

**LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
LORAIN, OHIO**

AGENDA

Thursday, May 21, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

Avon Branch

37485 Harvest Drive, Avon, OH 44011

Mission: To Welcome, Enrich, Empower and Inspire

Regular Meeting

Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

(The Chair asks if any Members have a conflict with today's Agenda)

Roll Call – Mr. Ackerman _____, Mr. Byrne _____, Mr. Schaefer _____, Ms. Thompson _____,
Mr. White _____ Ms. Ramirez _____

#2026-049 Resolution of Appreciation for the 2026 Lorain Library Levy Committee

_____ moved, _____ seconded to Approve the Resolution of Appreciation for the
2026 Lorain Library Levy Committee.

Resolution of Appreciation

Whereas, the Lorain Public Library System benefits from the work and commitment of many community volunteers; and

Whereas, the success of the 2026 Lorain Library levy was dependent on the dedication and hard work of the Citizen's Committee for the Lorain Library Levy; and

Whereas, the leadership of Levy Chairperson Chris White, Treasurer Joanne Eldridge-Tucker, co-treasurer Ariana Leandry and the tireless efforts of the rest of the levy committee resulted in an overwhelming 70.3% victory for the Lorain libraries; and

Whereas, the Citizen's Committee for the Lorain Library Levy has contributed a considerable amount of time to this endeavor; Therefore,

Be It Resolved, that the Lorain Public Library System Board of Trustees does publicly acknowledge Levy Chairperson Chris White, Treasurer Joanne Eldridge-Tucker, co-treasurer Ariana Leandry, the Friends of the Lorain Public Library, Inc., SEIU District 1199 and many other levy volunteers who helped behind the scenes and extends its appreciation on behalf of the board and staff.

Roll Call – Mr. Ackerman _____, Mr. Byrne _____, Mr. Schaefer _____, Ms. Thompson _____,
Mr. White _____ Ms. Ramirez _____

#2026-050 Resolution of Appreciation for the 2026 Domonkas Library Levy Committee

_____ moved, _____ seconded to Approve the Resolution of Appreciation for the 2026 Domonkas Library Levy Committee.

Resolution of Appreciation

Whereas, the Lorain Public Library System benefits from the work and commitment of many community volunteers; and

Whereas, the success of the 2026 Domonkas Library levy was dependent on the dedication and hard work of the Domonkas Library Levy Committee; and

Whereas, the leadership of Levy Chairperson Richard Ackerman, Treasurer Joanne Eldridge-Tucker, Friend of Domonkas Library Lisa Maatz and the tireless efforts of the rest of the levy committee resulted in an overwhelming 67.9% victory for the Domonkas library; and

Whereas, the Domonkas Library Levy Committee contributed a considerable amount of time to this endeavor; Therefore,

Be It Resolved, that the Lorain Public Library System Board of Trustees does publicly acknowledge Levy Chairperson Richard Ackerman, Treasurer Joanne Eldridge-Tucker, Volunteer Lisa Maatz, the Friends of the Domonkas Public Library, Inc., SEIU District 1199 and many other levy volunteers who helped behind the scenes and extends its appreciation on behalf of the board and staff.

Roll Call – Mr. Ackerman _____, Mr. Byrne _____, Mr. Schaefer _____, Ms. Thompson _____, Mr. White _____ Ms. Ramirez _____

#2026-051 Approval of April 16, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes

_____ moved, _____ seconded to approve the April 16, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Roll Call – Mr. Ackerman _____, Mr. Byrne _____, Mr. Schaefer _____, Ms. Thompson _____, Mr. White _____ Ms. Ramirez _____

Report of the Director

2026 April Monthly Statistics Report

Committee Reports

- a. Finance, Audit and Properties Committee
- b. Library Services and Personnel Committee
- c. Trustee Development and Nominating Committee

- d. Friends of the Library
- e. Foundation of the Lorain Public Library System

Communications

Branch Update

Audience Participation

New Business

Consent Agenda

#2026-052 to #2026-058

#2026-052 Resolution to Approve Then and Now Payment to Medica LLC.

Approve a Then and Now payment to Medica LLC for consulting services as follows:

Check #	Amount	Date Paid
7529	\$7,392.50	May 11, 2026

#2026-053 Resolution to Approve the Adoption of the 2026 Tax Budget

LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

2027 TAX BUDGET – KEY ASSUMPTIONS

Unencumbered Fund Balance (per Fund)

- Total reflects the April 2026 cash balance plus estimated outstanding revenues minus outstanding estimated expenditures
- Estimated reserves for encumbrance brought forward to reflect anticipated payment on invoices for goods and services received in December to take place in January 2027.
- Capital Project Funds are projected to carryover zero unencumbered balance this year due to full expenditure on Main Branch roof repair as well as unexpected expenses / complications regarding the Main elevator repair / replacement.

Revenues: (Real Estate / PLF / Other)

- Real Estate Taxes based on 2/19/26 Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources Real Estate Tax amounts.
- New levy revenue for Domokas Branch estimate per Elections Board reflected as additional \$588,830.
- Public Library Fund (PLF) based on amount provided in Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources PLF 2026.
- Other Sources of Revenue reflect conservative estimates of actual 2025 receipts ranging from contributions, grants, interest on investments to income from passports and kiosk revenues.

Estimated Expenditures

- General Fund / Levy Funds –
 - Considerations include salary and benefit increases, increased expenses for fuel, utilities and supplies, renovations of Main first floor expenses, projected expenses for Maintenance storage needs, and transfer of approximately 1.5 million to Capital Project Fund for future development.

LIBRARIES TAX YEAR 2027 ANNUAL BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES and EXPENDITURES

Date: _____ May 12, 2026 _____

Per Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.281 The Budget Commission of Lorain County, Ohio
requests the following information to be completed and returned to the Lorain County Auditors Office, by July 17th in order to perform its duties.

LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

FUND	ESTIMATED UNENCUMBERED BALANCE January 1, 2027	ESTIMATED REAL ESTATE TAXES	ESTIMATED PUBLIC LIBRARY FUND 2027	OTHER SOURCES	TOTAL	ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	OVER/UNDER REVENUE
General Fund	\$ 4,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,208,554.12	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 9,283,554.12	\$ 8,200,000.00	\$ 1,083,554.12
Lorain CSD	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 3,511,807.46	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,521,807.46	\$ 4,570,005.00	\$ 951,802.46
Sheffield Lake City	\$ -	\$ 588,830.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 603,830.00	\$ 475,000.00	\$ 128,830.00
Avon City	\$ 2,500,000.00	\$ 2,114,844.42	\$ -	\$ 166,713.00	\$ 4,781,557.42	\$ 3,100,000.00	\$ 1,681,557.42
North Ridgeville City	\$ 900,000.00	\$ 1,640,361.36	\$ -	\$ 70,131.00	\$ 2,610,492.36	\$ 1,900,000.00	\$ 710,492.36
Columbia Township	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 773,444.06	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 869,944.06	\$ 790,000.00	\$ 79,944.06
Special Revenue Funds	\$ 650,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 672,000.00	\$ 550,000.00	\$ 122,000.00
Debt Service Funds	\$ 450,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 692,000.00	\$ 1,142,000.00	\$ 693,000.00	\$ 449,000.00
Capital Project Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ -
Enterprise Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Internal Service Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Custodial Fund	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 10,610,000.00	\$ 8,629,287.30	\$ 5,208,554.12	\$ 2,552,344.00	\$ 27,000,185.42	\$ 21,793,005.00	\$ 5,207,180.42

LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY - CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER

***SUBJECT TO FURTHER REVIEW BY
BUDGET COMMISSION

SIGNATURE AND TITLE: _____

#2026-054 Resolution to Approve First Amendment to the Year 2026 Appropriation

Date: May 21, 2026

Mr. J. Craig Snodgrass, CPA, CGFM
Lorain County Auditor
226 Middle Ave
Elyria, OH 440345

Mr. Snodgrass:


Re: 2026 Appropriations

The **Lorain Public Library** request an Amended Certificate of Appropriations reflecting changes in the following funds:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>
General Fund	\$ 6,088,382.00	\$ 6,621,382.00	\$ 533,000.00
Lorain CSD	\$ 4,396,342.00	\$ 4,600,342.00	\$ 204,000.00
Sheffield Lake City	\$ 632,375.00	\$ 654,575.00	\$ 22,200.00
Avon City	\$ 2,288,262.00	\$ 2,319,262.00	\$ 31,000.00
North Ridgeville City	\$ 1,657,131.00	\$ 1,699,131.00	\$ 42,000.00
Columbia Township	\$ 716,000.00	\$ 736,500.00	\$ 20,500.00
Special Revenue Funds	\$ 61,500.00	\$ 61,500.00	\$ -
Debt Service Funds	\$ 690,562.00	\$ 690,262.00	\$ -
Capital Project Funds	\$ 2,700,000.00	\$ 2,700,000.00	\$ -
Enterprise Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Internal Service Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Custodial Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total:	\$ 19,230,554.00	\$ 20,082,954.00	\$ 852,700.00

The reason for the increase/decrease in Appropriations:

Thank you,



Laura Bates, Director of Finance and Fiscal Officer
Lorain Public Library System

AMENDED OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE OF ESTIMATED RESOURCES

O.R.C. 5707.36

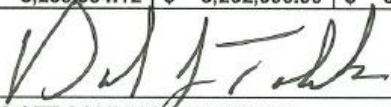
Office of Budget Commission, Lorain County, Elyria, Ohio

February 19, 2026

To the TAXING AUTHORITY OF: **LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The following is the amended official certificate of estimated resources for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026, as revised by the Budget Commission of said county, which shall govern the total appropriations made at any time during such fiscal year.

FUND	UNENCUMBERED BALANCE January 1, 2026	REAL ESTATE TAXES	ESTIMATED PUBLIC LIBRARY FUND 2026	OTHER SOURCES	TOTAL
General Fund	\$ 8,750,083.86		\$ 5,208,554.12	\$ 74,000.00	\$ 14,032,637.98
Lorain CSD	\$ 4,667,260.48	\$ 3,511,807.46	\$ -	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 8,209,067.94
Sheffield Lake City	\$ 140,300.84	\$ 462,910.62	\$ -	\$ 87,500.00	\$ 690,711.46
Avon City	\$ 2,796,969.26	\$ 2,114,844.42	\$ -	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 4,939,813.68
North Ridgeville City	\$ 1,129,980.61	\$ 1,640,361.36	\$ -	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 2,798,341.97
Columbia Township	\$ 113,966.23	\$ 773,444.06	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 888,910.29
Special Revenue Funds	\$ 755,028.48			\$ 20,000.00	\$ 775,028.48
Debt Service Funds	\$ 488,336.45			\$ 693,000.00	\$ 1,181,336.45
Capital Projects Funds	\$ 2,751,591.33			\$ 2,300,000.00	\$ 5,051,591.33
Enterprise Funds	\$ 678,408.45				\$ 678,408.45
Internal Service Funds	\$ 50,374.46				\$ 50,374.46
Custodial Funds	\$ 17,163.66				\$ 17,163.66
TOTAL	\$ 22,339,464.11	\$ 8,503,367.92	\$ 5,208,554.12	\$ 3,262,000.00	\$ 39,313,386.15


 BUDGET COMMISSION MEMBER

Completed by:
AN
BC-2026
FEBRUARY
0


 BUDGET COMMISSION MEMBER

Anthony D. Cillo  02/19/2026 12:16 PM EST
 BUDGET COMMISSION MEMBER

WHEREAS, *Ohio Revised Code* Section 5705.40 provides for the amendment of an appropriation measure when necessary; and

WHEREAS, It is now deemed necessary to amend the Year 2026 Appropriation Measure, which complies with the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources received from the Lorain County Budget Commission dated February 19, 2026; and

WHEREAS, The aggregate of all appropriation classifications does not exceed the total amount submitted to the Lorain County Budget Commission; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the sums indicated on the attached First Amendment to the Year 2026 Appropriation Schedule be approved.

#2026-055 Authorization to purchase and use "employee dishonesty and faithful performance of duty policy" through Ohio Plan Risk Management instead of individuals surety bonds.

WHEREAS, Lorain Public Library System ("Library") is a member of the Ohio Plan Risk Management (OPRM) a political subdivision risk pool established pursuant to Ohio Revised Code hereinafter "ORC," 2744.081;

WHEREAS, House Bill 291 was signed into law on December 20, 2018 and became effective March 20, 2019; authorizes the use of an, "employee dishonesty and faithful performance of duty policy," instead of individual surety bonds, for trustees, employees, and appointees who are otherwise required by law to acquire a bond before entering upon the discharge of duties; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with ORC 3.061, the Library must adopt a policy by resolution to allow the use of an "employee dishonesty and faithful performance of duty" coverage document, rather than a surety bond, to cover loss by fraudulent or dishonest actions of employees and failure of employees to faithfully perform duties; the following shall apply to the policy:

1. An officer, employee, or appointee shall be considered qualified to hold the office or employment, without acquiring a bond, on the date the oath of office is taken, certified, and filed as required by law.
2. An officer, employee, or appointee shall have the employee dishonesty and faithful performance of duty policy in effect before the individual's term of office or employment and the officer, employee or appointee shall not commence the discharge of duties until coverage is documented.
3. All officers, employees, or appointees who would otherwise be required to file a bond before commencing the discharge of duties shall be covered by and are subject to the employee dishonesty and faithful performance of duty policy instead of a surety bond requirement.
4. The coverage amount for an officer, employee, or appointee under an employee dishonesty and faithful performance of duty policy shall be equal to or greater than the maximum amount of the bond otherwise required by law.

WHEREAS, Lorain Public Library System's, "employee dishonesty and faithful performance of duty policy" through the Ohio Plan Risk Management coverage document complies with ORC 3.061: and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this date May 21, 2026, the Lorain Public Library System hereby authorizes the Library to purchase and use "employee dishonesty and faithful performance of duty policy" through Ohio Plan Risk Management instead of individual surety bonds for officers, employees, and appointees who are otherwise required by law to acquire a bond before entering upon the discharge of duties.

#2026-056 Approval of Personnel Appointments in April.

APPOINTMENTS								
NAME	POSITION	DATE	PT/FT/ TEMP HOURS	GRADE/ STEP	SALARY	DEPT/ BRANCH	NEW HIRE/ CURRENT STAFF	REASON FOR CHANGE
Asher Schmidt	Librarian, Children's Focus	5/26/2026	FT	W	\$23.61	Main	New Hire	Replaces Sarah White
Judith Harris	Administrative Assistant	5/11/2026	FT	C	\$18.00	Main	Current	Part-time to Full-time

#2026-057 Resolution to Ratify Past Compensation for Sarah Cruz

WHEREAS, the Board of Library Trustees approved the hiring and compensation of Sarah Cruz, Tutoring Supervisor, at a salary of \$40,000/year to be paid from September 15, 2025, through May 28, 2026, on September 18, 2025, in Resolution #2025-060, Approval of Personnel Appointments in August; and

WHEREAS, the rate of pay should have been entered into the payroll system as \$36.04 per hour and was miscalculated to be \$37.04 per hour and entered into the payroll system in error; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Library Trustees approved a 3% cost of living adjustment for non-bargaining unit employees on December 18, 2025 (Resolution #2025-077) which brought her compensation from \$37.04 per hour to \$38.15 per hour; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Library Trustees now wishes to validate and approve retroactively the prior compensation of Sarah Cruz from her date of hire on September 15, 2025, at \$37.04 per hour, and her current rate of pay, \$38.15 per hour;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Library Trustees hereby ratifies retroactively and confirms \$37.04 per hour as the starting rate of pay and the current rate of pay, \$38.15 per hour, effective December 21, 2025, which was within the scope of authority granted at the time, and that this ratification is valid and binding from the Effective Date of September 15, 2025, when Sarah Cruz was hired into the position of Tutoring Supervisor.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS (~~2021-6-17~~) (2026-5-21)

1.5

Meetings of the Board of Library Trustees are public meetings and conform to the Ohio Open Meetings Act. Members of the public have the right to attend; the Board of Library Trustees, at its discretion, may include time for public comment during Board meetings. When the agenda for a Board meeting includes time for public comment, any person who resides in the Lorain Public Library System service area wishing to appear before the Board or a Board Committee must contact the Chief Executive Officer or Fiscal Officer, in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the meeting, providing information as follows:

Name, address and phone number of the person requesting to speak; the subject or issue on which he/she wishes to speak; organization represented; his/her position on the issue.

During ~~official~~ Board meetings, a person who has followed the guidelines in this policy wishes to address the Board concerning a given item on the agenda will be allocated time not to exceed two (2) minutes. All persons who will offer public comment after proper notice to the Chief Executive Officer must complete the sign-in form before being allocated time to speak.

Requests from members of the public to provide comments at Board meetings will be deemed waived if the requesting individual is not present at the meeting.

~~During a committee meeting, a person who wishes to address the committee concerning an issue will be allocated time not to exceed two (2) minutes.~~

~~If a person wishing to speak has not notified the Chief Executive Officer as specified in section #1, the chairperson of the Board may permit the party to speak for a period not to exceed two~~

- ~~(2) minutes.~~ If the chairperson determines that the matter requires administrative study, he/she may close the discussion and refer the matter to ~~a future Board agenda item~~ Library administration. A disruptive person waives his or her right to attend meetings, and the body may remove that person from the meeting.
- Persons wanting to record all or portions of a Board meeting (except for Executive Sessions which are not open to the public) must inform the Chief Executive Officer at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Any recording equipment must be silent, unobtrusive, self-contained, self-powered and not interfere with the ability of others present to hear, see and participate in the proceedings.

Roll Call – Mr. Ackerman _____, Mr. Byrne _____, Mr. Schaefer _____, Ms. Thompson _____,
Mr. White _____ Ms. Ramirez _____

#2026-059 Resolution to Approve Entering Executive Session to Discuss Specialized Details of Security Arrangements, to Discuss Legal Matters Related to Considering the Purchase of Property for Public Purposes, and to Discuss Employment of a Public Employee

_____ moved, _____ seconded to approve Entering Executive Session to Discuss Specialized Details of Security Arrangements, to Discuss Legal Matters Related to Considering the Purchase of Property for Public Purposes, and to Discuss the Employment of a Public Employee.

Roll Call – Mr. Ackerman _____, Mr. Byrne _____, Mr. Schaefer _____, Ms. Thompson _____,
Mr. White _____ Ms. Ramirez _____

Other Agenda Items

Adjournment

Next Meetings

Finance, Audit and Properties Committee Meeting

Friday, June 5, 2026, at 3:30 p.m.

Main Library

351 W. 6th Street

Lorain, OH 44052

Regular Meeting

Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

South Lorain Branch

2121 Homewood Drive

Lorain, OH 44055