

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

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

A hybrid meeting of the Lake Agassiz Regional Library Full Board was held on Wednesday, June 18, 2025 in person and online via Zoom. President Ebinger called the meeting to order at 5:45pm.

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

Board Members Absent: Braton, Grimsley, Johnson, Wood.

Others Present: Lynch, Sprynczynatyk

PUBLIC INPUT

None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(Nelson/Moore) Move to approve the Agenda of the June 18, 2025 Full Board Meeting with the addition of item 3 b) Application for state Fiscal Year 2026 Legacy Funds (Arts and Cultural Heritage Program). MCU.

MINUTES OF THE MAY 15, 2025 FULL BOARD MEETING

(Willhite/Briggs) Move to approve the Minutes of the May 15, 2025 Full Board Meeting as presented. MCU.

FINANCIAL REPORT

With 41.67% of 2025 complete, LARL spent 39.77% of budgeted expenses. Revenues are at 46.19% of budget due to LARL billing Signatories quarterly. Library Programming is at 16.61% of budget due to spending normally ramping up starting in May to prepare of the Summer Reading Program. Accounting fees are at 71.44% of budget due to the 2025 audit being paid for.

(Jacobson/Durant) Move to approve the application for State FY2026 Regional Library Basic System Support. MCU.

(Biggs/Nelson) Move to approve the application to participate in State Regional Public Library System Arts and Cultural Heritage Program for FY 2026. MCU.

(over)

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Jacobson discussed Draft #3 of the LARL 2026 budget. Nelson discussed that the increase to Moorhead includes funding for additional hours to be open on Sundays from Labor Day to Memorial Day.

(Briggs/Durant) Move to approve the 2026 Preliminary Budget Draft #3. MCU.

Jacobson mentioned the Finance Committee discussed the Regional Office lease with City of Moorhead, but did not have a recommendation at this time.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Lynch discussed meeting with the City of Dilworth who is interested in possibly having a library in their new community center. There may be future meetings and it was discussed that a new library would need to be LARL Signatory.

Lynch and Sprynczynatyk did meet with developers about a potential building being built in Dilworth, they have not gotten back to LARL since the initial meeting.

Lynch and Sprynczynatyk also viewed a location in Moorhead at the strip mall located where the old Holiday Mall was located. The space was undeveloped, with sand floors and cinderblock walls.

An individual started a fire in a garbage can in the Crookston Library's men's restroom on Friday June 13. The restroom is a total loss, and the rest of the library needs to be cleaned of ash.

Lynch discussed her written report.

MOORHEAD COMMUNITY CENTER AND LIBRARY BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

Moore discussed that the building project is moving forward nicely. Lynch discussed that LARL has been very involved in the design process of the library and the Regional Office space which has been created specifically for LARL.

Nelson questioned if LARL's contributions to the project are being considered in the rent agreement and possibly a reason to reduce the rent being asked. LARL has approx. \$130,000 available for IT related expenses in the new building. The LARL Board has approved up to \$250,000 for Regional Office and Moorhead staff work area furnishings.

Ebinger discussed a lease the city has with Clay County being a 30 year lease at \$15 per square foot, with no annual increase. The most recent proposal by the city is \$18 per square foot with 2% annual increases for 10 years. With the wide area that LARL covers and needed increases from all Signatories it makes sense for LARL to consider other options.

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MOORHEAD COMMUNITY CENTER AND LIBRARY BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE - continued

The lease term and annual increases were discussed and LARL's need is only for office space. Lynch reiterated that we are at the time when furnishings need to be ordered.

A meeting will be scheduled as soon as possible for the Finance Committee to come up with a new proposal.

(Nelson/Willhite) Move to authorize the LARL Finance Committee with Moore to negotiate a new rental agreement with the City of Moorhead. MCU.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No report.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Becker County (Grimsley-absent, Nelson)

No report.

Breckenridge (Holecek)

No report.

Clay County (Ebinger)

No report.

Clearwater County (Titera-absent)

No report.

Crookston (Briggs)

Crookston is having issues with their city pool and the costs to keep it running.

Detroit Lakes (Wood-absent)

No report

City of Mahnomen (Durant)

No report.

Mahnomen County (Geray)

No report.

Moorhead (Johnson-absent, Moore, Shastri)

Summer Reading Program is off to a great start.

Norman County (Jacobsen)

No report.

(over)

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS - continued:

Polk County (Willhite)

An individual came to the truth in taxation meeting and said they thought their tax value was too low which was a first for the County.

Wilkin County (Braton-absent)

No report

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

No report.

Northern Lights Library Network (Holecek, Shastri)

No report.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55.