

Plattekill Public Library
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: William Farrell, President; Joe Egan, Vice President; Mark Cambalik, Trustee; David Padilla, Trustee; George Hickey, Trustee; Betty Dorio, Trustee; Darren Lanspery, Director; Mayleen Torres-Rivera, Treasurer; Donna Ebanks, Secretary

Excused: John Reynolds, Trustee

Public Comment: None

Correspondence: None

Additions to the agenda under New Business:

- Planning Committee review of Capital Market Advisers contract
- Discussion on how the Board promotes the new building project

Financial Report:

Treasurer's report was read and discussed:

- Motion to approve the payroll for the month of July 2025, was made by M. Cambalik and seconded by D. Padilla. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to approve payment of the bills pending audit was made by D. Padilla and seconded by J. Egan. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to approve the following transfers from the savings account: \$2,000 to the debit card account; \$10,000 to the corporate general checking account; \$25,000 from the contingency account to the payroll account, was made by D. Padilla and seconded by M. Cambalik. All were in favor: motion passed.

Secretary's Report:

- Motion to accept July 2025, Regular Board meeting minutes was made M. Cambalik and seconded by J. Egan. All were in favor: motion passed.

Director's Report was read and discussed:

- Work on the library lawn and gardens is ongoing
- Water testing from the well failed; we still have non-potable water signs near sinks
- Air conditioner in the office is not working; we are using fans
- Staff took part in fire and severe weather drills during the staff meeting on August 10
- 2025 Construction Grant application has been submitted
- Funding request has been sent to Assemblymember Jacobson
- Annual Ulster County Library Association Dinner is September 9, 2025; please inform Darren if you plan on attending

Successful programs

Petting Zoo:

The 4H Petting Zoo had a great turnout and a very positive response for the community. Approximately 200 people attended this event. Our local 4H once again did a great job.

Summer Reading Program:

We have a total of 185 children and teens, and 8 adults registered to date. Our SRP closing event, *Lion Heart Puppets: Fairy Tale Investigator*, will be on August 20 and all reading slips must be turned in by August 22.

- Motion to hire Jay Stewart for a part-time position at the rate of \$15.50 per hour was made by B. Diorio and seconded by G. Hickey. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to appoint Darren Lanspery as clerk of the election was made by D. Padilla and seconded by G. Hickey. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to appoint a Town of Plattekill resident as Chairperson of the election was made by D. Padilla and seconded by B. Diorio. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to authorize the Director to hire two Board of Election Clerks at the current rate of \$18.50 per hour was made by M. Cambalik and seconded by D. Padilla. All were in favor: motion passed.

Committee Reports:

- The Budget and Finance and Personnel Committees met on July 31; respective chairs Will Farrell and Joe Egan briefed the Board.
- Plans and Operations met on August 7, and the Policy Committee met on August 11; respective shares Mark Cambalik and David Padilla briefed the Board.
 - Motion to accept the Budget & Finance Committee's recommendation of a three percent (3%) increase for the 2026 budget was made by D. Padilla and seconded by B. Diorio. All were in favor: motion passed.
 - Motion to accept the tax cap override resolution as written:
Whereas, due to the timing of the State Comptroller's Office in releasing the statistics needed to calculate the actual tax levy limit, the adoption of the 2026 budget for the Plattekill Public Library may require a tax levy increase that technically exceeds the tax cap imposed by the state law as outlined in General Municipal Law Section 3-c adopted in 2011; and 2. Whereas, General Municipal Law Section 3-c expressly permits the Library's Board of Trustees to override the tax levy limit by a resolution approved by at least sixty percent of qualified board members; now there be it Resolved, that on August 13, 2025, at least sixty percent of the Board of Trustees of the Plattekill Public Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit if necessary. Motion made by G. Hickey and seconded by D. Padilla. All were in favor: motion passed.

- Motion to Approve Board President Will Farrell meeting with library attorney Bill Gailey, to discuss the Board's decision to seek an alternate attorney for the new building project. This decision is made in consideration of a potential conflict of interest, as Mr. Gailey serves as Special Counsel for the Town of Plattekill. Motion was made by W. Farrell and seconded by J. Egan. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to approve W. Farrell signing the Capital Market Advisors contract once he receives the revised contract and it is reviewed by both W. Farrell and M. Cambalik, was made by W. Farrell and seconded by D. Padilla. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to approve the Credit Card Policy revised to state “authorized card holder must retain possession of the card at all times and follow correct purchasing policy,” along with other revisions, was made by J. Egan and seconded by G. Hickey. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to approve the updated Debit Card Policy was made by M. Cambalik and seconded by B. Diorio. All were in favor: motion passed.
- Motion to approve the updated Safe Child Policy was made by G. Hickey and seconded by M. Cambalik. All were in favor: motion passed.

Unfinished Business Discussions:

- Motion to accept the updated State Aid for Library Construction Program assurances document was made J. Egan and seconded by D. Padilla. All were in favor: motion passed.

New Business Discussions:

- Water treatment/testing: discussed during the Director’s report
- Tax Cap Resolution and proposed 2026 budget: discussed during Budget and Finance Committee report
- Capital Market Advisors: discussed during Plans and Operations Committee report
- Discussion on how the Board will promote the new building project

Executive Session:

- Motion to enter Executive Session at 9:04 pm to discuss a personnel matter was made by G. Hickey and seconded by D. Padilla. All were in favor: motion passed.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:12 pm.

- Motion to accept the adjustments to pay for staff and for Darren’s additional week of vacation, with a payout at year’s end for the unused portion, was made by G. Hickey and seconded by D. Padilla. All were in favor: motion passed.

Adjournment:

→ Motion to adjourn at 9: 16 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Donna Ebanks

Board Secretary