



Board of Trustees Retreat Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2026

A retreat of the Worthington Libraries Board of Trustees was held Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 12:01 p.m. in the learning lab at Old Worthington Library with Abigail Poklar presiding. Members present were Kyla Dembowski, Elizabeth Grieser; Emma Mulvaney, Haze Saputra and Joseph Saverimuttu. Also present were Lauren Robinson, Director/CEO; Jeremie Stevens, CFO; Theresa Messenger, Executive Assistant; Amy Brown, Human Resources Information Services Manager.

There was no public participation.

Discussion on Board Goals for 2026

Ms. Poklar led a discussion on the Board's goals for 2026. She proposed the creation of a Board Leadership Guide—a practical resource that translates existing governance requirements into clear, accessible operating guidance for trustees, officers and committees. The guide would serve as an active tool to support onboarding, annual engagement, committee operations, visibility and overall board accountability.

Proposed Components of the Board Leadership Guide:

- Board Leadership and Engagement
- Committee Structure and Operations
- Visibility and Accountability
- Operating Context
- Definition of Success

The guide will complement, not replace, the Bylaws. It will be a living document to evolve as needed.

Following this discussion, Ms. Poklar departed at 1:20 p.m.

CliftonStrengths Session

HR Information Services Manager Amy Brown facilitated a session on CliftonStrengths, a framework designed to help individuals understand and leverage their unique talents. All trustees received their results and participated in interactive activities aimed at increasing awareness of their strengths and how these relate to others.

Ms. Grieser adjourned the meeting at 3:27 p.m.
