# **Meeting Agenda****Date:** Thursday, February 20, 2025**Location:** Harriet M. Schlesinger Board Room and Virtual

**Schedule:**

* **Executive Session – 12:00 P.M.**
* **Board of Trustees Meeting – 1:00 P.M.**

**Executive Session (12:00 P.M.)**

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
– Verification of Quorum
3. **Personnel Matters**
– IC 5–14–1.5–6.1(b)(9)
– Discussion of Confidential Personnel Issues
4. **Adjournment**

*Note: No formal action or public participation occurs during the Executive Session.*

**Board of Trustees Meeting (1:00 P.M.)**

**I. Call to Order**

* Verification of Quorum (Roll Call)
* Recognition of Board Members Present

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Public Expression**

* Members of the public wishing to speak are allotted up to three (3) minutes.
* Please state your name and address for the record.

**IV. Action Items**

1. **Approval of Minutes:**
	* January 16, 2025 – Regular Board Meeting
	* January 16, 2025 – Executive Session
2. **Financial Matters:**
	* **Voucher Approval:** Review and approval of claims.
	* **Financial Reports:**
	• Appropriation Report
	• Disbursement Report by Fund
	• Financial Report by Fund
	• Bank Balances
	• Rainy Day Fund
	* **Additional Financial Updates:**
	• Tax revenue updates and budget adjustments.
3. **Policy Review & Updates:**
	* Consideration of updates to library policies, including circulation, facility use, and patron conduct.
4. **Library Facility & Maintenance Updates:**
	* Review of recent and upcoming maintenance projects, technology upgrades, and infrastructure improvements.

**V. Discussion Items**

* **Library Programming & Community Events:**
	+ African American History Month Events: Summary of participation and impact.
	+ Upcoming Spring Programs & Outreach: Plans for literacy initiatives, community workshops, and youth programming.
* **Technology & Digital Access Improvements:**
	+ Updates on digital service enhancements, including new library app application and expanded Wi-Fi access.
* **Grant & Funding Opportunities:**
	+ Discussion on Gaming Grant applications and alternative funding sources for library services.
* **Review of State Senate Bill 283:**
	+ *Overview:* Senate Bill 283, under review in the Indiana Senate Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee, seeks to eliminate public libraries’ authority to impose an ad valorem property tax by shifting fiscal responsibilities to county governments.
	+ *Key Implications:*
	• Removal of independent taxing power; increased reliance on county funding.
	• Potential financial strain due to inherited bond obligations and property maintenance challenges.
	• Risks of service disruptions and workforce integration issues.
	+ *Stakeholder Concerns:* Library professionals and advocacy groups caution that without a detailed transition roadmap, the abrupt change may lead to significant administrative and financial challenges.

[everylibraryinstitute.org](https://www.everylibraryinstitute.org/polcy_brief_in_sb283_2025_cautions_concerns)

[legiscan.com](https://legiscan.com/IN/bill/SB0283/2025)

[indianacapitalchronicle.com](https://indianacapitalchronicle.com/2025/01/22/libraries-fire-back-on-bill-to-remove-taxing-authority/)

* **Review of Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library Program:**
	+ *Overview:* An early literacy initiative providing free, high-quality, age-appropriate books to children monthly from birth until age five.
	+ *Expansion & Impact:*
	• Statewide expansion efforts aim to cover every zip code, supported by matching state funds.
	• Some areas (e.g., parts of Marion County) remain underserved, leaving tens of thousands of children without access.
	+ *Community Benefits:* Promotes parent-child reading, builds home libraries, and boosts early literacy and academic readiness.

[in.gov](https://www.in.gov/library/imagination-library/)

[imaginationlibrary.com](https://imaginationlibrary.com/indiana-kicks-off-statewide-expansion-of-dolly-partons-imagination-library/)

[chalkbeat.org](https://www.chalkbeat.org/indiana/2024/08/23/dolly-partons-imagination-library-not-accessible-to-most-of-marion-county/)

* **Overview of Library Circulation Numbers and Financials:**
	+ *Circulation Trends:* Recent data indicates an upward trend in library circulation—reporting a growth of approximately 5% compared to the previous year—with increased checkouts and higher patron engagement.
	+ *Financial Overview:* The latest financial reports show stable funding with balanced operating expenses and revenues. Key highlights include consistent revenue streams from municipal and state sources and controlled expenditure levels that align with the approved budget forecasts.
	+ Additional details on circulation figures and fiscal performance will be reviewed for further insight.

**VI. Second Public Expression Opportunity**

* Additional comments or feedback from community members.

**VII. Calendar**

* **Next Meeting:** Thursday, March 20, 2025
• Executive Session – 12:00 P.M.
• Board of Trustees Meeting – 1:00 P.M.

**VIII. Adjournment**

Respectfully Submitted,
Cornell White
Executive Director