

Defiance Public Library Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
May 27, 2026

The Board of Trustees of Defiance Public Library met for its monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at the Johnson Memorial Library, Hicksville, Ohio; notice of said meeting pursuant to O.R.C. 121 having been posted.

President Dennis Sobecki called the meeting to order at 5:08 P.M. In attendance were Board members: Chris Korhn, Jenny Derringer, Tammy Bowers, Shari Hedge, and Beth Michel. Rob Giesige was absent. Staff members present: Director Cara Potter, CFO Kristi Keefer, Elaine Talbert, and Angela Powell.

There were no visitors.

Angela Powell gave the board members a tour of the renovations at Johnson Memorial Library.

The Finance Committee met on May 7, 2026, at 1:00 P.M. at the Defiance Public Library to review the April 2026 Financials. Finance Chair Rob Giesige, Vice-President Beth Michel, Director Cara Potter, and CFO Kristi Keefer were in attendance. Kristi Keefer reported to the library board that the PLF for April came in at \$127,353.41, which is 2.1% below the estimate. The YTD 2026 PLF is 0.56% below the estimate. Kristi gave updates on TCP & BS&A upgrades. The levy ballot, Renewal + increase for 1.65 Mil for 35 years, will generate \$1.9 million yearly, and Kristi recommended \$8.5 million for 35 years for debt service. This amount will be reduced based on fundraising and grant balances at the time of the bank qualification deadline.

Chris Korhn, Shari Hedge, and Tammy Bowers updated the Library Board on the activities of the Friends of the Defiance Public, Johnson Memorial, and Sherwood Branch libraries, in that order.

Consent Agenda

Beth Michel moved, and Tammy Bowers seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

- Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting April 29, 2026, and the Special Board Meeting May 7, 2026.
- Approval of the April 2026 Financial Reports as reviewed by the Finance Committee and approval of the payment of bills for May 2026.
- Approval of the Fiscal Officer's Report as presented.

The Year-to-Date General Fund Activity through April 30, 2026:

Beginning Balance	\$2,845,728.50
Revenue	+ 167,806.80
Expenses	- <u>241,133.41</u>
Month End Balance	\$ 2,772,401.89

April 2026 PLF: 127,353.41

- Approval of the Library Operations Report.
- DPLS Department Reports.

Revenue and Appropriation Adjustments

The adjustments below are the acceptance of a gift from an anonymous donor, and the movement of funds among library accounts.

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- Approval of accepting donations from an Anonymous Donor.
- Approval of an increase in General Fund revenue in Unrestricted Contributions & Gifts of \$40.00.
- Approval of an increase in General Fund appropriations in Adult Reference Books for \$40.00.

Motion Carried

Items for Discussion:

Personnel

The director proposes that the library offer JML Branch Assistant Kelly Brown a temporary promotion to Branch Associate at Johnson Memorial Library during the Summer Reading Challenge, since the position is vacant. Kelly will remain at 20 hours and be paid at the step 1 Associate rate of \$16.65 per hour from June 1 through August 7, 2026. The dates are being adjusted to align with the pay period, as we do not pay two different rates within the same pay period.

Jenny Derringer moved, and Tammy Bowers seconded the motion to approve and temporarily assign Johnson Memorial Branch Assistant Kelly Brown to the Branch Associate position for eight weeks starting Monday, June 1, 2026, and ending July 31, 2026, with a pay rate of \$16.65 per hour. Motion Carried.

New Policies

Information from OhioPlan is unavailable for the Cybersecurity Policy.

Disposition of Surplus Materials and Real Property

Sheri Hedge moved, and Beth Michel seconded the motion to approve the Disposition of Surplus Material and Tangible Property Policy. Motion carried.

Resolution Requestion Submission of Question of Tax Levy

**BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES
DEFIANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM**

The Board of Library Trustees (the “Board”) of the Defiance Public Library System, Defiance County, Ohio (the “Library”), a free public library of the City of Defiance, Ohio (the “City”) as taxing authority met in regular session on May 27, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., at the Johnson Memorial Library, 116 West High Street, Hicksville, Ohio 43526, with the following members present:

Ms. Chris Korhn introduced the following resolution and moved its passage:

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE CITY OF DEFIANCE, OHIO TO
SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS OF THE DEFIANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY
SYSTEM SERVICE AREA THE QUESTION OF A RENEWAL WITH
INCREASE TAX LEVY FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE DEFIANCE
PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM**

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(R.C. Sections 5705.03, 5705.23, 5705.25)

Renewal with Increase Library Current Expense Levy

WHEREAS, the County Auditor of Defiance County, Ohio (the “County Auditor”) has certified that the above-referenced renewal of 0.75 mills with increase of 0.90 mills to constitute a tax of 1.65 mills (the “Renewal with Increase Levy”) will generate \$1,942,369 during the first year of collection, based on the current total taxable value of the Library Service Area of \$1,371,996,840; and

WHEREAS, the County Auditor has also certified to the Board that the amount of the Renewal with Increase Levy (based on the renewal portion’s 0.75 mill “effective rate” (as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.01(Q), as required by Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.03(B)(2)(c)(i)) expressed in dollars, rounded to the nearest \$1, for each \$100,000 of the “county auditor’s market value” (as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.01(P)), is \$47 (the “Estimated Cost”);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Library Trustees of the Defiance Public Library System, Defiance County, Ohio, two-thirds of all of the members appointed thereto concurring, that:

Section 1. It is hereby found, determined, declared and recited, that (a) the Library was established prior to 1900, by ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City as a free public library to serve the Library Service Area; and (b) this Board wishes to initiate proceedings for the submission to the electors of the Library Service Area the question of the Renewal with Increase Levy for current expenses of the Library.

Section 2. It is hereby found, determined and declared that the amount of taxes which may be raised within the ten-mill limitation by levies on the current tax list and duplicate will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of the Library, and it is necessary to levy the Renewal with Increase Levy in excess of such limitation for current expenses of the Library.

Section 3. This Board hereby requests the City Council of the City to pass a resolution under Section 5705.23, Ohio Revised Code, and other applicable provisions of law to submit to all the electors of the entire Library Service Area at an election to be held therein on November 3, 2026, the question of such Renewal with Increase Levy for current expenses of the Library. All of the Library Service Area is in Defiance County, Ohio. The Library shall reimburse the City for costs of the election as certified by the Board of Elections of Defiance County.

Section 4. The Renewal with Increase Levy shall be at a rate not exceeding 1.65 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, for the following period of time: 35 years, for the purpose of current expenses of the Library, which the County Auditor has certified at the Estimated Cost for each \$100,000 of the County Auditor’s market value.

Section 5. The Renewal with Increase Levy shall be placed upon the tax list and duplicate for the 2026 tax year, commencing in 2026, first due in calendar year 2027, if a majority of the electors voting thereon vote in favor thereof.

Section 6. This Board finds, determines and declares that the Renewal with Increase Levy, if approved by the electors, is necessary to the proper furnishing and rendering of free public library services in the Library Service Area and for the residents of the Library Service Area.

Section 7. The Fiscal Officer of this Board is hereby authorized and directed to deliver a certified copy of this resolution to the City Council of the City.

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Section 8. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Ms. Jenny Derringer seconded the motion, and after discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the results were:

Ayes: Dennis Sobecki, Chris Korhn, Jenny Derringer, Tammy Bowers, Shari Hedge and Beth Michel.

Nays: None.

The resolution passed.

Passed: May 27, 2026

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES
DEFIANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
DEFIANCE COUNTY, OHIO

Attest: _____
Fiscal Officer

Board President

Annex update.

The proposed SHP schedule was reviewed by the library board

Levy Committee

Mark Weaner is now the library levy committee treasurer, and Tammy Bowers is the second signatory on the account held at the State Bank.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 24, 2026, at 5:00 P.M. at the Defiance Public Library.

Meeting adjourned by Board President Dennis Sobecki at 6:20 P.M.

_____, President

_____, Secretary