

**DETROIT LIBRARY COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 21, 2026**

The meeting was held in Main Library's Galleria. The meeting was also available via Zoom.

President Hicks called the Regular Meeting of the Detroit Library Commission to order at 2:15 p.m.

**Roll call attendance:**

- |                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| ➤ Bounds          | Present |
| ➤ Frierson-Haynes | Present |
| ➤ McClendon       | Present |
| ➤ Milton          | Present |
| ➤ President Hicks | Present |

Excused: Commissioners Adams, Williams

Administrative Staff: Mondowney, Brown, Bruni, Dale, Funchess, Norfolk, Peele, Powell, Simon, Simmons, Tarleton, Williams

Also Present: Katie Andrecovich, Janet Batchelder, Vickie Baker, Tuesdai Cargile, India Davis, Deborah Dorsey, Debra's New Phone, Katie Dowgiewicz, Sean Ryan Everett, Ethel Franklin, Karen Garrett, M. Garcia, Tyrand Goodwin, Lynda Jeffries, DeAidre Jones, Jessica Keeler, Enriqueta Kozakowski, Annette Lotharp, Torria Love, Tina Manley, Vernadette McAllister, Carolyn Mosley, T. Muntaqim, Angela Newby-Clora, Yvette Rice, V. Senior, Cully Sommers, Wanda Stallworth, Megan Summers, Brian Vance, Mary Jo Vortkamp, Cheryle Williams, Jackie Williams, Mattie Wiggins, Cheryl Wright

**APPROVAL OF THE DETROIT LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA**

**COMMISSION ACTION**

Commissioner Milton moved approval of the agenda. Commissioner Frierson-Haynes supported.

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

**Roll call:**

- |                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| ➤ Bounds          | Yes |
| ➤ Frierson-Haynes | Yes |
| ➤ McClendon       | Yes |
| ➤ Milton          | Yes |
| ➤ President Hicks | Yes |

The agenda was approved as presented.

**APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2026****COMMISSION ACTION**

Commissioner Frierson-Haynes moved approval of the meeting minutes.  
Commissioner Milton supported.

**Roll call:**

- |                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| ➤ Bounds          | Yes |
| ➤ Frierson-Haynes | Yes |
| ➤ McClendon       | Yes |
| ➤ Milton          | Yes |
| ➤ President Hicks | Yes |

The minutes were approved as presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

President Hicks asked Commissioner Frierson-Haynes, Chair, Committee on Administration (COA), for an update on the status of the Executive Director's evaluation.

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

Commissioner Frierson-Haynes reported that the COA is behind schedule in presenting the results of the evaluation. She said that the COA will meet on May 6, 2026 and will be prepared to make a recommendation to President Hicks at the May 19, 2026 Commission meeting.

### **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Ms. Alma Simmons, Special Assistant to the Executive Director, read the Executive Director's report on behalf of Mrs. Mondowney.

#### **Poetry Night**

On Wednesday, April 29, 2026, DPL will host the Detroit Public Schools Community District's Poetry Night. The program will be held at 6 p.m., in Main Library's HYPE Teen Center, where students will showcase their talents by performing original poetry or paying tribute to their favorite poet. This is the second year that DPL has hosted this event.

#### **April 2026 Financial Literacy Month**

During Financial Literacy Month, DPL offers programming to improve money management skills and financial understanding for adults, children and teens. Information about financial literacy programming is available at [detroitpubliclibrary.org](http://detroitpubliclibrary.org). Program highlights include:

- The Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America (NACA), is a nonprofit organization dedicated to making homeownership accessible and affordable for working families and communities. On Saturday, April 25, 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m., the organization is sponsoring a workshop at Main Library to help attendees learn about the process of buying a home.
- Also, on Saturday, April 25, at 12:30 p.m., Dr. LaShawn Brown will present, "From Confusion to Confidence: Student Loans, Credit & Your Next Steps." Dr. Brown's topics will include federal repayment plans, loan forgiveness updates and how student loans can impact personal credit scores.
- On Tuesday, April 28, at 4 p.m., the Sherwood Forest Branch will host "Money \$mart Kids Read Storytime," for children ages 5-9.

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

### **Wilder Branch Music Club**

The Wilder Branch has a music club for children in its East Seven Mile and Van Dyke neighborhood. Recently, the branch received a generous donation of musical instruments from the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's "Detroit Harmony Initiative." The branch received three guitars, 3 piano keyboards and one drum set. Using programming funds, the branch purchased an additional 4 guitars and three piano keyboards. This DSO initiative strives to strengthen music education opportunities for Detroit's children. Librarian Liam Roush is the club organizer and has been invited to join the Detroit Harmony Music Education Team.

### **Galleria Exhibit on Tour**

Main Library's Galleria was the site for the "Breeze Over the Lakes" ceramic art exhibit, March 24-28, 2026. The exhibit was visited by attendees from around the world who were in Detroit for the 60<sup>th</sup> conference of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts. Ceramic artists from Japan and the United States displayed their works of Shigaraki ware, a celebrated tradition of Japanese ceramics.

### **2026 National Library Week**

April 19-25 is National Library Week. Activities during the week include, "Finding Your Joy at the Library," a community art project at the Parkman Branch; a Spring Festival at the Conely Branch at 11 a.m., Thursday, April 23; and a Bookmaking and Storytelling program at Children's Library at 2 p.m., on Saturday, April 25. Please visit the library's website, [detroitpubliclibrary.org](http://detroitpubliclibrary.org), for information about other National Library Week programs.

### **Social Media Activity**

- During the first Quarter of 2026, ten Shortcuts e-blasts were sent and received 13,843 views. Six press releases were issued including several about Black History Month in February, and in March for Women's History Month and Reading Month. The Library's social media sites received 372,800 Facebook views, 95,200 Instagram views, and 5,832 YouTube views.
- DPL had a large number of media hits and extensive reach from major media outlets (WDIV, WXYZ, WWJ, WJR, Detroit News, etc.) as well as niche media outlets (Outlier Media, Bridge Detroit, Model D.com, Detroit, Metro Parent, DCCA.org, etc.). The media promoted our programming lists, but the majority of hits were focused on informing the public about DPL and other community centers as warming shelters due to the extreme cold in January.

**State Aid**

- On March 24, 2026, DPL received a State Aid payment of \$20,536, for the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH), located in the Frederick Douglass Branch Library for Specialized Services.
- On April 1, 2026, DPL received for FY2026, the first half of its State Aid, in the amount of \$342,631.24.

**Wayne County**

On March 27, 2026, DPL received a payment of \$71,174.39 from Wayne County for delinquent property taxes.

**NOTED**

President Hicks requested a report about how the funds were spent from the \$10,000 Carnegie gift received at each of the four Carnegie libraries: Main Library, Bowen Branch, Conely Branch, and the Duffield Branch.

**COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION**

The Human Resources Department Report provides information regarding personnel actions from March 1, 2026, through March 31, 2026. The administration has approved these actions.

**APPOINTMENTS (8)**

<b>Employee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Hire Date</b>
Tarleton, LaTanya	Library Director of Human Resources	March 2, 2026
Allen, Logan	Librarian II	March 2, 2026
Milewski-D'Angelo, Megan	Librarian II	March 2, 2026
Cadman, Ryan	Library Customer Support (CSR)	March 2, 2026
Grant, Asha	Library Customer Support (CSR)	March 2, 2026
Hendricks, Christine	Library Customer Support (CSR)	March 2, 2026
Horne, Colin	Library Customer Support (CSR)	March 2, 2026
Boulanger, Natalie	Librarian III	March 16, 2026

**SEPARATIONS (1)**

<b>Employee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Last Day Worked</b>
Novetsky, Nathan	Library Customer Support (CSR)	March 25, 2026

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

**POTENTIAL RETIREMENTS (3) Pending COD Approval**

<b>Employee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Anticipated Date</b>
Garcia, Maria	Library Department Manager	May 14, 2026
Griffin, Alexis	Library Supervising Security	May 15, 2026
Taylor, Susan	Library Department Manager	June 30, 2026

**RETIREMENTS (0)****SICK LEAVE PAYOUTS (0)****POSITIONS**

	March 2026	March 2025
Vacant Positions actively being filled	16	24
Filled Budgeted Positions	244.5	253
Not Actively Being Recruited	64.5	48
Total Budgeted Positions	325	325

  

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>FY26 POSITIONS</b>	<b>FILLED POSITIONS</b>	<b>VACANT POSITIONS</b>
Director's Office	6	5	1
FBO	10	9	1
Human Resources	7	7	0
Facilities/Shipping	23	20	3
Information Systems	8	8	0
Marketing/Print Shop	6	6	0
Public Services	3	2	1
Librarian, Coordinator	4	2	2
Librarian, Manager	26	24	2
Librarian III, Assistant Manager	37	28	9
Librarian II	39	24	15
Librarian Pre-Pro	4	4	0
Technical Training Associate	31	21	10
Office Support Asst/Tech Svs Asst	11	10	1
Senior Customer Rep (Clerk)	16	10	6
Bookmobile Operator	2	2	0
Customer Service Reps (FTE's)	57	39.5	17.5
Custodians	12	4	8
Circulation Manager	1	1	0
Tech Processing Manager	1	1	0
Principal Clerk	2	2	0

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

Security	19	15	4
		<b>244.5</b>	<b>80.5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>325</b>		

DPL currently has a total of **325 budgeted positions**. Of the total positions, **244.5 are filled, and 80.5 are vacant**. The Human Resources Department is actively recruiting for 27.5 of the 85 vacant positions.

### **COMMISSION ACTION**

Commissioner Frierson-Haynes moved approval of the routine Human Resources report. Commissioner Milton supported.

### **DISCUSSION**

Commissioner Bounds said that she was pleased that a market salary survey request-for-proposal (RFP) was open and would be excited to hear the results of the survey.

Commissioner Hicks suggested a breakdown of the number of vacant positions that is dedicated to closed library agencies to better assess staffing needs. This information should be reflected in the HR report for the May 19<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting

### **Roll call:**

- Bounds Yes
- Frierson-Haynes Yes
- McClendon Yes
- Milton Yes
- President Hicks Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

### **NOTED**

Commissioner McClendon said that she would abstain from voting on any contract because this was her first meeting and she wanted to make sure that she was not over committing as she did not have all of the proper information.

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

## **COMMITTEE ON BUILDINGS**

### **Approval to Contract with Master Craft Floors for the Installation of Rubber Floor Tile at Monteith Branch Library**

This work is necessary to address safety, durability, and maintenance concerns associated with the existing flooring in the Children’s Area. Replacing the current flooring with rubber floor tile will improve functionality, enhance safety for patrons and staff, and provide a more durable, low-maintenance surface. Completion of this project supports the Library’s ongoing commitment to maintaining accessible, well-maintained facilities while improving the overall user experience.

The cost of the floor replacement will be reimbursed from an appropriation by the City of Detroit for capital improvement needs of the Monteith Library Branch.

An Invitation for Bids (IFB-TL-2170) was publicly advertised on the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) website at [www.bidnetdirect.com](http://www.bidnetdirect.com) beginning February 11, 2026, and remained open until the official bid closing at 2:00 p.m. on March 4, 2026. A total of thirty-seven (37) firms downloaded the solicitation documents. A mandatory site visit was conducted as part of the procurement process and was attended by six (6) companies.

At the close of the bidding period, five (5) companies submitted responses. Following an initial compliance review, one (1) respondent was deemed non-responsive for failing to meet required project specifications as outlined in the solicitation documents.

The bid results are as follows:

Vendor	Address	Bid Amount
Master Craft Floors	15001 Fogg St., Plymouth, MI 48170	\$34,794.00
Allied Building Services	1801 Howard St, Detroit, MI 48216	\$36,652.00
G-1 Services Group, Inc.	34412 Ford Rd., Westland, MI 48185	\$49,000.00
C & S Construction	1306 Emmons, Lincoln Park, MI 48186	\$54,000.00

Therefore, the Detroit Library Commission (DLC) Committee on Buildings recommends that the Detroit Library Commission authorize the Finance and Business Office to enter into a contract with Master Craft Floors for the installation of rubber floor tile in the Children’s area at the Monteith Branch Library in an amount not to exceed \$34,794.00.

### **COMMISSION ACTION**

Commissioner Milton moved approval to contract with Master Craft floors for the installation of rubber floor tile at Monteith Branch Library. Commissioner Bounds supported.

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

**Roll call:**

- Bounds Yes
- Frierson-Haynes Yes
- McClendon Abstained
- Milton Yes
- President Hicks Yes

The motion passed.

**Approval to Contract with General Painting Co LLC for Plaster Repair and Painting at Monteith Branch Library**

This work is necessary to address deterioration, surface damage, and ongoing maintenance concerns associated with the existing plaster walls. Repairing and painting the affected areas will improve the overall appearance, enhance durability, and provide a clean, well-maintained environment for patrons and staff. Completion of this project supports the Library's ongoing maintenance efforts and helps preserve the overall condition of the facility.

The cost of the plaster repair and painting will be reimbursed from an appropriation by the City of Detroit for capital improvement needs of the Monteith Library Branch.

An Invitation for Bids (IFB-TL-2171) was publicly advertised on the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) website at [www.bidnetdirect.com](http://www.bidnetdirect.com) beginning February 11, 2026, and remained open until the official bid closing at 2:00 p.m. on March 4, 2026. A total of forty-three (43) firms downloaded the solicitation documents. A mandatory site visit was conducted as part of the procurement process and was attended by five (5) companies.

At the close of the bidding period, five (5) companies submitted responses. Following an initial compliance review, one (1) respondent was deemed non-responsive for failing to meet required project specifications as outlined in the solicitation documents.

The bid results are as follows:

Vendor	Address	Bid Amount
General Painting Co LLC	736 Leinster Rd., Rochester Hills, MI 48309	\$ 46,800.00
Gabriel Industry DBA Servpro of Grosse Pointe	18149 E. 8 Mile Rd., Eastpointe, MI 48021	\$ 50,586.50
C & S Construction	1306 Emmons, Lincoln Park, MI 48186	\$ 87,500.00
John Canning Co	150 Commerce Court, Cheshire, CT 06410	\$ 582,100.00

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

Therefore, the Detroit Library Commission (DLC) Committee on Buildings recommends that the Detroit Library Commission authorize the Finance and Business Office to enter into a contract with General Painting Co LLC to provide plaster repair and painting services at the Monteith Branch Library in an amount not to exceed \$46,800.00.

### **COMMISSION ACTION**

Commissioner Milton moved approval to contract with General Painting Co LLC for plaster repair and painting at Monteith Branch Library. Commissioner Frierson-Haynes supported.

### **DISCUSSION**

Commissioner Bounds asked if the bid for \$582,100.00 from John Canning Co. was accurate?

Mr. Powell, replied yes. He explained that John Canning Co. was a national company that was out-of-state and specialized in historic monuments.

Commissioner McClendon asked if DPL takes the highest or lowest bidder?

Mr. Antonio Brown, Chief Financial Officer, explained that we specify the scope of work that is needed and take the lowest bidder if they meet all of the necessary requirements.

### **Roll call:**

- |                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| ➤ Bounds          | Yes       |
| ➤ Frierson-Haynes | Yes       |
| ➤ McClendon       | Abstained |
| ➤ Milton          | Yes       |
| ➤ President Hicks | Yes       |

The motion passed.

### **NOTED**

President Hicks suggested scheduling a study session for Commissioners on the procurement policy and practices, including a review of the best practices.

## **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

### **Approval to Contract with Avalon Technologies, Inc. for VMware vSphere Foundation Licenses (3-Year Term)**

This purchase is necessary to maintain the operation of DPL's core server infrastructure, including critical systems such as library applications, authentication services, file servers, and internal business systems. VMware provides the platform that supports system stability, security, scalability, and disaster recovery capabilities across the Library's data center environment.

The current licensing term expires April 23, 2026, and renewal is required to ensure continued access to software updates, security patches, and vendor technical support.

The contract covers a three (3) year period supporting 192 cores across DPL's virtual infrastructure. The license term is structured as follows:

Year 1: April 24, 2026 – April 23, 2027

Year 2: April 24, 2027 – April 23, 2028

Year 3: April 24, 2028 – April 23, 2029

Therefore, the Detroit Library Commission (DLC) Committee on Finance recommends that the Detroit Library Commission authorize the Finance and Business Office to enter into a contract with Avalon Technologies, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$79,822.08, billed at an annual cost of \$26,607.36.

### **COMMISSION ACTION**

Commissioner Bounds moved approval to contract with Avalon Technologies, Inc. for VMware vSphere foundation licenses (3-Year Term). Commissioner Frierson-Haynes supported.

### **Roll call:**

- |                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| ➤ Bounds          | Yes       |
| ➤ Frierson-Haynes | Yes       |
| ➤ McClendon       | Abstained |
| ➤ Milton          | Yes       |
| ➤ President Hicks | Yes       |

The motion passed.

Approval to Contract with Signature Technology Solutions, Inc. to Purchase Category 2 Cabling and Network Equipment for the Detroit Public Library

This equipment is necessary to support a reliable, high-speed network and essential services, including public internet access, staff operations, digital programs, and secure data management. Continued investment in network infrastructure will ensure consistent connectivity, strengthen cybersecurity, and support the growing demand for digital services.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was advertised and posted on the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) website, [www.bidnetdirect.com](http://www.bidnetdirect.com). The solicitation period ran from February 13, 2026 through March 20, 2026, with bids closing at 2:00 p.m., at which time the documents were no longer available for download. The RFP was downloaded by one hundred thirty-nine (139) firms. Three (3) firms attended the mandatory walkthrough, and two (2) proposals were submitted.

An evaluation was conducted on March 24, 2026 by a five-member committee consisting of Rudy Dale, Assistant Director of Information Systems; India Davis, Manager of Information Systems; Tim Turner, Senior PC Network Technician; Jonathan Davis, Senior PC Technician; and Kenneth Gabriel, IS Network Technician. The evaluation results are summarized below:

		Maximized Security Systems		Signature Technology Solutions	
		Eligible Costs (\$)	\$ 922,503.87	Eligible Costs (\$)	\$ 512,952.46
Selection Criteria:	Weight*	Raw Score	Weighted Score	Raw Score	Weighted Score
E-Rate eligible recurring and one-time circuit costs	30%	5.56	16.68%	10.00	30.00%
Meets Understands Need	20%	7.00	14.00%	9.80	19.60%
Compatibility with Existing Network	20%	9.60	19.20%	9.60	19.20%
Quality of Proposals and/or References	15%	6.20	9.30%	9.20	13.80%
Technical Ability	15%	5.20	7.80%	8.20	12.30%
<b>Overall Ranking</b>		<b>100%</b>	<b>66.98%</b>	<b>94.90%</b>	

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), under the direction of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), administers the E-Rate program, which provides funding for eligible services for public libraries. The Information Systems Department oversees this program on behalf of the Detroit Public Library. Through this program, E-Rate funding will cover 85% of the total cost (\$436,009.60), with DPL responsible for the remaining 15% (\$76,942.86). There are no recurring or maintenance fees, and the contract will become effective upon approval of federal funding.

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

Therefore, the Detroit Library Commission (DLC) Committee on Finance recommends that the Detroit Library Commission authorize the Finance and Business Office to enter into a contract with Signature Technologies Solutions, Inc., located at 32455 W. 12 Mile Road, Unit 3061, Farmington Hills, MI 48333, to provide Category 2 cabling and network equipment for library branches in an amount not to exceed \$76,942.86.

### **COMMISSION ACTION**

Commissioner Milton moved approval to contract with Signature Technology Solutions, Inc. to purchase category 2 cabling and network equipment for the Detroit Public Library. Commissioner Frierson-Haynes supported.

### **Roll call:**

- |                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| ➤ Bounds          | Yes       |
| ➤ Frierson-Haynes | Yes       |
| ➤ McClendon       | Abstained |
| ➤ Milton          | Yes       |
| ➤ President Hicks | Yes       |

The motion passed.

### **Approval to Renew Contract with Lagarda Security for Security Guard Services for Detroit Public Library Branches**

The current contract, which commenced on July 1, 2024, is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2026. The agreement included two consecutive one-year renewal options; this renewal would be the second and final renewal option. The proposed annual cost is \$1,077,851.84, with no pricing increase from the previous year. All terms and conditions will remain consistent with the original agreement.

**Security Guard Services**  
July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027

Lagarda Security  
2123 S. Center Rd.  
Burton, MI 48519

### **Amount not to Exceed: \$1,077,851.84**

Therefore, the Detroit Library Commission (DLC) Committee on Finance recommends that the Detroit Library Commission authorize the Finance and Business Office to renew the security guard services contract with Lagarda Security in an amount not to exceed \$1,077,851.84.

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

### **COMMISSION ACTION**

Commissioner Milton moved approval to renew contract with Lagarda Security for security guard services for Detroit Public Library Branches. Commissioner Frierson-Haynes supported.

### **DISCUSSION**

President Hicks asked if there was a need to increase security officers at any of the Branches and if there had been any issues with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)?

Ms. Talisha Williams, Assistant Director for Security Operation, replied that there was no need to increase security officers and DPL's Human Resources Department had provided language for staff to use if they are encountered by ICE agents.

Ms. Margaret Bruni, Director for Public Services, said that the change in DPL's policy to eliminate overdue fines caused a better relationship between the staff and customers.

Ms. Bruni also reported that mandatory CPR training for security staff is being implemented within the next three weeks.

President Hicks requested that Human Resources share the staff language for encountering ICE agents with the Commission to clarify current procedures.

### **Roll call:**

- |                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| ➤ Bounds          | Yes       |
| ➤ Frierson-Haynes | Yes       |
| ➤ McClendon       | Abstained |
| ➤ Milton          | Yes       |
| ➤ President Hicks | Yes       |

The motion passed.

### **Approval of the Routine Report on Finance**

The following accounts have been examined and found correct by the staff of Business and Financial Operations and ratification of payment is recommended.

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

<b>Summary of Expenditures</b>			
<b>PUBLIC FUNDS</b>			
<b>PAYMENTS PROCESSED BY CITY OF DETROIT:</b>			
1. Total Payroll	March 2026		\$1,091,884.25
2. Total Vouchers-processed on FUSION	After 3/13/2020 listed by invoice number & date processed		\$981,639.33
3. FY2026 Annual Retiree Supplement			\$0.00
4. FY2026 General Retirement System			\$0.00
5. FY2026 Central Staffing Services			\$0.00
6. FY2026 Hybrid Pension Payment		Paid 3/03/26	\$18,971.50
7. FY2026 VEBA			0.00
8. FY2026 Debt Service Interest for 2014B(1) & 2014B(2) Notes		Paid by City of Detroit - 3/6/26	\$161,704.69
<b>Total processed by City of Detroit</b>			<b>\$2,254,199.77</b>
<b>PAYMENTS PROCESSED BY DPL:</b>			
1. Public Funds/Comerica checking	Checks	1445	\$472.00
2. Branch & Main Checking account	Checks	9896 - 9923	\$12,782.49
3. Branch & Main Checking account Electroinic Fund Transfer (EFT)		Paid 3/09/2026	\$1,842.42
<b>Total processed by DPL</b>			<b>\$15,096.91</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>\$2,269,296.68</b>

<b>Summary of Expenditures</b>			
<b>Restricted/Designated Funds</b>			
1. Burton Endowment Checking	Checks	NONE	\$0.00
2. O'Brien Checking	Checks	NONE	\$0.00
3. Programs & Gifts Checking Account	Checks	NONE	\$0.00
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>\$0.00</b>

<b>Credit Card Expenditures</b>	
1. Executive Director	\$0.00
2. Executive Director's Office-used for general office purpose	\$0.00
3. Chief Financial Officer	190.00
4. Human Resources Department	(30.89)
5. Marketing Department	1,653.75
6. Technical Services	2,945.98
7. Facilities Department	5,199.37
8. Information Technology	135.99
9. Procurement	313.30
10. Security	50.00
11. Public Services	1,564.98
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$12,022.48</b>
<b>NOTE: These are February 2026 Credit Card purchases</b>	

## **COMMISSION ACTION**

Commissioner Bounds moved approval of the routine finance report. Commissioner Frierson-Haynes supported.

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

**Roll call:**

- Bounds Yes
- Frierson-Haynes Yes
- McClendon Yes
- Milton Yes
- President Hicks Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS****Update on Tablets/Laptops for Commission Use at Meetings**

Mr. Rudy Dale, Assistant Director for Information Systems, discussed the recommendation of tablets and laptops for the Commission.

President Hicks requested that the recommendation be presented at the May 19<sup>th</sup> Commission for the final selection.

**Update on Skillman Branch Library**

Mr. Brown reported that the Skillman Branch project timeline had been extended beyond the original June 30, 2026 completion date, with the Downtown Development Authority approving the delay. The work is expected to begin this year once a general contractor is hired.

**Update on RFQ or RFP for Strategic Planning Consultant**

Mr. Brown said that an RFP (Request for Proposal) for a Strategic Planning consultant was issued two weeks ago with 60 firms attending a pre-bid meeting. The bids are due May1, 2026.

President Hicks expressed concerns about the RFP process was initiated without notifying the Commission. He stated that the Commission had asked for an RFQ (Request for Quotation).

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

President Hicks said that he, along with Vice-President Frierson-Haynes, meet monthly with Mrs. Mondowney to get a sense of what is going on. He said the meetings are not necessarily adversarial but designed to get us to points A and B in a reasonable fashion and noting along the way, where there is a preference on the part of the Commission.

President Hicks said that Mrs. Mondowney informed them of the RFP at their last meeting. He said that he was concerned because of the lack of advanced notification to the Commission. He said that he hoped in the future, we should look at the Commission being notified before RFPs “hit the streets.” He said that a simple communication to the Commission prior to the RFP being issued would suffice.

President Hicks said that he did not want to delay the process and asked the other Commission members if they would like to proceed with the RFP or would they prefer to go back and indicate they would like an RFQ?

Commissioner Bounds said that she was in favor of proceeding with the RFP but would like to have a future discussion about whether it is possible for the Commission to be more involved or see more of the decision process among the vendors.

Commissioner Bounds supported the notion of having a study session about the procurement policy and budget planning to ensure better alignment between the Commission priorities and the administrative process.

Commissioner Bounds said that it felt like an overstep by the Commission to request formal notification for each RFP. The Commission and administration should plan to have a robust budget discussion so that there are not RFPs they are surprised by.

Commissioner McClendon said that it was her understanding of an RFQ is when you know exactly what you want and an RFP is when you are not sure of what you want and want to look at several models. She said that in her opinion, the Strategic Planning Consultant would fall under an RFP.

Commissioner Milton agreed with Commissioner McClendon and recommended proceeding with the RFP.

Commissioner Frierson-Haynes said that it was ok to proceed with the RFP but the difference between an RFP and an RFQ should have been explained to the Commission so that they understood the process. She said that the administration’s decision to proceed with the RFP made it seem like “we’re just going to do what we want to do.”

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

Mrs. Mondowney said no, that is not what happened.

Commissioner Frierson-Haynes asked that administration give the Commission all of the information that they request so that they can make a wise decision.

Commissioner Frierson-Haynes said that the Commission does not need to know about every RFP that is issued because that is part of operations.

President Hicks said that he was prepared to except a motion on whether or not to proceed with the RFP.

Commissioner Milton asked if the Commission needed to make a motion given that is part of the administration's standard operating procedure?

Commissioner Frierson-Haynes said that she would be hesitant to vote on the RFP because it is part of DPL's operations. She said that it would be an overstep by the Commission to vote on proceeding with the RFP.

Commissioner Bounds concurred with Commissioners Milton and Frierson-Haynes and said that proceeding with the RFP does not require a vote from the Commission.

### **COMMISSION ACTION**

Commissioner Bounds moved to convene a Commission study session on DPL's procurement policy between May and August 2026. Commissioner Milton supported.

### **Roll call:**

- |                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| ➤ Bounds          | Yes       |
| ➤ Frierson-Haynes | Yes       |
| ➤ McClendon       | Abstained |
| ➤ Milton          | Yes       |
| ➤ President Hicks | Yes       |

The motion passed.

President Hicks requested that the RFP for a Strategic Planning consultant be circulated to the Commission so that they have an understanding of what the elements are.

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

**NOTED**

Commissioner McClendon apologized but said she had to leave because of another commitment. She left the meeting at 4:08 p.m.

**Update on the Cost Effectiveness of Hiring Staff Painters Versus Contracting Out Painting Work, Including the Possibility of Both Approaches**

Mr. Brown requested to delay the cost because results of a wage study that is currently being conducted would give the administration a better indication of what the true cost of staffing additional painters would be.

President Hicks objected to the request because the painting issue is substantial and should not be held up because of a wage study. He said that DPL has the funds to support hiring additional painters.

Mr. Brown explained that the wage study could possibly suggest increasing DPL's wages by a substantial amount to be competitive. He said that certain staffing needs should not be itemized.

Commissioner Frierson-Haynes said that it was not a big "ask" to have some of the needed facilities painted while waiting for the results of the wage study. She said that the condition of Main Library was embarrassing and Detroit residents deserves better.

Commissioner Bounds agreed that Detroit deserves nice things but given that Mr. Brown was not prepared to discuss this matter today, she suggested that it be referred to one of the Committees for discussion.

President Hicks said that sending this matter to a Committee for discussion would slow down the process. He said that DPL has the budget to hire at least one additional painter to correct some of the painting issues.

Commissioner Bounds said for clarification, she was not suggesting the matter be referred to a Committee until the wage study is completed but the clear request from the Commission is to address the urgent painting issues without having to wait until the next Commission meeting to discuss.

President Hicks recommended that the painting issues be referred to the Committee on Administration and results of that meeting will be presented to the full Commission.

Minutes were approved at the May 19, 2026 Commission Meeting

Mr. Brown referred back to the painting issue and said that an RFP had been issued and will be processed.

President Hicks said that the Commission had properly discussed and moved the painting issue to the Committee on Administration. He said for this to come back up in the meeting suggests that it is not the tendency on the part of some of our staff to listen to the Commission. He said that he did not want to hear anything else relative to painting.

#### Update on DPL's Structural Assessment Contract

Mr. Brown said that the contract was signed and the next step was the planning session to go through the buildings and create a project timeline.

#### Update on the Detroit City Council's Request for an Opinion Relating to DPL's Bond Issuance

President Hicks tabled this item until the May 19<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting.

Commissioner Bounds asked for an update on the 2 evening Commission meetings that was voted into the Commission bylaws.

President Hicks said that the meeting would be held at an Eastside branch and a Westside branch at 6:00 p.m. on the same Tuesday as the regular Commission meeting. He asked the administration to confirm the meeting locations and share them with the Commission.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Milton moved to adjourn. Commissioner Frierson-Haynes supported.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.