

WHITE PINE LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
BOARD MEETING
Minutes, April 23, 2025
Approved June 25, 2025

A White Pine Library Cooperative Board meeting was held on April 23, 2025, at Merrill District Library in Merrill, MI.

Present: Amy Beckman, Lynne Clark, Lisa DiCamillo, Christian Dunham, Tiffany Fiting, Corey Goethe, Amber Hughey, Nicole Markel, Ruth Steele, and Marcy Thompkins. Also present were Kate Van Auken and Alison Blattner.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:17 pm by President Nicole Markel.

Approval of Agenda: Ruth Steele moved, and Tiffany Fiting seconded to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion was carried.

Approval of Minutes: The February 2025 Board Minutes were presented. Lynne Clark moved, and Amber Hughey seconded to approve the February 26, 2025, Board Minutes. The motion was carried.

Treasurer's Report: The Board reviewed the financial reports and checklists for February and March 2025. Christian Dunham moved, and Tiffany Fiting seconded to approve the financial reports and ratify the February and March 2025 bills. The motion was carried.

Director's Report: Kate Van Auken gave her annual update on WPLC's MI CLASS interest income in comparison to that generated by Independent Bank. See the Director's Report for more details and further explanation: https://wplc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/director_reports/director-report-apr2025.pdf

Old Business:

Peabody Update with UofMI Students

Kate and Alison shared updates about progress with the UofMI students on the Peabody Redesign project. Alison reported that her experience with the student team had been overwhelmingly positive and that the team had even won an award for their outstanding improvements and work over the past academic year.

Job Title- Coordinator, Cataloging and Technical Services

Kate shared that Alison had settled on a new job title to better describe the work that she does. The 'Office Manager' position will be updated to 'Coordinator, Cataloging and Technical Services.' An updated job description is forthcoming.

New Business:

Kate's Upcoming Review

The annual review of WPLC's Director will be happening over the next several months. President Nicole Markel will be emailing out the review by May 15th, and responses will be received back in June for review at that month's Board meeting.

Public comments and announcements

Kate shared that Dillon Geshel would be departing Superiorland Library Cooperative as Director, and the coop is seeking its next Director. Dillon intends to continue his career in library work.

Kate also shared that the Library Cooperatives of Michigan would be conducting their annual retreat in the coming months to conduct strategic planning.

Tiffany Fiting, Merrill District Library, shared that there are grants available through the Michigan State Police. Kate offered to pass the information for these grants on in her next weekly update.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on June 25, 2025, after the Advisory Council meeting. The location is TBD.

Other Important Dates: MLA Advocacy Day, April 30, 2025 – Lansing

Adjournment: Christian Dunham moved, and Ruth Steele seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1:00 pm. The motion was carried.