

**Millard Oakley Public Library Board Minutes**  
**Of Meeting 9/15/2026**

**Attendees:**

**Board Members:** Jerry Schetterer, Deb Newkirk, Brenda Winningham, Lori Morris, Bruce Godfrey, Phillip Talley

**County Commissioners:** Cindy Robbins, Chris Barlow, Roger Carr

**Library Staff:** Eysha Smith, Asst Director

**Regional Staff:** Matt Kirby, Regional Director

**Agenda:**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Jerry Schetterer. Motion was made to approve previous minutes. Deb stated that the minutes needed to be corrected. She had failed to add Judith as a signatory on the checking along with Jerry and Lori. The minutes passed with the correction. Jerry Schetterer, Lori Morris and Judith Cutright are the approved signatories on the checking account.

**Board Discussion:**

1. Election of Officers- Deb made a motion that the election of officers be tabled until after the County Commissioners decided who they would be placing on the Board, so that we would have a full Board voting on the officers. Lori stated that the officers were supposed to have been elected at the July meeting. Deb reminded her that the Board did not meet then because there was not a quorum. Jerry made the second. Lori, Bruce and Phillip voted No. Brenda, Deb and Jerry voted yes. The motion failed. Brenda nominated Jerry as Chair, Deb made the second. The motion failed – 3Yes, 3No. Bruce then nominated Lori with Phillip making the second. The motion failed – 3Yes, 3No. Lori asked Brenda why she voted against her. Brenda replied that she personally has not been on the Board

long enough to feel qualified to be Chair and she, Lori, has been on the Board even less time than Brenda. Jerry mentioned that on her application Lori stated that she had had no experience working on committees. Jerry made the motion that the election be tabled until the next meeting on 11/17/26. Cindy Robbins mentioned that a special meeting could be called after the full county commission met and selected a Board member. Bruce stated that he would be out of the country until about 11/16/26. Deb made the second to table till the November meeting. The motion carried – 4 Yes, 2 No.

## 2. Invocation:

The discussion was who would give the invocation at the beginning of the meeting. Would area clergy be invited to offer the prayer and if so who would decide which clergy. It was decided that only a Board member would offer the prayer and Phillip offered to be the one to give the invocation.

## 3. Public comment:

The questions were when to allow for public comment and for how long. Jerry felt that they should be held at the end of the meeting. Bruce and Deb thought that the comments should be allowed at the beginning of the meeting so the public could comment on items on Board's agenda before they were voted on. I made the motion that comments could be held at the beginning for 3 minutes per person for a total of 30 minutes and be about items on the agenda. Brenda made the second. Motion carried.

## Friends of the Library:

Deb informed the Board that on October 8, 2026 the Friends would be hosting a Patron Appreciation and Open House at the Library from noon until 3:00. There will be refreshments and gifts as well as prizes to be given away.

## Regional Report:

Matt reminded the Board of the upcoming Trustee Training to be held at the Art Circle Library in Crossville. He said members need to be registered.

Financial Report:

Eysha informed the Board that Judith was out of the country on vacation. She stated that the July deposit was \$445.40 and August was \$311.71. Those funds came from Copying, printing and Faxing.

Public Comment:

A public comment session was open where several community members reiterated their stance on wanting to ban books. No specific titles were mentioned and no reconsideration forms have been filed.

Phillip made a motion that the meeting be adjourned and that start time be moved back to 5:15 PM to accommodate new commissioners who were assigned to the Board but do not get off of work until 5. Deb made the second. The motion carried.

The next Board meeting will be held on Nov. 17, 2026 at 5:15 PM



Respectfully submitted,

Deb Newkirk

Secretary/Recorder