



WINDING RIVERS
LIBRARY SYSTEM
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Winding Rivers Library System Board of Trustees

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

6:30 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting: Online or In Person

MINUTES

1. Call to order / Open meeting notice certification

Meeting called to order at 6:31p.m.

2. Roll call and introductions

Attendees

Board members: **Buffalo County** - Jane Langenfeld; **Jackson County** - Sarah Peloquin; **Juneau County**; **La Crosse County** –Mary Bach, Margaret Larson; **Monroe County** - Clara Johnson, Mary VonRuden, Adam Balz; **Trempealeau County** - June Pellowski; **Vernon County**; **La Crosse Public Library** – Kathy Ivey; **La Crosse County Library** – Larry Pohja, Loren Caulum

Public: None.

WRLS staff: Kristen Anderson (Director), Jessica Schoonover (Project and Grants Manager/Youth Consultant).

3. Public comments or topics for discussion at future meetings

Grant writer update on funds found for WRLS.

Look at salaries during budget discussions to make sure they are competitive.

4. Approval of agenda

Motion to approve agenda as presented,

1st by Larry Pohja

2nd by Sarah Peloquin

Motion carried.

5. Approval of minutes from the May 28, 2025, meeting

Motion to approve the minutes from the May 28, 2025, meeting as presented,

1st by Sarah Peloquin

2nd by Loren Caulum

Motion carried.

6. Reports

6.1 Budget update & approval of bills

Director Anderson shared that the interest rates remain high and revenue is above expected. Anderson will be checking on Technology to see if something came out of capital that should have come out of operating. Plan to replace vehicles still this year (possibly a consultant vehicle too)

Motion to approve the bills,

1st by Larry Pohja

2nd by Jane Langenfeld

Motion carried.

6.2 Director's report:

a) State Budget

Good news: An increase in state system funding was approved for 2026-2027.

Bad news: 13% increase on health insurance will take a significant portion of the budget increase.

b) Universal Service Fund

These proceeds fund library systems in the state. The legal challenges regarding this have determined this is a fair fee.

c) New storytime kits (Jessica)

Schoonover showcased the new Storytime Kits that are available to member libraries to support early literacy programming.

d) WRLS Director Planning Retreat Oct. 2

Facilitator coming in for this full-day retreat for members to provide feedback to WRLS.

e) WRLS All Staff/Board Reunion Picnic August 28 @ 11:30am

f) Postcard Campaign for IMLS Federal Funding

Library Board members were encouraged to complete this postcard.

7. New Business

7.1 Audit proposals

Collaborated with the Southwest Library System as both systems have this need. Received three proposals. The audit RFP review factors included cost, length of time in business, and work with governmental agencies/non-profits. CLA was chosen by Southwest Library System. Anderson shared her positive impressions regarding CLA.

Anderson shared information regarding all proposals received and recommended consideration of CLA's proposal.

Motion to hire CLA based on Anderson's recommendation and the board's perusal of the proposals.

1st by Margaret Larson

2nd by Sarah Peloquin

Motion carried.

7.2 Correspondence: Letter from Black River Falls Library Board

7.3 Next meeting date: September 24, 2025

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Schoonover

DRAFT