FINKELSTEIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
EMERGENCY MEETING/OCTOBER 6, 2026

The emergency meeting of the Board of Trustees was held both in person and by video conference on Tuesday, October 6, 2026. The meeting was recorded in accordance with law.

Board Members Present:
Ms. Esther Waldman, President called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. with the following members present by roll call: Mr. Yossi Rubinstein, vice president, Ms. Darnett Davis, Mr. James Johnson, Mr. Ariel Dahan (zoom), Ms. Oluwaseyi Banjo (arrived at 4:16 p.m.).

Board Members Excused: Ms. Gottesfeld
Board Members not excused: None

Administrative Personnel:
Ms. Beth Zambito, Assistant Director, Mr. Andrew Koblick, Business Manager, Ms. Leiah Levine, Library Clerk.

Others Present in person:
Grace Riario (Executive Director of the Ramapo Catskill Library System), Mendy Glick (Library Treasurer, arrived late)

Others Present via zoom:
Robert Rowe (staff), Anne Wick, patron, Dan Ameruoso (staff), Liza (patron, last name not provided), Bill (patron, last name not provided), Kathleen Preston (staff), Elizabeth Portillo (staff), Cesar Vasquez (staff), Isaiah Thompson (patron), Linda (patron, last name not provided).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Rubinstein, seconded by Ms. Davis and carried unanimously to **approve the agenda with modification.** *The approval for the attorney to work on the charter amendment was changed to say the approval for RCLS to work on the charter amendment. The release of the Whiteman Osterman & Hannah bill was added, and the date and time was changed to October 6, 2026 at 4p.m. The interim budget resolution was also changed.*

A **motion** was made by Mr. Rubinstein, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried unanimously to **approve the resolution to move into executive session.**

Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board move into Executive Session at 4:10 p.m. to discuss the employment history of specific employees, as well as an ongoing legal matter.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mr. Rubinstein and carried unanimously to **move out of executive session**.

The board moved out of executive session at 4:35 p.m.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Rubinstein, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried unanimously to **appoint Ed Falcone as interim director, effective as soon as he is approved by Civil Service.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Davis and carried unanimously to **approve the construction resolutions as written in the agenda.**

CONSTRUCTION RESOLUTION 1

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees approved the Electric Bid from Fanshawe, Inc. dba Rockland Electric on August 26, 2026;

WHEREAS, the parties have not entered into a contract; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined to further review the Project prior to proceeding with the Project;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that District hereby rescinds the approval of the Electric Bid from Fanshawe, Inc. dba Rockland Electric;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby rejects the Electric Bid from Fanshawe, Inc. dba Rockland Electric; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

CONSTRUCTION RESOLUTION 2

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees approved the General Construction Bid from Rudna Construction Inc. on August 26, 2026;

WHEREAS, the parties have not entered in a contract; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined to further review the Project prior to proceeding with the Project;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby rescinds the approval of the General Construction Bid from Rudna Construction Inc.;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby rejects the General Construction Bid submitted by Rudna Construction Inc.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

CONSTRUCTION RESOLUTION 3

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees approved the Plumbing Bid from Joe Lombardo Plumbing & Heating of Rockland Inc. on August 26, 2026;

WHEREAS, the parties have not entered into a contract; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined to further review the Project prior to proceeding with the Project;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that District hereby rescinds the approval of the Plumbing Bid from Joe Lombardo Plumbing & Heating of Rockland Inc.;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby rejects the Plumbing Bid from Joe Lombardo Plumbing & Heating of Rockland Inc.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Mr. Rubinstein and carried unanimously to **move $82,000 from the remaining fund balance from 2025-2026 in the budget for 2026-2027 to cover that $82,000 delta. In addition, approve that version of the interim budget as the final budget for the fiscal year 2026-2027.**

Mr. Dahan recused himself from the discussion regarding the amendment to the Library Charter.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Banjo seconded by Mr. Rubinstein and carried unanimously to **authorize RCLS (Ramapo Catskill Library System) to work on the charter amendment with the Department of Library Development regarding the amendment as required by the Commissioner.**
Mr. Dahan recused himself from the vote.

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Ms. Banjo and carried unanimously to **approve the transfer of $1 million from NYCLASS (New York Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System) to M&T for payroll and billing.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Davis and carried unanimously to **approve the August bills.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Banjo and carried unanimously to **approve the New York State Insurance Fund check for $11,975.93.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mr. Rubinstein and carried unanimously to **approve requisitions over $5,000.00. A $5,417 requisition to RCLS, a $5,679.29 requisition to Midwest Tape, a $10,010.80 requisition to the law office of Stephanie Cole Adams, a $6,633.28 requisition to Metropolitan Security Services, and a requisition for $10,897.80 for E-rate.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Ms. Banjo and carried unanimously to **approve the outstanding Whiteman Osterman & Hannah bill for around $20,000.**

A **motion** was made by Ms. Waldman, seconded by Ms. Davis and carried unanimously to **direct Whiteman Osterman & Hannah to release all files in its possession related to the Library to Guercio & Guercio LLP, and the year-end legal representation letter for June 30, 2025 to the Library auditors, Baldessari & Coster LLP.**

The Library Calendar was tabled.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Rubinstein, seconded by Ms. Banjo and carried unanimously to **adjourn the meeting.**

The meeting of the board of trustees was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

THE NEXT REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2026.

Respectfully submitted.

Minutes taken by Leiah Levine, Clerk to the Board of Trustees

Esther Waldman
Board President