

**GARY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dr. Lucille Washington, President  
Ms. McKenya Dilworth Smith, Secretary  
Ms. Linda Collins, Member  
Ms. Crystal O'Brien, Acting Secretary  
Ms. Jacquese White, Member  
Mrs. Marlinda Tyson-Haymon, Member

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mr. Robert Farag, Vice President

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Diana Morrow, Director  
Mr. Curtis Whitakker, CPA  
Ms. Pamela May, Technology Supervisor  
Ms. Merri Roddy, Executive Assistant  
Judge Deidre Monroe, Attorney  
Ms. Kelly White, Attorney (Zoom)

The Meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Gary Public Library was called to order at 5:11 p.m. on Monday, February 3, 2026, by Board President Dr. Lucille Washington. This is a rescheduled meeting originally scheduled for Monday, January 26, 2026. Dr. Washington asked for a roll call. At the time of roll call results: (6) board members were present (1) was absent.

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

Dr. Washington asked for a motion to accept the agenda. Ms. Collins made a motion to accept the agenda. Seconded by Mrs. Tyson-Haymon. She asked for discussions. There were none. Dr. Washington called for a vote. Roll call: Ms. O'Brien, Ms. Collins, Ms. White, Ms. Dilworth Smith, Mrs. Tyson-Haymon, Dr. Washington. Motion passed (6) to (0).

**CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Secretary certifies for the record that the Executive Session held prior to this meeting was held pursuant to Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-6.1. Agenda, Executive Session of

**GARY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026  
PAGE 2**

the Board of Library Trustees of the Gary Public Library IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(7). For Discussion of records classified as confidential by State or Federal statute. We certify that only items discussed during the Executive Session were items enumerated in Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-6.1. The Board certifies that the public was duly notified pursuant to Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-5. (Public Notice of Meetings) and that no final decisions were made during the Executive Session. Dr. Washington asked for a motion to approve the Executive Session. Ms. Collins made a motion. Seconded by Mrs. Tyson-Haymon. Dr. Washington called for a vote. Roll call: Ms. O'Brien, Ms. Collins, Ms. White, Ms. Dilworth Smith, Mrs. Tyson-Haymon, Dr. Washington. Motion passed (6) to (0).

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

Approval of Regular Board Minutes December 15, 2025

Dr. Washington asked for a motion to accept the Board Minutes from December 15, 2025. Mrs. Tyson-Haymon made a motion to accept the minutes. Seconded by Ms. White. She asked for discussions. There were none. Dr. Washington called for a vote. Roll Call: Ms. O'Brien, Ms. Collins, Ms. White, Ms. Dilworth Smith, Mrs. Tyson-Haymon, Dr. Washington. Motion passed (6) to (0).

**BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING**

At 5:11 pm Dr. Washington opened the Board of Finance Meeting requesting Mr. Whittaker to give his report.

Mr. Whittaker reported that at the end of December 31, 2025 the library's total assets were \$9,240,001.75 and the total liabilities were \$223,906.11 which left the library with total net assets of \$4,448,056.29. He stated that this is a pretty strong balance sheet. He went over the revenue and expenditures that led to a total net income of \$1,176,012.13. The Board and Mr. Whittaker discussed Senate Bill 8 that was passed, and overall budget savings. Dr. Washington asked for a motion to accept the Board of Finance Report. Ms. Dilworth Smith made a motion to approve. Seconded by Ms. Collins. Dr. Washington Called for a vote. Roll Call: Ms. O'Brien, Ms. Collins, Ms. White, Ms. Dilworth Smith, Mrs. Tyson-Haymon, Dr. Washington. Motion passed (6) to (0). The Board of Finance Meeting ended at 5:34 pm.

**GARY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026  
PAGE 3**

**NEW BUSINESS**

2026 Gary Public Library Calendar Holidays and Closings/Board Meeting Dates

Ms. Morrow presented the board with the 2026 Holiday and Closings and also the meeting dates for the board meetings. The only change that the Trustees agreed to was to make November's Board Meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday. The new date will be November 16<sup>th</sup>.

**BUDGET & FINANCE**

Mr. Whittaker requested approval from the Board to accept the recommendation to approve agenda items 1 – 4 of the Budget and Finance Agenda. Line item 5 is informational:

1) Payroll Expense – Actual for December 2025:	\$ 153,588.02
Including:	
Out of Class Pay –Dec. 12 2025:	\$ 91.42
Overtime –Dec. 12, 2025:	\$ 808.32
Out of Class Pay –Dec. 26, 2025:	\$ 80.96
Overtime –Dec. 26, 2025:	\$ 1,270.65
2) Payroll Expense – Estimate for February 2026:	\$ 154,401.43
3) Unpaid Claims – Dec. 12, 2026 – Jan. 21, 2026:	\$ 64,712.27
4) Pre-Paid Accounts Payable Expenses –Dec. 12, 2025 -Jan. 21, 2026:	\$ 232,059.12
5) Fall 2025 Tax Distribution	\$2,214,285.15
6) Cash on Hand as of Dec. 31, 2025	\$5,849,701.32

**GARY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026  
PAGE 4**

Monthly Interest: \$ 10,723.15  
Annual Interest: \$ 159,937.46

Mr. Whittaker asked the board to approve the report. Dr. Washington asked the board for a motion to approve the Budget and Finance Agenda. It was moved by Ms. Dilworth Smith and seconded by Ms. Collins to accept the Budget and Finance agenda. Dr. Washington called for a vote. Roll Call: Yes – Ms. O'Brien, Ms. Collins, Ms. White, Ms. Dilworth Smith, Mrs. Tyson-Haymon, Dr. Washington. Motion passed (6) to (0).

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

Mr. Jackson reported that the staff has been working to keep up with maintenance for all the buildings with the extreme temperature within the last few weeks. Mr. Jackson and the Trustees discussed options to prepare the buildings for the spring season.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A member from the Rose Garden Club at Woodson spoke about upcoming events that will be held in the spring. She invited everyone to come and volunteer. Another person spoke on how the classes she teaches on starting a business have been successful. She stated that she appreciates the staff at Woodson for partnering with her to give the monthly classes. Mr. Tryell Anderson also spoke to the board about how much fun he and his family had at the ice-skating rink that the Legacy Foundation and Gary Public Library sponsored at the Woodson branch. He thanked board for their involvement with bringing it to Gary.

**INFORMATIONAL**

Director's Report

Monthly Management Reports

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

**GARY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026  
PAGE 5**

**PRESIDENT:** Lucille D. Washington  
Dr. Lucille Washington

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Robert Farag  
Mr. Robert Farag

**SECRETARY:** McKenya Dilworth Smith  
Ms. McKenya Dilworth Smith

**MEMBER:** Linda Collins  
Ms. Linda Collins

**MEMBER:** Jacquese White  
Ms. Jacquese White

**MEMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. Marlinda Tyson-Haymon

**MEMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. Crystal O'Brien