



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE CICERO PUBLIC LIBRARY HELD AT THE  
CICERO PUBLIC LIBRARY ON  
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026  
5:00 P.M.

Prior to calling the meeting to order, President Grazzini noted the following:

*The president and Board of Trustees welcome you as observers to this public meeting. You are reminded this meeting is for the deliberations of the Board of Trustees, in contrast to a public hearing where members of the district are encouraged to participate. Unless invited by the President to speak, observers are requested not to interrupt the meeting in order that the concerns of the Library may be attended to efficiently. If the President recognizes you, please state your name & address and direct your remarks to the Board of Trustees.*

President Anthony Grazzini called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

### **Roll Call**

Secretary Mary Hernandez called roll. The following Trustees were present: President Anthony Grazzini, Vice-President Mario Castaneda, Secretary Mary Hernandez, Trustees Omar Manouzi, Rosalba Raygoza and Alfonso Vega. Absent: Trustee Rosemarie Esposito. Also present were Library Director Sandra Tomschin, Library Board Attorney Matt Byrne and Recording Secretary Maria Salinas.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **Minutes**

Secretary Hernandez made a motion to accept and place on file the December 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Open Session Minutes as presented. Trustee Raygoza seconded the motion. Roll call: All Trustees present voting aye: President Grazzini, Vice-President Castaneda, Secretary Hernandez, Trustees Manouzi, Raygoza and Vega. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Esposito. Motion carried.

Trustee Vega made a motion to accept and place on file the December 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Closed Session Minutes as presented. Trustee Manouzi seconded the motion. Roll call: All Trustees present voting aye: President Grazzini, Vice-President Castaneda, Secretary Hernandez, Trustees Manouzi, Raygoza and Vega. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Esposito. Motion carried.



## **Bills**

Trustee Vega made a motion to approve and pay the January 2026 bills as presented and place on file. Secretary Hernandez seconded the motion. Roll call: All Trustees present voting aye: President Grazzini, Vice-President Castaneda, Secretary Hernandez, Trustees Manouzi, Raygoza and Vega. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Esposito. Motion carried.

## **Salaries**

Vice-President Castaneda made a motion to approve the December 2025 salaries as presented. Trustee Manouzi seconded the motion. Roll call: All Trustees present voting aye: President Grazzini, Vice-President Castaneda, Secretary Hernandez, Trustees Manouzi, Raygoza and Vega. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Esposito. Motion carried.

## **Administrative Director's Report**

Library Director Sandra Tomschin reported the following updates.

### **Administrative**

- Happy New Year! We are excited to be in our 105<sup>th</sup> year of service!!
- Work continues with Library Market with the new redesign of the Library's website.
- In-Service was a success with employees receiving sexual harassment training and CPR training from the Cicero Fire Department.
- As we enter the new year, we will begin working on the Per Capita Grant and Annual Applications.
- Will work with Department Heads to begin working on the Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR) and the Illinois Statistical Survey.
- We are still in the running for the State's "Project Next Generation" grant. Cristian applied for a "shark tank" like program. This program will utilize the Maker Space that will allow students to create, design and market their product.
- Met with Secretary of State Alex Giannoulias and his staff. We are still in the running for the state's expanded equalization grant. Depending on the grant amount, we will plan on the following:
  - Refreshing our books with new selections and more Spanish language books.
  - Repurpose the periodical room with new flooring and shelving.
  - Expand programming including in our maker space, Garden Club ad Community Garden.
  - Refresh the play are in the Youth Services Department.
  - Install a coffee station area with new seating, tables and work stations for patrons.
  - Look into purchasing new water fountains with bottle fillers.
  - Design, stock and implement a "library of things".



- Waiting to hear from the town's Finance Department to begin planning the 2026 budget for presentation, review and approval in the February or March 2026.
- Will be meeting with the Morton Arboretum, the town and District 99 to solidify a partnership program.

### Programs

All of the December events were a huge success!

- Pictures with Santa was an amazing event. Everyone was so happy and we able to get their picture taken and receive a gift. Special thanks to Toys for Tots, Cicero Fire Department and Del Galdo Law Group for their donations to make the event a success!
- Santa Paws was also an amazing event! There were many pet parents and pet siblings who attended this event and had their picture taken with Santa. We were so happy with the outcome of this event and will plan for an annual event. Special thanks to the Cook County Sheriff's department who donated toys for the pets.
- Promoted the library as a warming center on the colder days. Free hot cocoa and cookies were offered to the patrons.
- Department Heads are excited in planning their calendar of events for 2026.
- We continue to attend Unify Fridays at Unity Junior High School.
- We will continue to find additional programming to fill the need of our public demands.

Library Director Tomschin asked the Board if they had any questions. They indicated none.

Trustee Vega made a motion to accept the Library Director's Report as presented in the Board Packet and place on file. Vice-President Castaneda seconded the motion. Roll call: All Trustees present voting aye: President Grazzini, Vice-President Castaneda, Secretary Hernandez, Trustees Manouzi, Raygoza and Vega. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Esposito. Motion carried.

### Department Reports

Secretary Hernandez made a motion to accept the report for the Circulation Department for the month of December 2025 as presented and place on file. Trustee Manouzi seconded the motion. Roll call: All Trustees present voting aye: President Grazzini, Vice-President Castaneda, Secretary Hernandez, Trustees Manouzi, Raygoza and Vega. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Esposito. Motion carried.

Trustee Manouzi made a motion to accept the report for the Technical Service Department for the month of December 2025 as presented and place on file. Trustee Vega seconded the motion. Roll call: All Trustees present voting aye: President



Grazzini, Vice-President Castaneda, Secretary Hernandez, Trustees Manouzi, Raygoza and Vega. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Esposito. Motion carried.

Secretary Hernandez made a motion to accept the report for the Reference Department for the month of December 2025 as presented and place on file. Vice-President Castaneda seconded the motion. Roll call: All Trustees present voting aye: President Grazzini, Vice-President Castaneda, Secretary Hernandez, Trustees Manouzi, Raygoza and Vega. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Esposito. Motion carried.

Trustee Vega made a motion to accept the report for the Youth Services Department for the month of December 2025 as presented and place on file. Trustee Manouzi seconded the motion. Roll call: All Trustees present voting aye: President Grazzini, Vice-President Castaneda, Secretary Hernandez, Trustees Manouzi, Raygoza and Vega. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Esposito. Motion carried.

Trustee Vega made a motion to accept the report for the Maker Space Department for the month of December 2025 as presented and place on file. Vice-President Castaneda seconded the motion. Roll call: All Trustees present voting aye: President Grazzini, Vice-President Castaneda, Secretary Hernandez, Trustees Manouzi, Raygoza and Vega. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Esposito. Motion carried.

Vice-President Castaneda made a motion to accept the report for the Outreach Department for the month of December 2025 as presented and place on file. Trustee Raygoza seconded the motion. Roll call: All Trustees present voting aye: President Grazzini, Vice-President Castaneda, Secretary Hernandez, Trustees Manouzi, Raygoza and Vega. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Esposito. Motion carried.

### **Correspondence**

There was none to report.

### **Unfinished Business**

Approval of the December 26 Holiday, as a result of the Executive Order, December 26, 2025, will be added to the designated holiday list for the 2025 calendar year. As provided in Section 3.9, eligible employees will be compensated for December 26, 2025, if they are regular scheduled to work that day.

Trustee Vega made a motion to approve the December 26 Holiday as noted. Vice-President Castaneda seconded the motion. Roll call: All Trustees present voting aye: President Grazzini, Vice-President Castaneda, Secretary Hernandez, Trustees Manouzi, Raygoza and Vega. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Esposito. Motion carried.



### **New Business**

There was none to report.

### **Public Comments**

There was none to report.

### **Adjourn into Executive Session**

There was no need for an Executive Session.

### **Informational Item**

President Grazzini announced that the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting would be held on Monday, February 9, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the Cicero Public Library.

### **Adjourn Meeting**

Trustee Vega made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:17 p.m. Vice-President Castaneda seconded the motion. Roll call: All Trustees present voting aye: President Grazzini, Vice-President Castaneda, Secretary Hernandez, Trustees Manouzi, Raygoza and Vega. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Esposito. Motion carried.

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Secretary