

AKRON-SUMMIT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

President John Frola called a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Akron-Summit County Public Library to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Lolita K. Adair Board Room at Main Library. The following members of the Board answered the roll call: Joseph Ferrise, John Frola, T.K. Griffith, William Rich, Bernie Rochford, and Ray Weber. Angela Neeley was absent. Present from Library staff were Pamela Hickson-Stevenson, Michelle Scarpitti, Michelle Alleman, Heather Otto, Peter Schantz, and Sara Schwendeman. Also attending were James Dixon from Roetzel & Andress, and Mark Fiala from Organizational Architecture.

Mr. Rich moved, seconded by Mr. Weber, to adopt the agenda. Mr. Rich moved, seconded by Mr. Weber, to delete from the agenda public participation because the Library Board of Trustees By-laws do not require a public participation agenda item for a special meeting. The motion to amend was adopted without dissent. The motion to adopt the agenda as amended was adopted without dissent.

25-87
AMEND
AGENDA
25-88
ADOPT
AGENDA

Pam Hickson-Stevenson, Executive Director, introduced attorney James Dixon to the Board of Trustees. Mr. Dixon represents the Library in the area of developing Requests for Qualifications from design and construction firms and negotiating contracts. He provided an overview of the qualifications-based process used to solicit and review Statements of Qualifications from design firms for the first phase of the Library's capital projects, which will feature Main Library and the Ellet, Nordonia Hills, and Tallmadge Branch Libraries. He also answered questions regarding the contract, the two attached exhibits, and the design firm fees.

Mr. Rich moved, seconded by Mr. Griffith, to accept the contract presented to the Board with Bostwick Design Partnership for design services. By roll call vote, the motion was adopted without dissent. Ferrise – yes; Frola – yes; Griffith – yes; Rich – yes; Rochford – yes; Weber – yes.

25-89
DESIGN
SERVICES
CONTRACT

Ms. Hickson-Stevenson next introduced Mark Fiala, President of Organizational Architecture (OA). He reviewed for the Board the work that OA would be performing for the Executive Director search process – sourcing, preliminary screening of candidates, presentation of the candidates, and helping the Board prepare for the interview process. The Board members discussed the skills, competencies, and experience they would like the next Executive Director to possess. They also reviewed a draft of the Executive Director position profile. Mr. Fiala reported that OA is sharing the opening on social media and in an email newsletter. It also has been posted on the Ohio Library Council website. He explained that in approximately six weeks OA will send information about screened candidates to the Board.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR
SEARCH

With no further business, Mr. Frola adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary