

**FLAGG-ROCHELLE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT**  
**Board of Trustees - Regular Session**  
October 16, 2025

**Trustees Present:** Teresa Haggstad, Jackie Dickow, Lanning Nicoloff, Faten Abdallah, Sheri Klindera, Sue Sevedge, Darci Waltrip.

**Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** Sarah K. Flanagan, Library Director; Juan Martinez, Assistant Library Director.

**Call to Order:** At 7:04pm, Mrs. Haggstad called the meeting to order.

**Minutes:** Mrs. Haggstad requested a motion to approve the September 2025 Regular Session minutes. Mrs. Dickow so made the motion and Mrs. Sevedge seconded. Motion carried.

**Finances:** The October 2025 Vendors' Lists and bills were presented. We hadn't received a bill from NCPERS yet, while the one for Severson Dells is for four programs, one which happened on October 13th. Mr. Nicoloff made to motion to approve the Vendors' List and Mrs. Kindera seconded. Motion carried. The Monthly and Quarterly Financial Reports were presented, which had been reviewed by Laura at Sikich beforehand. The Fourth Tax Distribution of \$229,332.83 was received; our account at First State Bank now has over \$500,000 in it, so we will move \$250,000 to our The Illinois Funds account.

**Recognition of Visitors:** None.

**Old Business:** For the air handler, we met with the engineers and with our attorney, Phil Lenzini, who had gone over it with his concerns regarding documentation by Equalis in terms of where they had advertised for a previous job within Ogle County and whether USA Today had circulated that notice within the area. Helm was able to provide all documentation for that as well as for all other concerns such as prevailing wage, sexual harassment prevention training, etc. While the disadvantage of going with Equalis would be no competitive pricing, relying solely on Equalis' quotes, but Mr. Lenzini could defend our use of Equalis should the need arise.

Willett Hoffman can draw a proposal and bid packet for both the roof and the air handler separately, at a cost of \$30,000, for work this coming Spring or Fall of 2026. They have also put our blueprints of the building onto a USB drive for us. Mrs. Dickow motioned for going with Equalis instead, with Mrs. Sevedge seconding. A roll call vote was held and Mr. Nicoloff opted to pass; all others voted "Yea". Motion carried.

**New Business:** The draft of Levy Ordinance No. 25-2 was discussed next. A vote on it won't occur until November's meeting. This year's levy amount was \$793,100.00, a 13.69% increase due to the need for a new roof, a new air handler, and continued programming. A roll call vote was held to adopt it; all voted "Yea". Treasurer Sue Sevedge and Board President Teresa Haggstad will sign the appropriate documents at that time. A motion to adopt the Levy was made by Mrs. Dickow and seconded by Mrs. Abdallah via roll call vote. All present voted "yea".

The expense for our Medical insurance through Blue Cross Blue Shield will go up 13%, which is reflective of all policies and alternatives across the board, from \$2,155.67 to \$2,427.90 per month. This is still be best option as the next best option is roughly the same amount but with less coverage and/or a higher deductible. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Waltrip and seconded by Mrs. Sevedge. Motion carried.

**Librarian's Report:** The Senior Center's Oktoberfest was held on Thursday, October 9th from 4-7 PM. Fall Fest was on Saturday, October 11th from 2-4 PM and offered fun Fall themed programming and treats. There was no school on Monday, October 13th so the library had a lot of programming for kids on that day: Homeschool Hangout, Severson Dells Nature Center and its presentation on "Spooky" animals that come out at night like skunks and bats, Pokémon Club and the Taylor Swift Club met as well. Our hay bale has been decorated as a Pokéball and Pokémon were placed beside it. Fall Programming has begun, with Dungeons & Dragons, K-Pop Demon Hunters, and others. Our Outdoor Spooky Movie on Friday Night will be featuring the movie E.T.: The Extraterrestrial. In November, we will be hosting the Planetarium for our space-themed Family Reading Night with two shows on Thursday, November 20th, which is also the night of the Board Meeting. The Library will participate in the Christmas Walk in December. Baker & Taylor, where we buy all of our library books, will be closing its doors; we are in the process of finding other publishers and distributors for our book orders. As the weather turns colder, a number of homeless people have been seen in the library. Several patrons have either been scammed or were nearly scammed by online predators; one attempt was thwarted here in real time and the patron was grateful for our help. She would like to make a donation in honor of the two staff members that helped her, Ashley Capes and Juan Martinez.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Ms. Waltrip and seconded by Mrs. Klindera to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 pm.

Juan Martinez

Recording Secretary

Approved: 11/20/2025