PEOTONE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 20, 2026

Location: Peotone Library Meeting Room

Call to Order: 6:30 p.m by M. Horne, Library Board President.

Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag: Recited.

Roll Call: Taken by M. Horne: S. Chisausky : here ; M.J. Carlson: here; B. Markus: absent; S.Dascenzo : here; M. Horne: here; J. Oliver: here; B. Patek: here

Others attending: Sarah Ehlers, Library Director

Consent Agenda

MINUTES FROM: July 16, 2026
Additions or corrections_The starting time listed on page 4 for the August 20 regular board meeting was changed from 6:p.m. to 6:30p.m.

Motion to Accept Consent Agenda made by: Trustee Carlson Seconded by: Trustee Oliver; ALL IN FAVOR through voice vote: Yes.
MOTION CARRIED

Committee Reports: N/A

Director's Report: See Director's report on pages 7-8.

Approval of bills payable (Roll call vote) and Financial report (roll call vote)

- A **motion** to pay the bills between: July 16, 2026 and August 20, 2026 __ was made by Trustee Dascenzo. **Seconded** by Trustee Chisausky.
  Library Board President, M. Horne took Roll Call Vote: Trustee Chisausky – Aye; Trustee Markus - Absent; Trustee Carlson -Aye ; Trustee Dascenzo – Aye; Trustee Horne -Aye ; Trustee Oliver- Aye ; and Trustee Patek -Aye ; Ayes- __6__, Nays__0__ Abstain___0_, Absent __1___. Motion carried.
- **Financial Report:** Treasurer S. Chisausky will meet weekly with Director Sarah Ehlers to take more oversight and involvement with the bills.

Public Forum: N/A

Unfinished Business:

Drainage quotes were reviewed

1. Sarah Ehlers met with Infinity- no proposal was given.

2.Received quote from Allied Water with and without WILD PLUM (landscaping proposal which improves water management). Without Wild Plum: $24,297.12

3.The board decided to table making a decision until we receive a quote from Werner Landscaping, Inc.

New Business:

A. Director Sarah Ehlers gave a power point presentation with two options for how to proceed for our library of the future.

Option 1: Referendum:

1. Pros and Cons of Referendum to obtain money for Renovated library
2. Timeline Proposed for getting referendum on the ballot

Option 2: Plan B

1. Pros and Cons of Plan B
2. Plans for what we will do if no referendum
3. Repairing library building issues incrementally by using Capital reserves; with the help of Jamie, developing a long range plan for sustainability.

- **a.** Using capital reserves to complete a project (i.e. plumbing issues, etc.) and then building them back up again.
- **b.** Ways to build back up reserves discussed by using alternate revenue streams such as:
  1. Grants & Endowment/ Foundation
  2. Fundraisers: Art Market(FPLD style) ?, Rent garden bed?; Charge for room rental?; Corporate sponsorship, Amazon? Maker Space items: 3D printing,etc.;
  3. Online store selling PPLD themed items
  4. Maker Space items: 3D printing, etc.
  5. Co-location & IGA

After much discussion, the board decided to work on Plan B for now, while continuing discussions of plans for a possible referendum as a solution to solving the library problems until January of 2027. Discussions could include how to raise awareness to the public of the importance of the library.

B. Website reviewed

1. Director Sarah Ehlers created a new library website and it is up and running
2. www.peotonelibrary.org
3. Sarah stated that she wants Wix to come in to look at the new website to make sure it all works as it should. The cost ranges from $100 to $200

C. Motion to adjourn the regular meeting and go into closed session made at 7:31 p.m. by Trustee Dascenzo. Seconded by Trustee Oliver. In and Out times of closed session meeting with the roll call vote are reported at end of regular meeting minutes.

Regular Board meeting reopened at 8:33 p.m.

D. Decision to make Resolution to Destroy Closed Session Verbatim Recording was tabled until further notice. (to gather more information on it)

E. Iplar Review.
1. Motion to accept the Iplar report and submit it to the State made by Trustee Patek. Seconded by Trustee Dascenzo. Voice Vote taken: All in favor: 6 ayes; 1 absent. Motion carried.

F. Motion made by Trustee Chisausky to approve the amended Photography and Filming Policy as well as the amendment to the Patron Behavior Policy regarding filming. Seconded by Trustee Dascenzo. Voice vote taken. All in Favor: 6 ayes, 1 absent. Motion carried.

Director's Comments
A. Sarah E. provided a handout for the Library Standard Review of the month: some discussion of this
B. The next meeting on September 17, 2026 will begin at 6 p.m. to allow for public hearing of B & A

Trustee Comments: Susan C. brought up about the Creative Strategies for Public Libraries Course with a deadline to register being September 29, 2026. Is the $250 cost worth the investment? We will talk about it at the next regular board meeting, or possibly at the special Sept 8 board meeting.

Closed Session (if needed) In__7:41 p.m.______Out__8:31 p.m.

Roll Call Vote taken by Library board president: M. Horne:___M.J.Carlson__aye; S. Chisausky- aye S. Dascenzo: aye; M. Horne- aye; B. Patek- aye; J. Oliver- aye; B. Marcus- absent; 6 ayes; 1 absent; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain. **Motion Carried**

Adjournment:
Motion to adjourn regular board meeting made by Trustee Oliver and seconded by Trustee __Dascenzo__at _9 p.m. All in Favor: _6_ Ayes, _1_Absent _0 Nays, _0 Abstain (Voice Vote)

Motion Carried

Next Regular Board Meeting will be <u>September 17, 2026 at 6:00p.m.</u>

Bonnie Patek, Vice President of the Board of Trustees; Peotone Public Library District