

The Mission of LARL is to enrich lives and strengthen communities.

**LARL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FULL BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

A hybrid meeting of the Lake Agassiz Regional Library Full Board was held on Thursday, March 27, 2025 in person and online via Zoom. President Ebinger called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Board Members Present: Briggs, Durant (via Zoom), Ebinger (*President*), Grimsley, Holecek, Jacobson, Johnson, Moore, Nelson, Shastri, Titera, Willhite, Wood (via Zoom).

Board Members Absent: Braton, Geray.

Others Present: Lynch, Sprynczynatyk, Amanda Scanson (Brady Martz & Associates), Shelly Carlson (City of Moorhead Mayor)

PUBLIC INPUT

None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(Jacobson/Grimsley) Move to approve the Agenda of the March 27, 2025 Full Board Meeting as presented. MCU.

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 23, 2025 FULL BOARD MEETING

(Nelson/Jacobson) Move to approve the Minutes of the January 23, 2025 Full Board Meeting as presented. MCU.

AUDIT REPORT

Amanda Scanson from Brady Martz & Associates presented the 2024 audit report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

With 16.67% of 2025 complete, LARL spent 16.44% of budgeted expenses. Revenues are at 28.07% of budget due to LARL billing Signatories quarterly. All expense categories are either at or slightly below budget.

(Jacobson/Grimsley) Move to authorize the Director of Finance to submit the 2024 Annual Report to State Library Services. MCU.

(Titera/Briggs) Move to authorize the Final Report for State Regional Public Library System Arts and Cultural Heritage Program for FY2023 funding year. MCU.

(over)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Lynch discussed her written report and discussed Minitex and the services they provide to MN Libraries and their funding issues.

(Wood/Nelson) Move to adopt the enclosed Resolution in Support of the Minitex Library Services. MCU.

Lynch discussed that LARL has been informed that our Regional Library Basic System Support will be decreasing \$72,000. The decrease is due to Adjusted Net Tax Capacity increasing in the region.

Lynch discussed the LARL Lease discussion that took place on March 26th with the City of Moorhead and Lynch, Sprynczynatyk, Moore, and Megan Krueger. LARL currently pays \$4.50/sf for rent. The options the city provided were: Option 1 \$12 per square foot with a 1% annual increase, additionally LARL would contribute \$500,000 in cash toward the project. Option 2, \$15 per square foot with 0% annual increase, and Moorhead's LARL annual contribution would be frozen at \$837,210 for 5 years. Option 1 rent would come to approximated \$37,000, option 2 the annual rent would come to \$46,000. The square feet in the new building for LARL will be 3,098 square feet.

It is not clear if the \$250,000 that LARL committed to furnishing would count toward the \$500,000, or extra e-rate/RLTA money LARL has available to help pay for networking equipment in the new building. It's also not clear if fundraising done by LARL and/or the Moorhead Friends of the Library would count.

Nelson discussed that there are a lot of unanswered questions that need to be discussed.

Moorhead Mayor Shelly Carlson discussed the building project. The City has contributed \$4,000,000 of ARPA funding as well as an additional \$4,000,000 they are fundraising for the project.

LARL will form a Committee of Ebinger, Jacobson, Nelson, Lynch and Sprynczynatyk to meet with the city to discuss the lease agreement.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Becker County (Grimsley, Nelson)

No report

Breckenridge (Holecek)

The Library is doing Summer Reading Program joint program with Wahpeton Library as the Wahpeton Zoo.

Clay County (Ebinger)

No report

Clearwater County (Titera)

The library seems to always be busy.

Crookston (Briggs)

Briggs is happy to be back on the LARL Board.

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Detroit Lakes (Wood)

Lynch met with the Library Board and they appreciated the presentation. The Library started a story time for children on the spectrum.

City of Mahanomen (Durant)

No report.

Mahanomen County (Geray-absent)

No report.

Moorhead (Caroon, Johnson, Shastri)

Over 600 people came to the Moorhead library to receive tax services through AARP.

Norman County (Jacobsen)

The county will be reviewing Coordinator applications next Monday

Polk County (Willhite)

The county board is trying to fill their Finance Director position. There will be funding issues for Counties and Cities from state funding.

Wilkin County (Braton-absent)

No report.

MN Library Association/Library Trustee and Advocates Section (open)

No report.

Northern Lights Library Network (Holecek, Shastri)

NLLN is working on revising their bylaws. 15 scholarships have recently been giving out to people work workshops.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50.