

**Notice & Agenda – Mississippi Valley Library District (MVL D)
Board of Trustees Meeting – Decennial Committee on Government Efficiency
October 23, 2023 at 5:30 PM**

On-Site at the Fairmont City Library, 4444 Collinsville Road, Fairmont City, IL 62201

Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89788937846?pwd=QU5HOE50eFJpUG16dCtjRGdkZEVlZz09>

**Board of Trustees Meeting
Decennial Committee on Government Efficiency**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Input
Public comment policies as approved and included in the Board of Trustees Bylaws can be found online at <https://mvl.d.org/pdf/2021/MVL D%20Bylaws%20as%20of%209.20.2021.pdf>
4. New Business
 - a. Review of the Efficiencies and Increased Accountability of the MVL D to Prepare the Report for the Boards of Madison and St. Clair Counties
 - i. Study the MVL D’s governing statutes, ordinances, rules, procedures, powers, jurisdiction, shared services, intergovernmental agreements, and interrelationships with other governmental units and the state
 - ii. Collect data, research, and analysis as necessary to prepare a written report
5. Survey of Residents in Attendance for Input on Matters Discussed in the Meeting of the MVL D Decennial Committee on Government Efficiency
6. Adjournment

The Mississippi Valley Library District is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities, are required to contact the library administrator (618-344-1112) promptly to allow the Mississippi Valley Library District to make reasonable accommodations for those patrons.

**REPORT FOR COMPLIANCE WITH DECENNIAL COMMITTEES ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY ACT**

I. Unit of government submitting this report:

Mississippi Valley Library District (hereafter, “MVL D” or “Library”)

Includes: Collinsville Memorial Library, 408 West Main Street, Collinsville, IL 62234
Fairmont City Library, 4444 Collinsville Road, Fairmont City, IL 62201

II. Information about the Library

- A. The Library is located in Madison and St. Clair County. There are 15 public libraries in Madison County and 19 public libraries in St. Clair County, with some library service areas (such as the MVL D) overlapping county lines and being accounted for in each county.
- B. The population of the territory in which the Library is located is 33,081 as of the 2020 census.
- C. The Library has 23 employees and 7 elected trustees.
- D. The annual budget for FY2024 is \$1,288,692.16.
- E. The Library’s equalized assessed valuation (EAV) for tax year 2022 is \$613,839,197.

III. Information about the Committee

A. Committee Members

Board President	Jeanne Lomax
Board Vice President	Ginny York
Board Secretary	Lisa McCormick
Board Treasurer	Cathy Kulupka
Trustee	Kathy Murphy

Trustee	Ana Romero-Lizana
Trustee	Mark Schusky
Executive Director	Kyla Waltermire
Library Resident	Laura Gottschalk
Library Resident	Killian Weir

Note: Per 50 ILCS 70/10(b), the committee must include all the elected or appointed members of the library board of trustees (President and Trustees), the Executive Director or other official of the Library, and two residents appointed by the Board President. The President may appoint more than two residents if deemed appropriate.

B. Dates that the Committee Met (50 ILCS 70/20)

First Meeting (must occur prior to June 10, 2023): June 8, 2023

Second Meeting: October 23, 2023

Third Meeting:

Additional Meetings:

IV. Core Programs or Services Offered by the Library

- A. Our Library offers the following core services and programs:
- Free borrowing of books, movies, kits, magazines, technology, e-resources, and other resources that support the personal, educational, intellectual, and entertainment needs of the community
 - Free events and activities for all ages and for a diverse range of interests and needs
 - Assisting patrons with technology questions/support
 - Assisting patrons with applying for governmental, medical, social, educational, financial, and other similar services
 - Providing a safe and welcoming “third space” within the communities served by the library
- B. Other core services/programs we could possibly provide:

- Exploring and possibly expanding additional outreach and partnership opportunities
- Partnering with a social worker or social work agency to provide more targeted assistance for patrons needing advanced help navigating social services

V. Awards and Recognitions

Our Library has received the following awards, distinctions, and recognitions:

- 2017 – LibraryAware Community Award

This national, competitive award is given to one library a year. The award recognizes a library that has demonstrated its ability to make its community aware of what the library can do for it, and how the library has delivered on that promise.

<https://www.libraryjournal.com/story/finding-and-filling-needs-2017-libraryaware-community-award>

VI. Intergovernmental Agreements

We partner with or have intergovernmental agreements with the following other governments:

ENTITY	SERVICES OFFERED
Illinois Libraries Present / Northbrook Public Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides quality virtual events featuring high interest speakers
Illinois State Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OCLC database access and cataloging features • Project Next Generation grant

VII. Community Partnerships

We partner with the following organizations:

ORGANIZATION	SERVICES OFFERED
Children's Dyslexia Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently collaborating with the Library on Illinois Reading Council grant to provide "decodables" for both organizations
Collinsville CUSD #10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CUSD incorporated public library card applications as part of school registration • Library conducts outreach at CUSD events & schools
Collinsville Faith in Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library hosts Answers on Aging events
Collinsville Historical Museum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library leases land to the museum • Library assists museum volunteers and staff with visits from local students
Collinsville Italian Festival	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library hosts themed displays, an Italian movie event, and a kids craft annually
Collinsville Parks & Recreation Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library receives discounted Aqua Park passes to be cataloged and checked out by MVL patron • Library provided cart of books for Camp Kahok attendees (2023)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library hosts Tunes at Blum concert series annually • Department hosts library events at local parks such as Willoughby Farm
Elected State and Federal Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library hosts the State Treasurer, the Secretary of State, and other elected representatives for events related to the performance of their official duties • Library acts as drop-off location for elected officials' diaper/toiletry/etc. drives
HHH (Homework Help & Hoops)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library staff visit throughout the summer to provide educational activities for participants
Latino Roundtable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library collaborates with the Roundtable on Easter events in Fairmont City
Puentes de Esperanza / Hoyleton Youth and Family Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library and Puentes collaborate on Penny Severns Family Literacy Grant
Village of Fairmont City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library collaborates with the Fire Department on Fire Safety Week activities • Library collaborates with the Fire Department to receive toys for the annual December coat and toy giveaway

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library, Village, and other stakeholders worked together to bring a consistent bus route and reliable internet service to the Village
Villas at Holly Brook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library staff conduct outreach to lead entertaining activities for Holly Brook residents

VIII. Review of Laws, Policies, Rules and Procedures, Training Materials, and

Other Documents

We have reviewed the following, non-exhaustive list of laws, policies, training manuals, and other documents applicable to the Library in order to evaluate our compliance and to determine if any of the foregoing should be amended.

[Committee members – items with an “x” are those that can be reviewed upon request in the library’s administrative office and/or are accessible through digital resources]

- x _____ State Laws Applicable to Libraries
- x _____ Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/1 *et seq.*)
- x _____ Policy on Public Comment
- x _____ Designation of OMA Officer (5 ILCS 120/1.05(a))
- x _____ Board Members’ Completion of OMA Training (5 ILCS 120/1.05(b))
- x _____ Schedule of Regular Meetings of the Library Board (5 ILCS 120/2.03)
- x _____ Illinois Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*)
- x _____ Designation of FOIA Officer (5 ILCS 140/3.5(a))
- x _____ FOIA Officer Training (5 ILCS 140/3.5(b))
- x _____ Computation and Retention of FOIA Requests (5 ILCS 140/3.5(a))
- x _____ Posting Other Required FOIA Information (5 ILCS 140/4(a); 5 ILCS 140/4(b))

- x _____ List of Types or Categories of FOIA Records under Library Control (5 ILCS 140/5)
- x _____ Periodic Meetings to Review Closed Meeting Minutes (5 ILCS 120/2.06 (d))
- x _____ IMRF Total Compensation Postings (5 ILCS 120/7.3)
- x _____ Designation of Whistleblower Auditing Official (50 ILCS 105/4.1 et seq.)
- x _____ Filing of Statements of Economic Interest by Applicable Officials (5 ILCS 420/4A-101; 5 ILCS 420/4A-101.5 et seq.)
- x _____ Sexual Harassment Prevention Training (775 ILCS 5/2-109(C))
- x _____ The Library's Intergovernmental Agreements
- x _____ The Library's Budget and Financial Documents
- x _____ State Ethics Laws – including, but not limited to, the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/1-1 et seq.)
- x _____ Reports on Government Efficiency, including “Local Government Efficiency and Size in Illinois: Counting Tax Revenues, Not Governments” by Wendell Cox (2016, <https://www.toi.org/Resources/233dd69f-b58c-471c-9c26-290460a3502b/Local%20Government%20Efficiency%20-%202016%20Cox%20report.pdf>)
- x _____ Others (list below or attach):
 - Serving Our Public 4.0: Standards for Illinois Public Libraries

IX. What Have We Done Well?

(List any budget/levy freezes or reductions in the past decade; new programs or services; ethics ordinances adopted; timely FOIA compliance; responsiveness to public; new intergovernmental agreements; increase in number of patrons served; etc.)

X. What Inefficiencies Were Identified/What Can the Library Do Better or More Efficiently?

XI. What Are the Next Steps?

XII. Studies on Governmental Efficiencies

In preparing this report, the committee reviewed several studies on local government efficiency. These studies show that the average local government in Illinois serves 1,800 residents compared to the national median of 2,850 individuals.

XIII. Committee's Recommendations Regarding Increased Accountability and Efficiency

Note: This report must be filed with the Madison and St. Clair County Clerks' offices no later than 18 months after the first committee meeting.

Submitted by: _____

Chair, Decennial Efficiency Committee

Date of Committee's Approval of Report: _____



Decennial Committee Survey

Efficiency Feedback - We Want Your Input!

The MVL D's Decennial Committee on the Local Government Efficiency is gathering information from stakeholders and community members to help identify what the library does efficiently and what might need improvement. Please answer the questions below as they relate to efficiencies of services, partnerships, communications, policies, and so on. Thank you for your help!

What has the library done well?

(Possible considerations: new or revised programs or services, responsiveness to the community, partnerships with other organizations, sharing among multiple libraries, etc.)

Librarians have been very helpful in working

with my husband & myself so he can access a series

of on line webinars for continuing education

credits - as we don't have a computer at home - & helping me

to print out his needed certificates.

What has the library done well? (Possible considerations: new or revised programs or services, responsiveness to the community, partnerships with other organizations, sharing among multiple libraries, etc.)	What inefficiencies do you see or experience / what can the library do more efficiently?	What steps do you believe the library should take to improve efficiencies?
Providing a variety of services to the public, both extremely necessary ones (like printing and using computers for applying for jobs), and ones that just make life better like being able to check out books on whatever interests them and being able to attend free events in their community.	Keep staff informed of changes and updates	I think they are doing pretty good
interlibrary loans, offering different programs for the community, providing engaging activities and programs for children, having consoles and passes for check outs	repeated mistakes that are not getting corrected. better communication	further training for repeated mishaps
Love baby boogie!	The library really needs to do it's staff development or training outside of regular hours because anytime I'd like to visit the library it seems it's closed for training. I check the Facebook page and I see it posted the day-of most times. Many elderly do not have access to online platforms where the library calendar is posted. What can be done about disseminating closures so people can plan their visits without disappointment?	See above response
I love the current programs and children's book selection. Also the new board games are awesome.	None	None. I feel like they are always improving. I trust their decisions.
Loving the inclusiveness! Keep it up and keep the library welcoming for all persons!	They need more classes or events for everyone! For example not just Christian based or run. We need stuff from/for Unitarian Universalist, Buddhism, Islam, Baha'i, Judaism, Wiccan, Pagan, Druid, Zoroaster, Hinduism. Very worldly, WELCOMING OF ALL, LGBTQ+ welcoming, different Religions Welcomed! This is a public library, for goodness sakes!!!! If you don't like certain events or books, you do not have to attend or read them!!	Same answer as No. 2! I would be more than happy to come and discuss this with anyone with the library! You can find my contact info at Collinsville Library under my library card info: Marcella Dominick BE WELCOMING and EXCEPTING OF ALL, in your ACTIVITIES & EVENTS!
Have a vast selection and the sharing through all the libraries Ease of access (hours), variety of materials, many community and kids programs, desk employees have always been very friendly and helpful, integration with other local organizations	1. The public library is not a place for "Christian Story Hour". That would be better served at a church and not at the library as a political move by candidates. If you are going to offer religious activities, there need to be more religions appreciated than just one. 2. The card catalogue is difficult to access on the library page and is clunky. A link directly on the library website header would be awesome. 3. There is a lack of LGBTQIA+ programming and support. A public library should serve its public.	Create even more inclusionary programming for the people it serves. Race, gender, orientation, etc. Update and improve website. Offer more digital resources. Cloud library is ok, but Libby was better and offered more options.
I applaud them for being inclusive to the LGBTQ+ community	None, excellent staff	Keep it up!

What has the library done well? (Possible considerations: new or revised programs or services, responsiveness to the community, partnerships with other organizations, sharing among multiple libraries, etc.)

I feel that the different programs offered help us to focus on our community. We are an ever changing and growing community who needs to provide opportunities to ALL.

passes to local businesses is a great addition (Aqua park, Children's Museum)

The libraries have always done a fine job. Let them continue to do what they do best. So keep politics out!!!

great genealogy program, great inclusive programs that need to stay!!!!

Offers hundreds of programs a year to attend (multiple per day and evening most days), has tons of exciting giveaways and useful resources to hand out, and we have good size collections. There are diverse offerings for both programming events and items to check out. The offerings represent and include all ages and lifestyles of the community. Our library adheres to many golden standards of library service and best practices as far as treating patrons, organizing materials, and adapting with technology and the community. The Library staff at Collinsville are frequently praised as going above and beyond to help callers and visitors, even from other districts, and people say that the staff are friendlier and very helpful. The displays are relevant. There are robust kids' program offerings again in frequency and in variety. Repairs are being done to make up for lost time & are being overseen for accuracy and effectiveness now.

What inefficiencies do you see or experience / what can the library do more efficiently?

I feel that later hours would help. Having outdoor community events. Also recognizing the hard working staff and volunteers

checking out in Maryville always takes a long time

The library straightening at closing time (last hour of day) is a rush and does not prioritize people as well as it could. There are shelves designed to keep items on and negate the need for the thorough straightening every night. If multiple staff spend an hour every day on straightening because the shelves do not keep items neatly in place with a good fit for the items, there are at least 300-600 man hours of time spent that could be reduced by at least half. Granted, shelving is expensive; but it is reasonable to make plans to update the handful of "most affected areas" to reduce time spent just straightening books and have a better evening visit experience for busy families that need the 7:00 - 8:00 time to browse (and staff, for less hectic large-building evening closing).

We need fundraisers to have a good plan and funds available for updating the building interior in a thorough, sustainable, and cohesive manner. Some very good repairs have been made but not plans and/or funds to overhaul aging building interior.

The fountain is a waste of money and should become a lovely flower bed. It frequently needs repairs/doesn't work multiple times a season. Pan would still look nice among flowers.

What steps do you believe the library should take to improve efficiencies?

I love this library. Have been going for years. It is a haven for those who have a love for learning and reading. And those who need assistance with various things. I feel that offering more hours for the library would be excellent t

Keep up the good work! You're doing a great job reaching out to the community. It seems to keep improving. Visiting the schools would be a great idea if you are not already doing that.

There are shelves in existence for years now that are designed to hold books and DVDs at a slight angle and not higher than the average person's head to make both the browsing experience and straightening a breeze. There are also shelves that are a better fit for DVDs, the most "touched" area that will look untidy on its current oversized shelves because people don't take care when pulling items. Shelving that is better for neat patron browsing and the efficiency of opening/closing and caring for the building should be included in future library renovation planning or should have its own dedicated fundraiser to address this inefficiency.

The building interior needs a spectacular plan for overhaul to engage the community and serve the future. Line of sight to watch for safety by staff is limited. Interiors are quite old - look at the blinds, the carpet, the ceilings, the walls - and how loud it is when out of date systems kick on. Count how many thermostats you see on the walls in several rooms from wing additions 50 years ago. It seems to the average observer like fundraising to renovate the library to serve the next 100 years of patrons visiting needs to be better. The building should be renovated with an executive plan to be clean, easy to upkeep, more efficient in costs of energy, and to reflect the changing needs in spaces for the community - like the demand for more study spaces and a maker space with locking storage cabinets for the expensive tools and equipment between uses. It is harder to get the community excited for a building that needs many updates to visibly reflect the value that is contained in the building and its services.

What has the library done well? (Possible considerations: new or revised programs or services, responsiveness to the community, partnerships with other organizations, sharing among multiple libraries, etc.)

The Collinsville Memorial Library does a great job of having inclusive programming, free and fast shipping of interlibrary loans, and having affordable resources such as printing, faxing, notarization, giveaways, etcetera made available to the general public. The Children's library has done a great job of including a variety of programs for all ages and interests, as well as doing an amazing summer reading program that got tons of interaction.

1) good selection of books and activities. 2) congenial staff...always ask if I have found everything and offer to help. 3) computer lab is a definite asset. 4) diversity....I love seeing people of all shapes, ages, colors and persuasion. Every one is approachable, professional and knowledgeable.

Bring back fines. We are raising a generation with no cognizance that actions and inactions have repercussions.

The library was a great place. For lack of a better term you shifted away from common sense and it shows in so many ways.

I cut my card in half and gave it to the desk staff. Breaks my heart to see the library become what it has

Youth programming under Matt's direction was phenomenal! Only thing to change would be to offer programs on different days so busy teens can make some programs.

Diverse programs are appreciated! Please don't let a few people discourage the library from offering them.

What inefficiencies do you see or experience / what can the library do more efficiently?

I think that the library could do a better job of keeping track of people who consistently disrupt and cause chaos in the library. The offenders often aren't giving out their names and the staff must go based off general descriptions. It'd be nice to have everyone on the same page by making sure when people break the rules, everyone knows what they did and who they are so we can make it a safer place for everyone.

This library is slow to stock current "best sellers" and/or controversial books. People should have the opportunity to see those items to determine for themselves if the contents are really what is being reported.

Hosting a for profit business in Fairmont has always been wrong. Our tax dollars going to subsidize a bank!
Throwing away old books instead of giving them away. It breaks my heart to see 3 year old books pitched in recycling bin. We, the taxpayers, paid to purchase, label, house, inventory and shortly thereafter throw away. Wrong on so many levels.
Why was gay pride celebrated with signage all month and independence day passed unremarked? Why was gaypride celebrated with signage in kiddy room but not independence day? You all embraced juneteenth but nada for July 4th. Last month Father's day was given short shrift, this month independence day gets dissed. International friends day gets as much recognition as July 4. The purpose of library/learning is to transmit culture. I am at a loss as to why our library opts to
Amp up some holidays and down play others.
We, the American legion, donated \$2k of mulch and still it sits piled up
Get rid of soda/snacks in computer area.
Why Collinsville gets adult computer space but not fairmont?
Why keep buying DVDs? Dead tech, stop buying new.

Checkout process is slow. Several times a year we have books past due that have been returned and are found on the shelves in the library.
Adult fiction section seems small compared to other collections. Greater youth graphic novel titles.

What steps do you believe the library should take to improve efficiencies?

Having an outline for processing complaints and offenses (e.g., step one: name, step two: offense step three: email the entire staff with the information).

It would be nice if the computer lab was promoted more frequently. Adult computing classes would be nice also. Community promotion (not just facebook) of the services offered.

Carry on in a manner befitting the dignity of the community's bastion of learning.

Public Libraries are for everyone, everyone should be able to find titles that represent them, continue to diversify library holdings.

What has the library done well? (Possible considerations: new or revised programs or services, responsiveness to the community, partnerships with other organizations, sharing among multiple libraries, etc.)

Done well: Hosting literacy and cultural events that are noticeably-inclusive of LGBTQ community members
Programs and themes are so funny. Very welcoming environment.

Promoted programming with inclusion of LGBTQ+ community members

Engaging diversity (including the LGBTQ+) community, community partnerships, and the amazing opportunities offered at the Fairmont City Library for the immigrant population.

The volunteers who sort donated books by author, genre, etc., for book fairs throughout the year do a great job!

What inefficiencies do you see or experience / what can the library do more efficiently?

The library board seems to be spending far too many resources on attacking the LGBTQ community and preventing LGBTQ representation in the library's programming.

Libby doesn't have enough of a selection, got rid of hoopla

The library can redirect energy away from decrying minority representation and toward expanding literacy and educational programming for ALL community members especially including BIPOC and LGBTQ+ community members.

The board needs to leave their personal opinions at the door and stop trying to push their conservative/religious agenda at the library. Public libraries are a gift to the entire community and should offer something for *everyone* not attempt to exclude people. Any event, program, or book that people don't like, they don't have to attend or check out.

As the spouse of someone who volunteers at the library, I was concerned to hear that homeless/transient people are allowed to be in various parts of the library without regard for the safety of others? I believe that metal detectors should be at all access points of the library for EVERYONE-not just homeless/transient people.

With the United States experiencing an average of 1 mass murder per day, the safety of those in our library should be the highest priority. If stores have detectors that go off when someone leaves with merchandise that may not have been paid for, shouldn't the safety of those in the library be more important?

What steps do you believe the library should take to improve efficiencies?

The library board should stop wasting resources on an attempt to purge the representation of sexual and gender minority community members from the library's programming.

Libby!

I believe the library should recognize and draw from the strength of a diverse community- stop wasting time/energy/resources on imposing partisanship and religiosity on a public space

The library board should stick with running the libraries, serving the whole community, and offering a diverse array of reading materials, events, programs, etc.

Either put metal detectors at each entrance, or put the hiring of a security person in the budget.