SACHEM PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
August 18, 2026
3:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Sachem Public Library Board of Trustees was attended by Susan Tychnowicz, Thomas Lohr, Robert Winowitch, Diane Longo, Neely McCahey, Kristen Stroh, and Sandra Bartalis.

Erica Hartmann informed the trustees that she would not be available for the August 18, 2026 Board Meeting and was formally excused.

The Board members previewed the board meeting items on the agenda electronically prior to the meeting. Trustee Diane Longo reviewed all warrants with the Director before having them presented to the Board for their approval.

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m.

The meeting began with a Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board adopted the agenda. (Longo, Winowitch; unanimous)

Public Expression/Participation

None

Minutes

The Board approved the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on July 21, 2026. (Winowitch, Lohr; unanimous)

The minutes of an Executive Session on July 21, 2026 were approved. (Lohr, Tychnowicz; unanimous)

Treasurer’s Report

The Treasurer’s Report for July 2026 in the amount of $5,587,731.09 was approved. (Tychnowicz, Longo; unanimous)

Payroll and Related Expenses

The Payroll and Related Expenses for July 2026 in the amount of $694,339.52 were approved. (Longo, Winowitch; unanimous)

Payroll Warrant #1 dated July 1, 2026 in the amount of $36,598.40 was approved. (Winowitch, Lohr; unanimous)

Payroll Warrant #3 dated July 2, 2026 in the amount of $193,913.75 was approved. (Lohr, Tychnowicz; unanimous)

Payroll Warrant #4 dated July 16, 2026 in the amount of $193,913.75 was approved. (Tychnowicz, Longo; unanimous)

Payroll Warrant #6 dated July 30, 2026 in the amount of $22,754.14 was approved. (Longo, Winowitch; unanimous)

The July 2026 Payroll Summary was approved. (Winowitch, Lohr; unanimous)

Schedule of Bills

The August 18, 2026 Schedule of Bills, warrant #5 in the amount of $196,091.38 was approved. (Lohr, Tychnowicz; unanimous)

Director's Report

The Board reviewed the Director's report with interest. Ms. McCahey added to her report that the Lake Ronkonkoma Civic Organization's "Meet the Candidate" event will not be held at the library this year. She also noted that the Farmingville Chamber of Commerce meeting on September 2 will include building tours rather than a traditional library presentation. Ms. McCahey gave an update on the building renovations. Ms. McCahey thanked everyone involved in the nomination process for the 2026 NYLA Mary Bobinski Innovative Public Library Director Award**.** She will be recognized at NYLA's Annual Conference Awards Banquet in Saratoga in November, as well as on the NYLA website and in The Voice. The Board also discussed the various FOIL requests that have been received.

Assistant Director's Report

The Board reviewed the Assistant Director's report with interest. Mrs. Stroh reported on the public-facing copy machines. She stated that the leases for the four machines will expire in November. She has been meeting with vendors and coordinating with the IT Department to configure the new machines.

Department Reports

Ms. McCahey reviewed all department reports with the Board. The Board expressed its appreciation, noting that the reports were very informative.

Library Statistics

The Board reviewed all the library statistics with interest.

SCLS Board Report

There was no SCLS meeting held in August.

Old Business

None

New Business

A discussion regarding parent participation in the Children's Room took place. The Board reviewed an email from a parent requesting that the library reconsider its policy regarding parents accompanying elementary-aged children during programs. The Board discussed the request and advised Ms. McCahey to follow up with the parent.

The Board approved the Annual HVAC Maintenance Agreement. (Longo, Winowitch; unanimous)

The Board approved the Transfer of Funds. (Winowitch, Lohr; unanimous)

The Board approved the Sachem Public Library Closings for 2027. (Tychnowicz, Longo; unanimous)

The Board approved the Disposal of Equipment. (Longo, Winowitch; unanimous)

Other

The following was discussed under Other:
Ms. McCahey presented the Board with an updated three-year Strategic Plan. The plan is in the final stages of completion.

The Legislative Meeting with Assemblyman DeStefano will be held on September 3, 2026.

The Director reminded the Board that the library will be having a delayed opening on September 15, 2026 for Staff Development.

The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

The PLDA Fundraiser will be held on Monday, September 28, 2026 at the Vineyards in Riverhead.

Executive Session

The Board adjourned into Executive Session at 4:04 p.m. to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to Article Fourteen of the Civil Service Law. (Lohr, Tychnowicz; unanimous)

Regular Session resumed at 4:10 p.m.

Personnel Report

The Personnel Report was approved. (Winowitch, Lohr; unanimous)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m. (Longo, Tychnowicz; unanimous)

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Winowitch