

Weldon Library Board Minutes
August 18, 2026

The meeting was called to order by President Jered Shofner at 7:00pm, in the board meeting room of the Weldon Public Library.

The roll call was conducted by Chris Senkpiel. In attendance were Jered Shofner, Chris Senkpiel, Christi Baker, Carla Burton, and Dave Meyer. Amanda Walters and Cherie Brittin were absent. Library Director, Lori Rich, was also present.

The meeting minutes were presented from the July 21, 2026 board meeting. All minutes were adopted per discussion.

There was no public forum.

TREASURER'S REPORT for July was reviewed by trustees.

The beginning balance at First National for July 1 was \$1,316.09. Receipts for July were \$66,650.41. The distributions for July were \$11,827.87 and fund disbursements were \$25,195.43 resulting in an ending balance on July 31, 2026, of \$30,943.20.

There was a motion by Chris Senkpiel to accept the July treasurer's report, seconded by Carla Burton. The vote to approve was unanimous, 5-0.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT was given by Lori Rich.

July Cloud Library Stats

Total Number of Items Circulated July 1 – July 31:

- Owned Content: 26,751 (13,058 - e-books; 13,673 - audiobooks)
- Pay-per-use Audio: 2,225
- WPL patrons: eBook, 9 eAudio - 19

July Libby – Digital Library of Illinois (Reported Weldon Library Activity)

Total Number of Items Circulated July 1 - 31:

- e-books – 13
- Magazine – 16
- Audio - 53

July funds deposited

- Fine, copy, fax: \$31.30
- Candy, soda, coffee: \$81.80
- Donation: Kevin Wells - \$25.00
- Book Replacement: Barclay PL \$30.00 – Charleston PL \$21.00
- **Total \$189.10**
- **Paid Out July - \$0**

Kids Summer Extension Programs at the Library

July 24th Microgreens (planting) A-6, C-15

July 31st Terrariums (making small terrariums) A-9, C-16

Summer reading thank you notes have been sent to all contributors.

Next Year Summer Theme: *Reading Expands Our Universe*

School Supplies August 5th – 8th during regular Library hours

- All Grant funds were spent
- Balance of School Supplies fund \$1898.76 - July 2026
- Total supplies purchased \$1890.26
- Participants receiving School Supplies – 46 students
- Attendance during 5th – 8th A – 21 C - 45

Other News from the Director:

- Barn Quilt ~ Fall designs August 29th 10:00AM – 2:00PM
- Chair Exercise Resumes – Sept. 11th (Lori to lead) at 9:30, due to Extension program
- Adult Extension Programs - Sept. 11th Cooking in an Instant (Insta-Pot)
- **MSBC** – New Teacher Mrs. McKenzi Celiz
 - First meeting is Sept. 16th during lunch period – plan to meet 2X's a month
 - Book – The Good Bye Days – Jeff Zentner
- **Pre-K Storytime** – First meeting is September 4th – meet once a month
- **Early Dismissal Day** – September 2nd – Molly Schneman (patron & Art teacher)
October – Clay Lady
November – Rachel Edwards (Science project?)
- **Wednesday Explorers** – Begins Wednesday, Aug 26th
- **Lego Friday** – Begins Friday, Aug. 28th
- Need to replace the lights over the front desk. Ameren to come and do an energy evaluation, as this is who originally installed the units which are now obsolete.
- 50/50 raffle donations were \$76, plus donations \$6 for library programs

OLD BUSINESS

- Long Range Plan updates – review again next month.
- Camera – repair? (two cameras out now). We will review as a topic for New Business next month. Jered has a wireless system, and is not recommending his system. We need to look into 24 hour surveillance system. Reolink systems seems to offer a good system. System would be around \$2K if we were to install. This system runs off a coax type cable. Lori to reach out to Jason Reed at Prairie Computer Network Solutions.
- Accounting Software – Dave demonstrated the program which has been populated with the July financials. Christi is testing APLOS now. We are still working off an introductory free trial program. To continue to use this program, the annual cost is \$160 per month. There was a motion by Dave to subscribe to APLOS on a monthly basis, two user license program (25% discount over first 6 mos). We would reevaluate at a 6 mos. Seconded by Chris Senkpiel. Approved 5-0
- Heating / Air Conditioning replacement scheduled for Monday, September 14th
- IPLAR submitted August 6, 2026

NEW BUSINESS

Review & Adopt Truth in Taxation Notice – (must be published with cover letter, one time in the paper no more than 14 days before and no less than 7 days before AFTER the adoption). Motion by Carla Burton to adopt WITH 25% increase as stipulated by our attorney. Seconded by Christi Baker. Notices as recommended by Attorney are included at the end of these minutes.

Review Levy Ordinance 26-05 (will adopt at Sept. 15th meeting) Be ready for next month to hold a hearing.

Discuss options for possible Personal Property Replacement Tax collection: Dave reviewing accounts and other library practices. PPRT or State Replacement tax is on other reports. Research said in the late 70's that replaced the taxes lost from a Supreme Court decision. When we became a DISTRICT library we were STILL entitled to receive this PPRT. We are entitled to payment since 1998 – a total of approx. \$6K from Nixon Township. No one knew about this – but going forward we need to petition the Township. Jered to reach out to the Township to explore funding and future expectations. Report back next month.

Discuss establishment of a separate Special Reserve fund specifically for Dr. Ray Hoops gift. Dave Meyers moved to establish the *Dr. Ray Hoops Gift Fund* as a separate Special Revenue Fund for current and future donations from Dr. Ray Hoops. The Board acknowledges Dr. Hoops' expressed hope that funds may be available to support capital expenses if the need arises; however, the gifts are unrestricted, and the Board retains full authority to use the funds and accrued interest for any lawful library purpose. Seconded by Chris Senkpiel. Approved 5-0.

Board discussed purchasing a TV and a portable A/V stand for Board Room . 75" tv cost ~ \$500. Jered Shofner motioned to that the library make these purchases not to exceed \$1000, usings donations from Carla Burton and the Kathy Workman funds. Carla seconded. Approved 5-0.

Mental Health Training Opportunities: Discussed possibility of holding a 1-day class on Mental Health First Aid class offered by Dewitt County Mental Health Board. Could be opportunity for our Staff, optional for board members, and potential to invite other libraries and village leaders. Jered to share contact information with Lori to explore.

Window Tinting: Moved discussion to next month. Suggestion to check with Michael Perkins about local tinting options.

SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR NEW BUSINESS:

Fund Staff Day from general fund?

With no further business, there was a motion by Carla Burton to adjourn meeting, seconded by Christi Baker. The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM.

(Ordinance Document Text printed below)

Ordinance No. 26-05

ORDINANCE LEVYING AND ASSESSING LIBRARY TAX FOR WELDON

PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF DeWITT

STATE OF ILLINOIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING

THE 1st DAY OF JULY, 2026 AND ENDING

THE 30th DAY OF JUNE, 2027

WHEREAS, the President and Board of Trustees of the Weldon Public Library District, in the County of DeWitt and State of Illinois, did on the 21st day of July, 2026 pass the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance (Ordinance No. 26-04) for said Library District for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027; and

WHEREAS, said Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance was duly published as provided by law after its passage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WELDON PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF DeWITT AND STATE OF ILLINOIS, as follows:

Section I: That the total sum of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$122,500.00) composed as follows: The sum of SIXTY-NINE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$69,100.00), being the amount deemed required for the necessary corporate purposes of Weldon Public Library District, DeWitt County, Illinois; the sum of SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$6,500.00), being required for the payment of employer contributions of Weldon Public Library District to the Social Security Fund; the sum of TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00), being required for the payment of the professional opinion of an accountant and other auditing expenses from an Audit Fund; the sum

of TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$28,500.00) for the purpose of payments of premiums due for the purchase of liability insurance, property damage (fire) insurance, worker's compensation, unemployment compensation, costs of a risk management/loss control program and legal fees for defending or otherwise protecting itself against liability from a Liability Fund; the sum of NINE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$9,200.00), being required for the maintenance, repairs and alterations of library buildings and equipment from a Maintenance Fund; the sum of NINE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$9,000.00), being required for the payment of employer contributions of Weldon Public Library District to the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, be and the same is hereby levied and assessed upon and against all taxable property within this Library District according to the full fair value as

established and ascertained for State and County purposes for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 and the Board of Trustees of the Weldon Public Library District having on the 21st day of July, 2026 duly passed and adopted the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 and said Ordinance having been duly published in a newspaper of general circulation within this Public Library District, this Board finds that the specific purposes and the specific amounts provided for in said Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance, a copy of which is attached hereto and by this reference made a part

hereof, are required to be levied for the necessary purposes of the Weldon Public Library District.

Section 2: The Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Weldon Public Library District is hereby directed to file a duly certified copy of this Ordinance with the County Clerk of DeWitt County, Illinois, in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois, on or before the last Tuesday of December 2026; and said County Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to extend the said tax so levied by this Ordinance, according to law, against all taxable property within the Weldon Public Library District. The Secretary of Weldon Public Library District shall also file on or before the last Tuesday of December 2026, duly certified copies of the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance and this Ordinance with the Weldon Public Library where they shall be available for public inspection as provided by law.

Section 3: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval as provided by law.

Passed by the Board of Trustees of the Weldon Public Library District and approved by the President thereof this 15th day of September, 2026.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WELDON

PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

By: _____

Its President

ATTEST:

Secretary

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS

COUNTY OF DeWITT)

CERTIFICATE OF LEVY

I, Christine Senkpiel, do hereby certify that I am the duly appointed, qualified and now acting Secretary of the Weldon Public Library District in the County of DeWitt and State of Illinois; that attached hereto is a true and correct copy of the Tax Levy Ordinance No. 26-05 as passed by the Board of Trustees of said Library District at our meeting held on the 15 day of September, 2026; and that said Ordinance was duly passed by yea and nay vote thereon with at least a majority of all the Board of Trustees having voted yea on the adoption and passage thereof.

I further certify that annexed hereto as a part of said Tax Levy Ordinance No. 26-05 is a correct copy of the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance No. 26-04 as passed by the Board of Trustees of said Library District at a meeting thereof held on the 21st day of July, 2026; that said Ordinance was duly passed by yea and nay vote thereon with at least a majority of all the Board of Trustees having voted yea on the adoption and passage thereof; and that thereafter said Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance was printed and published in a public secular newspaper with general circulation in said Library District.

I further certify that the Weldon Public Library District requires the sum of \$122,500.00 as is more fully shown in said Tax Levy Ordinance No. 26-05 and the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance to be levied on the taxable property in said District for the year 2026.

I further certify that said Ordinances have not been amended or repealed but remain in full force and effect at this time.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have signed my name in my official capacity as the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Weldon Public Library District, at Weldon, Illinois, this 15th day of September, 2026.

Secretary, Weldon Public

Library District

TRUTH IN TAXATION

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I am the presiding officer
of the WELDON PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT and as such presiding officer,

Legal Name of Taxing District

I certify that the levy ordinance, a copy of which is attached, was adopted pursuant to, and in all respects in compliance with the provisions Sections 18-60 through 18-85 of the "Truth in Taxation" law.

CHECK ONE OF THE CHOICES BELOW

1) The taxing district published a notice in the newspaper and
__X__ conducted a hearing, meeting the requirements of the Truth in Taxation Law.

2) The taxing district's aggregate levy did not exceed a 5% increase
_____ over the prior year's extension. Therefore, notice and a hearing were not necessary.

3) The proposed aggregate levy did not exceed a 5% increase over the year's extension. Therefore, a hearing was not held. The adopted
_____ aggregate tax levy exceeded 5% of the prior year's extension and a notice was published within 15 days of its adoption in accordance with the Truth in Taxation Law.

4) The adopted levy exceeded the amount stated in the published
_____ notice. A second notice was published within 15 days of the adoption in accordance with the Truth in Taxation Law.

Certificate applies to the 2026 levy.

Date: _____

Presiding Officer: _____

Signature