ABRAHAM LINCOLN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 11, 2026 – 12:00 PM

Illinois Room, 555 W Monroe, Chicago, IL
and
Governor's Conference Room, 112 N 6th St, Springfield, IL

Call to Order
Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm and asked that the roll be called. Board Secretary Pam Waldeck called the roll.

Trustees Present

Chicago
Gary Johnson, Chair
Joan Brodsky
Jason Lesniewicz
Melinda Spitzer - Johnston

Springfield
Dan Monroe
Kathryn Harris
Jacob Friefeld
Margaret van Dijk

Absent
Jessica Harris
Martin Sandoval

A quorum was present.

Staff Present

Chicago
Christina Shutt, Executive Director
Mark Mahoney, Chief of Staff
Gloria Legette, Chief Legal Counsel
Pam Waldeck, Board Secretary

Springfield
Christen Stanley, Chief Operating Officer
Tammy Miner, Chief Fiscal Officer
Cindy Klenke, Education Director
Jeramy Tedrow, Chief Information Officer

Guests Present

Nathan Cooper

Public Comments

None

Consent Items

Trustee Margaret van Dijk noted two corrections to the previous minutes. Chairman Johnson requested a motion to approve the December 10, 2025 minutes as corrected.

Trustee Kathryn Harris moved to approve the corrected December 10, 2025 minutes. Trustee Melinda Spitzer - Johnston seconded the motion. ***Motion Carried****.*

Chairman Report

Chairman Gary Johnson introduced newly appointed Board Trustee Jacob Friefeld. Trustee Friefeld provided a brief overview of his professional background, experience and expertise.

Chairman Johnson announced that two members of the board had officially resigned since the December 10, 2025 meeting. Trustee Tiffany Mathis Posey and Trustee Steven Beckett had both stepped down from the ALPLM Board of Trustees.

Chairman Johnson thanked and acknowledged both Trustee Mathis Posey and Trustee Beckett and asked for a motion to offer thanks and gratitude to them.

Trustee Kathryn Harris moved to acknowledge Trustee Tiffany Mathis Posey and Trustee Steven Beckett. Trustee Melinda Spitzer - Johnston seconded the motion. All in favor. ***Motion Carried****.*

During the Chairman's report, Chairman Johnson raised the topic of identifying a stand-in vice-chair to preside over meetings in the event of his absence. Chairman Johnson asked for a motion to appoint Trustee Jason Lesniewicz as a stand-in vice-chair in the event of his absence.

Trustee Jessica Harris moved to officially nominate Trustee Jason Lesniewicz as a stand-in in the absence of the Chairman. Trustee Melinda Spitzer - Johnston seconded the motion. All in favor. ***Motion Carried****.*

Chairman Johnson noted a change to the next meeting date due to the events of upcoming July 4th holiday and 250th Anniversary. There was a consensus to move the next meeting to July 15th, 2026.

<u>Administrative Reports</u>

Executive Director Report

Executive Director Shutt provided a comprehensive update on America 250 Project Passport Illinois and how the ALPLM is engaging the public to participate in events happening at the ALPM and around the state.

Executive Director Shutt highlighted the featured film 'Unsinkable Freedom' that tells the story of Robert Smalls and his daring escape to freedom, and she highlighted a new exhibit in the Community Case featuring Pillsbury Mills's Springfield factory items, the AI Google transcription project update was given and other various upcoming and ongoing work at the ALPLM.

Chief of Staff Report
Chief of Staff (COS) Mark Mahoney reported the details of the upcoming House and Senate Budget Hearings.

Chief of Staff Mahoney spoke of the finalization of the audit and gave updates on staffing and onboarding of the Library Director.

Chief of Staff Mahoney reported that the CMS Office of Operational Excellence has been supportive with the leadership and management training and progress of the agency.

Chief of Staff Mahoney provided a brief update regarding several ongoing agency projects, including developments on the AV charging, solar panels and the chiller projects.

Chief Operating Officer Report
Chief Operating Officer Christen Stanley updated the Board on the current exhibit America's Prairie State. An overall exhibit update was given and timelines of upcoming exhibits.

Chief Operating Officer Stanley introduced Education Director, Cindy Klenke.

She also announced that she was stepping down in her position as Chief Operating Officer and thanked the Board and ALPLM for the opportunity to serve.

Chief Legal Counsel Report
Chief Legal Counsel Gloria Legette reported that the Statement of Economic Interest to which she gave details, and the Supplemental Statement of Economic Interests required documents will need to be completed by the May 1st, 2026 deadline to the Secretary of State.

Chief Legal Counsel Legette reported that the annual ethics trainings require the Board's completion as well and that the trainings' deadline was April 6th, 2026.

Chief Legal Counsel Legette reported continued refining of the agency's internal policies that support compliance and best practices, including the AI Policy, and she gave thanks to Trustee Melinda Spitzer Johnston and Trustee Margaret van Dijk for their guidance and support in the development of the AI Policy for the ALPLM. She reported that the finalization of the policy is near complete. A thanks to the Executive Director was given for her support and encouragement to all staff at the ALPLM in providing opportunities regarding training of AI.

Finance Report
Chief Fiscal Officer Tammy Miner reported that hiring is underway and that the Fiscal Department's vacant positions are beginning to be filled.

Chief Fiscal Officer Miner reported that project payments are being processed at a slower pace due to staffing shortages in the Department.

Director of Education Cindy Klenke
Director of Education Cindy Klenke reported focusing on networking with teachers who have been extremely responsive as the Department has been attending conferences, such as the Illinois Reading Conference and the Illinois School Librarians Conference. Director of Education Klenke reported new partnerships, notably with the President Ronald Reagan Foundation and Institute, leading to the agency's participation in the Ronald Reagan Debate Series across the country. The Obama Foundation Education team has been a collaboration as well.

Director of Education Klenke reported that youth programing has grown, and revamping programs for all age groups has been successful and progressing.

New Business
Deaccession Report from Chief Operating Officer, Christen Stanley on the disposal of 37 metal reels of acetate microfilm due to Level 6 deterioration. The issue will be brought forth to the board at the July 15th meeting.

Discussion and Vote on the FY 27 Hostick Fund Spending Approval, Tammy Miner

Trustee Dan Monroe moved to approve the FY27 Hostick Fund Spending Approval. Trustee Katherine Harris seconded the motion. ***Motion Carried****.*

Discussion and Vote on FY 27 Public Trust Fund Spending Approval, Tammy Miner

Trustee Dan Monroe moved to approve the FY27 Public Trust Fund Spending Approval. Trustee Katherine Harris seconded the motion. ***Motion Carried****.*

Executive Session
It was moved to adjourn into a closed session; a majority roll call on the motion was taken..
Motion Carried.

Old Business
None

Adjournment
With no further business, Chairman Johnson moved to adjourn. Motion made by Trustee Katherine Harris and Trustee Jason Lesniewicz seconded. ***Motion Carried Unanimously.***

Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.