

**IOSCO-ARENAC DISTRICT LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING**

Place: Administrative Offices, 120 W. Westover St., East Tawas, MI 48730

Date: February 12, 2026

Present: **Linda Eyer, Phyllis Klender, Rick Rockwell, Susan Synowiec, Thelma Van Brenk and Kari Besancon and JoAnn Edwards**

Absent: **Jerry Brown, Sue Kingsbury, Dan Stock**

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 2:00 pm by Chairperson Susan Synowiec.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Klender and Van Brenk motioned and seconded approval of the agenda, as amended. Five (5) aye. Three (3) absent. Motion carried.

3. Public Participation and Reports from the Friends Groups

Synowiec provided a handout from the Friends of the Whittemore Library that describes their past year events.

4. Board Comments

None

5. Approval of the Minutes from the January 8, 2026 Board Meeting

The board reviewed an email received by Director Besancon, from Fred Lewis, Supervisor of Plainfield Township, that gave clarification regarding future written agreements and the services to be provided. Rick Rockwell offered to work with Director Besancon and Chairperson Synowiec on branch agreements.

Eyer and Rockwell motioned and seconded approval to create a Library Services Ad Hoc Committee to work with local units to obtain library service agreements with municipalities and their respective branches. Five (5) aye. Three (3) absent. Motion carried.

Van Brenk and Klender motioned and seconded approval of the minutes from the January 8, 2026 Board Meeting. Five (5) aye. Three (3) absent. Motion carried.

6. Treasurer's Report

It was noted that the 2025 Profit and Loss report has been updated and is now correct.

Rockwell and Van Brenk motioned and seconded approval of the Treasurers Report.

A roll call vote was taken as follows: Linda Eyer, aye; Phyllis Klender, aye; Rick Rockwell, aye; Susan Synowiec, aye; Thelma Van Brenk, aye. Five (5) aye and Three (3) absent. Motion carried.

7. Ratification of Bills

Klender & Eyer motioned and seconded approval of the ratification of Voucher #26-02 dated January 15, 2026 in the amount of \$68,053.35, Voucher #26-03 dated January 29, 2026, in the amount of \$19,075.91 and Voucher #26-04 dated February 12, 2026 in the amount of \$32,803.67.

A roll call vote was taken as follows: Linda Eyer, aye; Phyllis Klender, aye; Rick Rockwell, aye; Susan Synowiec, aye; Thelma Van Brenk, aye. Five (5) aye and Three (3) absent. Motion carried.

8. Director's Report

Statistics and Reports

Director Besancon reviewed circulation statistics and stated she is unsure what the reports will look like with systems changing to Polaris.

9. Old Business

A. Polaris, Merit, USF, and MelCat updates

Director Besancon reported that the Polaris trainings held during the first week of February were successful and attended by all branches and substitutes.

She explained the timeline for going offline and restarting. Deliveries will resume the first Monday in March.

Employees have been informing patrons that temporary closings are happening at all libraries. Paper and pencil for incoming/outgoing items during offline time can be entered once the systems all come back online.

MelCat updates

MelCat and Polaris is run by the same company so they will be able to communicate with each other, once that migration is complete – 8 to 10 weeks post Polaris Go-Live.

B. Inventory Update

Inventories are finished at all IADL branches. This allowed us to clean up our database and delete old records that had been taking up space in our database. Many items hadn't been seen since IADL went online.

C. Historical Societies

The Historical Societies have been receiving money from our Programming funds. Director Besancon suggested our branches have those funds allocated to branch Adult and Children's Programming. Outside groups, such as the Historical Society and Friends Groups, must complete Programming Grant Requests. Ideally, all grants should be submitted from the Library branches involved.

Community Liaison, Arleen Wood, is looking at grants for programs on a larger scale.

10. New Business

A. Appointment of Committee Members

The 2026 Committee Assignments are as follows, subject to modifications:

STANDING COMMITTEES

Budget: Sue Kingsbury, Rick Rockwell, Susan Synowiec

Policy/Personnel: Jerry Brown, Phyllis Klender, Susan Synowiec, Thelma Van Brenk

Strategic Planning: Jerry Brown, Linda Eyer, Thelma Van Brenk

Technology: Linda Eyer, Rick Rockwell, Dan Stock (Staff-John Cargo)

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Millage Ad Hoc: Sue Kingsbury, Rick Rockwell, Thelma Van Brenk

Building Purchase Ad Hoc: Rick Rockwell, Dan Stock, Susan Synowiec

Library Services Agreement Ad Hoc: Rick Rockwell, Susan Synowiec

B. Approval of Programming Grants

Friends of the East Tawas Library submitted two 2026 Programming Grant Applications for their Winter Cabin Series. One request has a projected date of March 11, 2026 for Speaker, Daniel Clark (Listening to Workers: Oral History of Metro Detroit Autoworkers in the 1950s). The second request has a projected date of April 15, 2026 for Speaker, Jeff Pfaller (Dark Skies: Rare Phenomena in America's Public Lands).

Eyer and Rockwell motioned and seconded approval of the two grants.

A roll call vote was taken as follows: Linda Eyer, aye; Phyllis Klender, aye; Rick Rockwell, aye; Susan Synowiec, aye; Thelma Van Brenk, aye. Five (5) aye and Three (3) absent.

Motion carried.

C. Surplus Sale Update

The Surplus Sale will occur during the month of March 2026.

A discussion circulated about the demand for computer usage at each branch and how many computers are needed at each site.

D. E-Rate Update

Technology Coordinator, John Cargo, explained the need to update our current equipment. With E-Rate, IADL can purchase equipment at a significant cut in cost. Bidding for equipment begins this month and ends on March 12, 2026.

The rough estimate for the upgraded equipment is \$13,500 less the applicable discount.

Rockwell and Eyer motioned and seconded approval to solicit bids for technology upgrades through E-Rate, with the sealed bids to be open at the March 12, 2026 Board meeting; motion to include Director Besancon and John Cargo to work together on the operating package.

A roll call vote was taken as follows: Linda Eyer, aye; Phyllis Klender, aye; Rick Rockwell, aye; Susan Synowiec, aye; Thelma Van Brenk, aye. Five (5) aye and Three (3) absent.

Motion carried.

E. Hoopla Update

Director Besancon expressed the need for a policy recognizing abuse of our library cards with our digital accounts.

F. Leadership Academy

Director Besancon presented a request to attend the Leadership Academy.

Klender and Eyer motioned and seconded approval to pay for the registration and other costs for Besancon to attend the Leadership Academy.

A roll call vote was taken as follows: Linda Eyer, aye; Phyllis Klender, aye; Rick Rockwell, aye; Susan Synowiec, aye; Thelma Van Brenk, aye. Five (5) aye and Three (3) absent.

Motion carried.

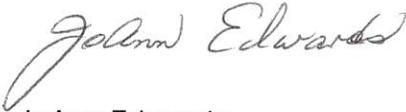
11. Items for Next Agenda

- A. April Millage Distribution**
- B. Adult Programming Grants (if any)**
- C. Review of By-Laws**

12. Adjournment

Chairperson Synowiec adjourned the meeting at 3:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



JoAnn Edwards
Recording Secretary

A quorum of **five** is needed to conduct business.

If you cannot attend or need directions, please call Kari or JoAnn at 989-362-2651.

PLEASE BRING YOUR CALENDARS/PLANNERS.

REMINDER-The next meeting is scheduled for

Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 2:00 pm

at Administrative Headquarters.