



Dubuque County  
**Library District**

The Dubuque County Library District Board of Trustees met at 5:30 pm on Tuesday, December 9th, at the Peosta Branch, 8342 NICC Drive Peosta, IA 52068.

The special meeting was called to order by President Kristen Smith at 5:30 p.m.

President Smith called roll. Present: Nellie Burk, Kirsten Smith, Jane Boge, Susan Henricks, Teresa Reuter, Sue Ross, Shawn Coenen, and Van Waggoner joined via Zoom.

Absent: Julita Schneider

Also present: Laura Sauser, Library Director; Lauren Offerman, Library Clerk; Ed Raber, Planning & Development Director for Dubuque County.

Approval of Agenda:

Burk made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Coenen. All ayes, motion carried.

**Correspondence:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**New Business:**

There was discussion about the board's recent decision to include a 2% increase on the per capita rate charged to Dubuque County and the cities who contract with the DCLD for library services in the FY27 budget. Raber explained the anticipated impact of this proposed increase on the overall county budget. In addition, Raber explained that the this proposed increase may also impact the city of Farley's plans to make a second financial request to the Board of Supervisors for the Farley Library and Community Center project as part of an State of Iowa Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) grant application they plan to submit, which would greatly reduce the city's chances of having their application be successful.

Sauser recommended the board not request a per capita increase for FY27 and, instead, request the same \$37.50 per capita rate as requested in FY26 and utilize more funds from the DCLD fund balance to make up the difference. Waggoner noted that the library is already covering nearly 9% of the proposed FY27 budget and expressed concerns about future budget years. Smith stated that the library budget will need to be analyzed on a year-to-year basis. Burk stated

that the difference between a 2% increase and a 0% increase is around \$23,000. Since the library has the funds to cover the difference, they should go with no per capita increase for FY27.

Smith requested a motion to amend the FY2027 budget with no increase in per capita and to self-fund the difference. A motion was made by Burk and seconded by Boge. 8 ayes 1 no; Motion carried.

Raber and Sauser will discuss what is needed to prepare for the Farley request to the Dubuque County Board of Supervisors meeting on December 15.

The meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Lauren Offerman.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, December 16, 2025, 5:30 PM at Asbury Branch.