

Mohawk Valley Library System
Board of Trustees Election Virtual Meeting
September 25, 2025

MINUTES

PRESENT: Bill Bonner (MVLS), Mary Donohue (AMS), Bridey Finnegan (SHO), Jennifer Jones (FTP), Margaret Kindling (SHS), Shannon King (JOH), Rebecca Leggieri (COB), Greg Niforos (GLV), Parish Ogunjana (MVLS), Lori Simonds (FON), Rebecca Sokol (STJ), Diane Stewart (MID), Madelyn Thorne (SCP), Eric Trahan (MVLS Director)

GUESTS: Kate Clingan (recorder)

Call to Order MVLS Board President Bill Bonner called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

Bill introduced himself and thanked everyone for attending this virtual board election meeting. This is a new process that was developed by the MVLS Governance Structure Review Committee, which convened from January to May of this year. The first order of business is to elect someone to run this meeting. Bill called for any nominations from the group for the election of a meeting chair.

Madelyn Thorne nominates Bill Bonner. Ayes – All. Nays – None.

The second order of business is a roll call. There are two seats on the MVLS Board that will be opening at the beginning of 2026. Two current MVLS Board members, April Davies of Schoharie County and Haileab Samuel of Schenectady County, have been nominated to second terms on the MVLS Board. Library representatives can vote for either of these nominees, or any write-in nominees they may have. Each MVLS member library board notified MVLS of who their representative would be at this meeting.

Roll Call:

From the Amsterdam Free Library, Mary Donohue votes for April Davies and Haileab Samuel.

No representative present from the Canajoharie Library.

From The Community Library in Cobleskill, Rebecca Leggieri votes for April Davies and Haileab Samuel.

From the Frothingham Free Library in Fonda, Lori Simonds votes for April Davies and Haileab Samuel.

No representative present from the Fort Hunter Free Library.

From the Fort Plain Free Library, Jennifer Jones votes for April Davies and Haileab Samuel.

From the Gloversville Public Library, Greg Niforos votes for April Davies and Haileab Samuel.

From the Johnstown Public Library, Shannon King votes for April Davies and Haileab Samuel.

No representative present from the Northville Public Library.

From the Middleburgh Library, Diane Stewart votes for April Davies and Haileab Samuel.

From the Schenectady County Public Library, Madelyn Thorne votes for April Davies and Haileab Samuel.

From the Schoharie Free Library, Bridey Finnegan votes for April Davies and Haileab Samuel.

From the Sharon Springs Free Library, Margaret Kindling votes for April Davies and Haileab Samuel.

From the Margaret Reaney Memorial Library in St Johnsville, Rebecca Sokol votes for April Davies and Haileab Samuel.

This totals 11 votes each for April Davies and Haileab Samuel.

April Davies and Haileab Sameul have each been elected to 5-year terms on the MVLS Board, serving from 1/1/2026 – 12/31/2030.

Bill thanks everyone for their time, and that concludes this Board election meeting at 5:45pm.