

ELMA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

September 8th, 2026, 6:30pm

Present: Stephanie Molnar, Sue Sudlik, Eileen Holden, Tom Pirrung, Paul Schwiegerling, Amanda Wyzykiewicz, Holly Neu, Gillian Field-Bierl and Chris Sasiadek - the system liaison visiting from the Central Library

Secretary's Report:

- Minutes reviewed and accepted

Librarian's Report:

- Circulation is down 12.2% for July, down 11.4% for August, and down 10.2% for the year. Visitors are down 9.1% in July, down 7.2% in August, and down 4.4% for the year. Computer users are up 11.2% in July, down 6.9% in August, and up 7.4% for the year. Wi-Fi use is up 54.3% in July, up 23.2% in August, and up 32.0% for the year
- 34 total programs were held in July, with a total attendance of 1146. 24 total programs were held in August, with a total attendance of 619.
- New library cards: In July: 39 total (19 adult, 11 out of the county, and 9 youth). In August: 31 total (24 adult, 4 out of county, and 3 youth).
- Community Room was used for 1 activity in July (Jewelry Sale with 4-H) and 1 in August (Blood Drive).
- Display Case – Wearable art by Kathleen Swan for July and August.
- Summer Reading program was a success and over 200 reading logs were given out.

Treasurer's Report:

- Both CD's fully matured on 8/11/2026. \$2000 was transferred on that same date to the Five-Star Gift Checking account. \$805.82 was transferred to the Heintz Estate. The CD's now come due on 2/11/2027.

Subcommittee Reports:

- ACT: Still no updates, possible next meeting in Oct/Nov?
- Friends of the Library are back to selling candy bars which are selling well. Their ice cream summer fundraisers made about the same amount as last year and were a success!

- Buildings and Grounds: The town still has no information for us regarding scheduling the fall clean up. Stephanie contacted Murray Bros. and they agreed to do the fall work. It was determined to schedule for mid to late October to get everything done for fall and winter at one time.
- Publicity: No new specific updates. We continue to be in the Bee and the Advertiser regularly. Our Facebook account continues to be active and one gold passport post got over 1000 likes!

Three-Year Plan:

- There was more talk about re-vamping the existing storage space in the library and moving things around as the shed idea had to be abandoned.

Old Business:

- The RW Rural Libraries Grant – The Homesteading series now has a max of 60 people per program, which is up from 20 (who are allowed to do the hands-on piece of the program). Topics include: composting, raising chickens, basic mending, apothecary and natural remedies, soil health, vegetable gardening, and soap making. Programs will run September-October, and most of the dates are already scheduled full and on a waitlist!
- The public collection survey came out on 8/25/2026 - There have been 23 responses as of 9/8/26. We are looking for more children's input, as it has been mostly adult at this time. It is being promoted on both social media and in hardcopy. It will go through the end of September.
- The HVAC project – no new updates. We are still waiting to hear back. Fans were purchased and helped.
- The issue with the water bill: For January – March we paid half of what was due and the town paid the rest. For April-July we paid in full.

New Business:

- Saturday Schedule – After 10 years of no issues on Saturday hours, there are now issues with scheduling due to the timing of breaks and legal issues related to lengths of shifts. The shifts now have to be a full 8 hours according to HR. It was recommended that Stephanie call her union to explore other options in lieu of changing the library hours at this time.
- Chris the liaison spoke – he's been on the system board for 4-5 years. Chris encouraged the board to reach out with concerns to him via email. Stephanie

felt that better communication between the Central Library and our library would be helpful.

All minutes and reports were approved and accepted 7-0.

Meeting adjourned -7:28 pm

The next monthly board meeting will be held on 10/13/2026.