MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF LAW LIBRARY TRUSTEES OF
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

A California Independent Public Agency Under
Business & Professions Code Section 6300 et sq.

February 25, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Law Library Trustees of Los Angeles County was held on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 12:15 p.m., at the Los Angeles County Law Library Mildred L. Lillie Main Library Building at 301 West First Street, Los Angeles, California 90012 for the purposes of considering reports of the affairs to the Library, and transacting such other business as might properly come before the Board of Trustees.

ROLL CALL/ QUORUM

Trustees Present:	Judge Mark Juhas Judge Laura Seigle Judge Rosa Fregoso Judge Susan DeWitt Judge Cherol Nellon Susan Steinhauser, Esq. Dan Rosenfeld
Trustees Absent:	NA
Senior Staff Present:	Katherine Chew, Executive Director
Also Present:	Marcelino Juarez, Finance Director

President Juhas determined a quorum to be present, convened the meeting at 12:21 pm and thereafter presided. Executive Director, Katherine Chew, recorded the Minutes.

1.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

President Juhas decided to address Item 4.1 first out of respect for Susan Kent's time. He then came back to Item 1.0.

Derrick Blassingame addressed the Board. He began by stating that what the Board just did on Item 4.1 had no transparency. He stated that he believed that the Board was just wooed by a glossy PowerPoint Presentation, and because she is a woman.

He came to the Board because he has a complaint about E.D. Chew and her management team. He stated that they have discriminated against him multiple times, and that they have thrown him out of the library unprovoked. He stated that he sees a psychiatrist at Kaiser, and he has no mental health issues. He stated that the library management team has made all sorts of slanderous comments about him when he uses the library. He stated that the only conclusion that he can draw, is that this is because he is an African American man, and that he uses the library to litigate pro se, and management do not want him using this public resource to get an upper hand in the court system.

He stated that the library has monitored his use of the computer system.

He stated that they don't do this to any Hispanics, Asians, or Caucasians in the library.. He believes it is disproportionately black men that she has put out of the library. He stated that because E.D. Chew has no black people on her staff, that she is biased. He stated that her assistant is Caucasian, that E.D. Chew is Asian American, and that there are no black members on the administrative team. He is requesting that the Board take a strategic look at this because it is racially motivated.

President Juhas thanked Mr. Blassingame for his time.

2.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 Approval of Minutes of the January 28, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

3.2 Review of December Financials and List of January Checks and Warrants

President Juhas asked the Board if anyone wanted to remove an item from the Consent Calendar. Hearing no request, President Juhas requested a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. So moved by Vice President Seigle, seconded by Trustee Nellon. The motion was approved unanimously 7 – 0.

4.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

4.1 Zoom Presentation by Susan Kent, Susan Kent Consulting on Strategic Planning for Public Libraries

Susan Kent addressed the Board over a Zoom call. She gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Board regarding how to create a strategic plan. The library will need to prepare for planning, and conduct internal assessments. We will also need to get external stakeholders to participate, and conduct external assessments. Next the library will review and clarify the mission and vision. This will lead to the identifying goals and strategic priorities. The last step is to create an implementation "GPS". This includes developing objectives and related metrics, aligning objectives with resources, communicating the plan to internal and external stakeholders, and evaluating and updating the plan annually.

After the presentation, the Board asked E.D. Chew to confer with Susan Kent in order to get consultant recommendations from her. Vice President Seigle suggested coming up with an ad hoc strategic plan committee. Judge Nellon stated that she believes it is key to have internal feedback from library staff.

4.2 Review and Acceptance of Financial Statement Audit Report and AU-260 Letter For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

Marcelino Juarez, LA Law Library's Finance Director, addressed the Board. Jasmine Logee, a CPA and Audit Supervisor from Price Paige & Company, was also present over a Zoom call. Marcelino stated that he was pleased with the audit results.

Jasmine addressed the Board regarding the library's recent audit. She briefly discussed the audit process. The library received an unmodified opinion, which means that the financial statements are presented fairly in all material respect. The audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, as well as government auditing standards. The library audit was essentially a clean bill of health for the library.

Vice President Seigle inquired about the post-employment benefits. She asked if there would be a point in the future where the library will have obligations on post-retirement benefits that we cannot afford. Jasmine responded that the actuary would calculate what the expected liability is for retirees, and for those benefits to be paid out. They also outline what the recommended contributions are. This is just a snapshot of the liability as it currently stands. This will fluctuate based on more employees hired, significant contributions could also affect the number, but this is just a snapshot on how things stood as of June 30, 2025.

Trustee Fregoso left the meeting at 1:23pm.

President Juhas requested a motion to approve Item 4.2. So moved by Trustee Steinhauser, seconded by Trustee Rosenfeld. The motion was approved unanimously 6 – 0.

4.3 Review and Approval of FY2025-26 Mid-Year Budget and Financials

The Board decided to move Item 4.3 to the March 2026 Board Meeting.

4.4 Review and Approval of Baseline Salary Calculation of Exempt Employees in Compliance with Department of Industrial Relations Wage Order for California Employers, effective January 1, 2026

President Juhas requested a motion to approve Item 4.4. So moved by Trustee Steinhauser, seconded by Vice President Seigle. The motion was approved unanimously 6 – 0.

5.0 CLOSED SESSION

LA Law Library may hold a closed session on the following item; Conference with Labor Negotiator (G.C. 54957.6). Library Negotiator: Executive Director Katherine H. Chew, with Finance Director Marcelino Juarez ; Employee Organization: SEIU Local 721

The Board convened in a closed session at 1:26pm.

6.0 RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION/ CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT
(Pursuant to Government Code §54957.1)-Judge Mark Juhas

The Board reconvened in an open session at 1:42 pm. No reportable action was taken.

7.0 AGENDA BUILDING

Items not on the posted agenda may be presented by a Trustee and, if requested, may be referred to staff or placed on the agenda for consideration at a future meeting of the Board.

8.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:43pm by President Juhas. The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Law Library Trustees is scheduled for Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 12:15pm.

Katherine Chew, Executive Director and Secretary
Los Angeles County Law Library Board of Trustees