

Neenah Public Library Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2026

The meeting of the Neenah Public Library Board of Trustees held on February 18, 2026, in the Or Lady Community Room, was called to order by Fieldhack at 4:01 p.m.

Members present: Carol Codner, Tami Erickson (Aldermanic representative), Randy Fieldhack (president), Ben Frank (Winnebago County representative), Lisa Hemes, Elizabeth Irish, Michael Koller (Vice President), Jenn McMahon (Neenah Joint School District representative), Pat Rickman, and Alivia Haller (teen representative).

Also present: Nicole Hardina-Wilhelm, director, Mehta Hess, adult services manager, Katrina Wulff, youth services manager, and Frank Cuthbert.

Members excused: Kate Hancock-Cooke (Winnebago County representative), Joshua Kutney, Kay Doiron (teen representative),

Minutes

On motion of Erickson, seconded by McMahon, the Board approved the Library Board meeting minutes of January 21, 2026.

Director's and Technical Services Report

Hardina-Wilhelm discussed her Leadership Fox Cities Project, Dear Fox Cities; the possibility of summer school classes held at the library; and announced the hiring of the new custodian Ed Patroelj.

Department Reports

Adult Services Department

Hess shared that over 650 notaries were completed in 2025 by Neenah staff, and upcoming programs.

Circulation Services Department

Hardina-Wilhelm shared the 2025 Year in Review report prepared by Baird.

Youth Services Department

Wulff shared the success of the Stuffed Animal Clinic, which will continue to be an annual favorite, and upcoming themes for Nina's play space.

Bills for consideration

On the motion of Hemes, seconded by Irish, the Board unanimously approved payment of the January bills.

Carnegie Corporation Donation

On the motion of Rickman, seconded by Irish, the Board unanimously approved the use of the Carnegie Corporation \$10,000 donation for replacement vestibule flooring and new monitors and chairs for the public computers.

Trustee Bylaws Update: Article 2, Section 1: Number and qualifications.

On the motion of Fieldhack, seconded by Codner, the board unanimously approved updating the Trustee Bylaw Article 2, Section 1 to state “The governing body of the Library is composed of nine members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council, and members who qualify under Wisconsin Statutes 43.60(3), relating to funding received by a county. One of the nine mayoral appointees will be the local school district administrator or their designee, as required by Wisconsin Statutes 43.54 (1)(c).”

Trustee Bylaws Update: Article 4, Section 4: Order of Business

On the motion of Hemes, seconded by Codner, the board unanimously approved the update of the Order of Business to reflect the city’s outline to better coincide with the new agenda and minute publishing software CivicPlus.

Department of Instruction Annual Report

On the motion of Rickman, seconded by Codner, the board unanimously approved the annual report and accepted the statement concerning public library system effectiveness.

Next regularly scheduled meeting

Wednesday, March 18 at 4:00 pm in the Orlady Community Room.

Adjournment

On motion of Fieldhack, seconded by Hemes, the Library Board Adjourned at 5:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mehta Hess". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mehta Hess