thursdays from 1pm - 4pm
 - Baby Time Storytime on Mondays at 10am - weekly
 - Family Story Time on Tuesdays at 11am – weekly
 - Crafty Chix Knitting Group on Thursdays at 12pm-2pm
 - Monday Kids Knit & Crochet—3pm-5pm weekly (Hiatus on August 17, 24, 31, and Labor Day (September 7))
 - Reading Therapy Dogs -- weekly every Wednesdays from June 17 - August 12 at 12pm - 12:45pm
 - Petting Zoo Prize Party -- Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at 4pm - 5:30pm -- with Chamberlin Pony Rides & Mobile Petting Zoo (147 kids; 50 adults in attendance)
 - America’s Story: Opportunity, Diversity, and Belonging Across 250 Years -- Saturday, August 15, 2026 at 11am - 1pm -- an interactive genealogy workshop with Katherine R. Willson (12 registered; 7 total attendees)
 - Off the Shelf Book Discussion on Tuesday, August 18, 2026 at 6:30-7:30pm - August Book *Becoming* by Michelle Obama (6 In Person; 4 on Zoom)

- ✚ Friends Group Report
 - Friends on Hiatus
 - Friends Minutes June 2026 -- reviewed and on file
 - August 21, 2026 Food Truck Friday -- partnership “tent” of PCPL Friends Group and Hamburg Township Library Friends Group -- 12pm - 9pm
 - Next booksale September 19th

Financial Reports:

- ✚ Accountant’s Report
 - General Ledger Reports for General Fund and Debt Fund - July 2026 -- reviewed and on file
 - Journal Report for General Fund and Debt - July 2026 -- reviewed and on file
 - Bill.com Account and Procedure Changes -- Majority of Bill.com work will be in-house now which will save the Library money on our Plante Moran contract.
 - Plante Moran 2026 Budget Recommendation Memo -- Recommendation is to move the maturing CD into operations checking account to cover the budget readjustment that will be necessary for this year. Budget adjustments for 2026FY and draft budget for 2027FY will be presented to the board in October.
- ✚ Treasurer’s Report -- reviewed and on file
 - Maturing CD on September 21, 2026 will be put into operations checking account as soon as it matures.
 - Donations of Note:
 - Donations In Memory of Charlotte Jones:
 - Don & Jackie Harvey: \$100
 - Kurt Anthony Krug: \$10
 - Suzanne Duquet: \$50
 - Margaret Swager: \$25
 - Jim & Maureen Windel: \$30

Issues:

NEW AND ONGOING BOARD ISSUES

- 2026 Fundraiser Subcommittee Update – delayed. Volunteers for the subcommittee are still excited to start and we look forward to planning upcoming events.
- 2026 Millage Results

- Canvas of Votes -- All the Livingston County millages passed, including the Pinckney Library's millage renewal+ ballot question.
- "Yes Campaign" Committee Report - Guest: Richard Kennett, Campaign Chairman. They are working on a "lessons learned" report for the next time. A six month lead time is necessary for a committee to be successful and having some budget at the very beginning would be helpful.
- Thank you to the public -- A thank you for passing out millage request in August should be put on the website. When the email newsletter goes out next week there should be a thank you included. A physical poster will be placed in the library to thank the voters as well. Shelly will write a thank you from the board.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Tyra stated that the combative banter on social media between the "yes committee" and the community prior to the election created a negative working environment. Staff had to smooth things over for patrons who were asking for information.

Sara Castle wants to thank the staff who continued to greet the public in the library and provide information and consistency in the face of uncertainty. She agrees that it was hard mentally to work while knowing there was such strong opinions being expressed publicly online.

Katie Beemer stated that she was asked about the social media outlash many times before the election and declined wading into the social media banter. She did suggest that if there had been less interaction on social media the debate probably would have dissipated.

Richard Kennett stated that the social media posts started as purely factual but questions evolved into topics that put him into the position of speaking for the library board not as the committee chair of the yes committee. He then directed those questions to the library website and one person took offense to that direction and things turned personal.

Kate Robertson stated that this is the first time she has been made aware of this situation and hopes that staff feel comfortable emailing the board when situations like this occur. She further stated that there are many lessons learned for the board. She also expressed regret that the staff had to deal with fraught interactions and that she appreciates the library staff every day.

Richard Kennett stated his wish to remove his name from consideration for the vacant board position.

ADJOURNMENT at 10:57 am

Kate Robertson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Shelly Wagnitz seconded. All approved and the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted by Patti Nicholson, Board Secretary