

**PEOTONE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 19, 2025**

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 – Present, M.J. Carlson – Present, S. Dascenzo – Present, S. Gall – Present (6:39 p.m.), M. Horne – Present, J. Oliver – Present, B. Patek – Absent. Others attending: Director Sarah Ehlers, Courtney Stahl, Becky Hase-Plefka, Karen LeClaire, Shaun Kelly and Joseph Huberty (Engberg), and Bill Carlson

Adoption of the Agenda

Trustee Carlson motioned to Adopt the Agenda. Trustee Oliver seconded the motion to Adopt the Agenda. Ayes – 6, Nays – 0, Abstain – 0 Absent – 1. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Minutes – Peotone Public Library District – July 15, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes Trustee Dascenzo motioned to approve minutes of the **Regular Board Meeting of July 15, 2025** with no corrections and no additions. Trustee Chisausky seconded the motion for the **Regular Board Meeting of July 15, 2025**. Ayes – 6, Nays – 0, Abstain – 0 Absent – 1. Motion carried.

Committee Reports: The Special Buildings Committee consists of S. Chisausky, M.J. Carlson, M. Horne, and S. Ehlers. Lockers for Monee were discussed and Assistant Director Becky Hase-Plefka presented the options and talked about Bibliotheca which is a company that specializes in technology for libraries.

Director's Report: See attached Director's Report. Additional comments by Sarah Ehlers: Water fountain started leaking, but then stopped - waiting for it to leak again before addressing, Directors University went well, Jim Gill came for the end of Youth Summer Reading - thank you to Ranea, and Maker Space Open House had 30 people attend.

Financial Reports, Approval of Bills Payable:

Trustee Oliver motioned to file for audit and approve payment of the bills. Trustee Chisausky seconded the motion. Library Board President Horne took Roll Call Vote: Trustee Chisausky – aye-, Trustee Carlson – aye -, Trustee Dascenzo – aye-, Trustee Gall – aye -, Trustee Horne – aye- , Trustee Oliver – aye- and Trustee Patek – absent. Ayes- 6, Nays- 0, Abstain- 0, Absent – 1. Motion carried.

Trustee Dascenzo motioned to approve the insurance expense from Utica Insurance. Trustee Oliver seconded the motion to approve the insurance expense from Utica Insurance. Library Board President Horne took Roll Call Vote: Trustee Chisausky – aye-, Trustee Carlson – aye -, Trustee Dascenzo – aye-, Trustee Gall – abstain -, Trustee Horne – aye- , Trustee Oliver – aye- and Trustee Patek – absent. Ayes- 6, Nays- 0, Abstain- 0, Absent – 1. Motion carried.

Public Forum: Discussion from Engberg (Shaun Kelly and Joseph Huberty) about the Capital Maintenance Plan, Karen LeClaire (Youth Services Assistant) commented about the new storytime on Friday in which parents are very thankful, and Bill Carlson commented about his interest in the library and attending the board meetings.

Unfinished Business:

Budget and Appropriation Ordinance:

The Building appropriation cap set higher to \$550,000.

Trustee Dascenzo motioned to set the Building appropriation cap to \$550,000. Trustee Chisausky seconded the motion.

Library Board President Horne took Roll Call vote: Trustee Horne -Aye-, Trustee Oliver -Aye-, Trustee Patek -Absent-, Trustee Chisausky -Aye-, Trustee Carlson -Aye-, Trustee Gall -Nay-, Trustee Dascenzo -Aye-. 5 Ayes, 1 absent, 1 Nays. Motion carried.

Plumbing Update:

-Project Manager hiring possibility

New Business:

Engberg Anderson Guest Speaker:

Capital Maintenance Plan was discussed and what areas of the building needed to be addressed more urgently (egress lighting for when the power goes out and roof hatch/ladder)

Forming a Strategic Planning Committee:

Trustee Chisausky motioned to form a Strategic Planning committee as a whole where at least 4 board members show to start in January 2026. Trustee Carlson seconded the motion. Ayes – 6, Nays – 0, Abstain – 0 Absent – 1. Motion carried.

Lockers in Monee:

Bibliotheca works with PrairieCat and Innovative to make the process run smoothly. There is also a hotspot at the lockers as well as security cameras. The Monee Fund account will be used for this purchase of the lockers. Location needs to be approved by the Monee Village.

Front Doors:

The automatic feature on the front door was malfunctioning prior to this board meeting, but was repaired same day. Quotes are being considered for getting new doors.

Director's Comments: IPLAR due September 1, 2025, Standards Review - Sarah will email board members the link

Trustee Comments: N/A

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn regular board meeting made by Trustee Horne, seconded by Trustee Dascenzo - motion carried. Adjournment: 8:30 p.m.

Next Regular Board Meeting September 16, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Courtney Stahl, Business Manager
Peotone Public Library District