Viola Public Library District

1701 17th St. Viola, IL 61486

Regular Meeting

August 6, 2025

Meeting called to order at 6:01 pm by Linda Engels.

Present: Mindi Schultz, Treasurer Linda Engels, Secretary

Mike DeLoose Mark Trego

Kathy Carter Lill Batson, Director

Lacey Matkovic Evelyn Lemon

Not Present: Sandy Cook, President Rich Lawson, Vice-President

The trustees recognized Sandy Cook and Rich Lawson, both of whom recently passed away.

Public Comment: Members of the public are invited to speak to the Board of Trustees.  Please identify yourself when called upon.  Comments are to be limited to three (3) minutes or less.  In compliance with the Open Meetings Act, actions may not be taken on items not already on the agenda, but action may be deferred to a later Board meeting at the discretion of the Board.

Treasurer’s Report:

The treasurer’s report was reviewed. Mike DeLoose moved to approve the treasurer’s report as presented. Mark Trego seconded. Motion passed.

Secretary’s Report:

The secretary’s report was reviewed. Mike DeLoose made a motion to accept the secretary’s report with the following correction: down to done. *After some discussion Mindi Schultz moved to have all the repairs ~~down~~ done as soon as possible*. Mindi Schultz seconded. Motion passed.

Director’s Report:

The circulation numbers are still good. Interlibrary loan is going well. We are processing requests for other libraries in Illinois outside of our library system and libraries from other states. We received 8 out-of-state requests and were able to fill 4. We received 13 in-state requests through OCLC and were able to fill 9 of those. In total, we filled 242 out of 254 inter-library loan requests.

Summer reading ended July 16 with a musical performance by John Heasley. It was free since he was awarded a grant from the Illinois Arts Council. Eight children came to hear him. He talked to the children about the various instruments he brought. They seemed to enjoy it. The crafts seemed to go over well with the kids and their parents. We had 3 guest readers: Linda Miller, Allyn Steagall, and Clayton (CJ) Brendal.

There is a new law requiring libraries to stock Narcan and have at least one staff member at all open hours that know how to administer it. The law is a Local Library Act and does not address Library Districts. We are waiting to hear what the State Library tells us.

With the closing of the DMV in Aledo, we sell more stickers – 14 this month and one veteran’s sticker for just the $5.00 fee – we may want to stop accepting checks. If a check bounces, we have no recourse or help in collecting the amount. ELS said they advise venders to accept cash or credit card only. She said the DMV no longer accepts checks. We may want to consider a credit card app/machine. Square was recommended by ELS as other libraries are using that. Per ELS, the State allows the library to charge 2-3% for credit card fees plus up to $9.50 in service fees.

We were listed as a memorial for Rich and received $550.00 as of 8/4/25. I’ve been looking into ideas for memorials. A plaque was suggested. If we do a plaque, I feel it should list ALL former trustees/staff and I’m not sure we have complete records for trustees going back to 1948. An outdoor bench was also suggested, but I don’t know where to put it for safety issues or to prevent theft or damage. I have some other ideas for Richie, Sandy, and Carol Whan – including repainting a bookshelf, buying a planter with trellis, Cubs birdhouse decoration, etc. I will bring more info to the September meeting.

I’ve reached out to the County Clerk to see about our tax levy with the new solar farm. He couldn’t answer my question and suggested we start with the assessor’s office to see what our EAV is, read the statutes, and maybe reach out to our attorney for guidance. The assessor sent me the tentative EAV for our district and cc’d the Clerk to ask him to help us figure out how to do the tax. I can reach out to Phil or ask other directors on the listserv what they do in this instance. Chances are we will have to have a hearing and publish the Truth in Taxation Notice in order to get the full tax levy we are allowed by law.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Swear in New Trustees – Final Action

Linda Engels swore in new trustees Lacey Matkovic filling Rich Lawson’s place and Evelyn Lemon filling Sandy Cook’s place.

Officer – Final Action

After some discussion, Kathy Carter offered to the role of President and mark Trego offered to take the Vice President spot. Mike DeLoose moved to accept the two as officers with Mindi Schult seconding. Motion passed.

Non-Resident Library Card Fee – Final Action

Lill informed the board that the fee for a non-resident card would be $121.00 using the mathematical calculation. She also mentioned a new law that non-residents are now allowed to pay quarterly, semi-annually, or annually. Mike DeLoose moved to approve the new rate effective July 1 with Mark Trego seconding. Motion passed.

FY26 Budget – Final Action

Lill presented the FY26 budget. After reviewing it, Mark Trego moved to adopt the budget as presented. Mike DeLoose seconded. Motion passed.

Annual Report FY25 – Final Action

Lill presented the FY25 Annual Report for review. After looking it over, Mindi Schultz moved to accept the annual report with Linda Engels seconding. Motion passed.

Mike DeLoose moved to adjourn the meeting. Mark Trego seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm. Next regular meeting is September 3, 2025 at 6:00 pm.