

Neenah Public Library Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes – September 16, 2026

The meeting of the Neenah Public Library Board of Trustees held on Wednesday, September 17, 2026, in the Roger and Nancy Orlady Community Room, was called to order by Rickman at 4:00 p.m.

Members present: Carol Codner, Frank Cuthbert, Kay Doiron, Tami Erickson, Ben Frank, Kate Hancock-Cooke, Lisa Hemes, Elizabeth Irish, Jenn McMahon, Pat Rickman, and Emmaxia Rockweit.

Members excused: Randy Fieldhack and Michael Koller

Also present: Nicole Hardina-Wilhelm, director; Katrina Wulff, youth services manager; Nancy Baird, circulation services manager; and Mehta Hess, adult services manager.

Minutes

On motion of Hancock-Cooke, seconded by Erickson, the Board unanimously approved the Library Board meeting minutes of August 19, 2026.

Bills for consideration

On the motion of Erickson, seconded by Irish, the Board unanimously approved payment of the September bills.

Hemes arrived at 4:07 p.m.

Fire Alarm System Update

Director Hardina-Wilhelm noted that the project to replace the Fire Alarm System has moved up in priority due to continued false alarms. While this was an approved expense in the CIP budget for 2027, it is now being considered for completion by the end of this year.

Additional Closed Dates 2027-2028

On the motion of Frank, seconded by Erickson, the Board approved the additional closed dates of Saturday, July 3, 2027, Sunday, December 26, 2027, and Sunday, January 2, 2028.

CIP and Operating Budget Update

Director Hardina-Wilhelm informed the Board that the CIP Budget was approved earlier this month, and she is waiting for the Mayor's proposed budget which should be distributed at the end of October.

Director's and Technical Services Report

Director Hardina-Wilhelm stated that the flashing was replaced to fix the leak in Room 203. She also noted that the Friends Annual Booksale brought in \$10,726.

Department Reports

Adult Services: Hess mentioned that 1,231 adults registered for the Summer Reading Challenge and the prize socks were a big hit. She highlighted several upcoming programs, particularly the Fox Valley Zine and Book Arts Festival and an informative Valley Transit program that will include tips for riding the bus.

Circulation Services: Baird mentioned that 22 Adventure Guides were completed and entered in the 3rd quarter drawing. The happy winner chose a library tote bag for the prize. Baird also read a Library Story received this week praising two staff members for their outstanding helpfulness.

Youth Service: Wulff noted that 2026 was the best year ever for participation in the Summer Reading Challenge, with 3,155 children registered. Prizes for reaching the goal levels included Great Harvest cookie coupons, rubber ducks, fidgets, and prize books. Wulff outlined upcoming Fall events and mentioned the scene changeover in Nina's Neighborhood to Nina's Campground.

Next regularly scheduled meeting

Wednesday, October 21, at 4:00 p.m. in the Roger and Nancy Orlady Community Room.

Adjournment

On motion of Codner, seconded by Hemes, the Library Board adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy Baird". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "N" and "B".

Nancy Baird