

**LAKELAND LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
BOARD MINUTES – Official
Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.
Kent District Library Service Center**

Present: Ron Suszek (MADL), Rob Bristow (OG), Maggie McKeithan (OS), Diane Kooiker (HDL), Lance Werner (KDL), Carol Dawe (LLC), Dale Parus (IC), Jessica Hunt (NG), Abby Black (OA), John McNaughton (GRPL)

Lakeland Staff Present: Amber McLain, Ann Langlois

Absent: None

- 1) CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 9:32 by John McNaughton
- 2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Lance Werner moved, supported by Ron Suszek, to approve the agenda as presented - *motion carried.*
- 3) PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no public comments.
- 4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Lance Werner moved, supported by Rob Bristow, to approve the board minutes from June 12, 2025 – *motion carried.*
- 5) FINANCIAL REPORT:**
 - a) June Financials and Check Register: Lance Werner moved, supported by Maggie McKeithan, to approve the June Financials as presented - *motion carried.*
- 6) PRESIDENT’S REPORT**
 - a) None
- 7) DIRECTOR’S REPORT**
 - a) Carol shared that Dillon Geshel (current interim director of MLA) shared survey results of what Michigan residents’ opinions are regarding libraries, and numbers are positive. The full results will be released soon. She also shared that Lakeland is currently working on the budget for next fiscal year.
- 8) COUNCIL/COMMITEE REPORTS**
 - a) Advisory Minutes included for informational purposes.
- 9) ONGOING/NEW BUSINESS:**
 - a) *Procurement Policy Review* – Lakeland is currently reviewing policies to ensure that they are clear and consistent. Proposed policy included in packet. Lance Werner moved, supported by Rob Bristow, to approve the Procurement policy as presented - *motion carried.*
 - b) *Board Development* – The New Yorker Magazine article included discusses the “death of reading” and statistics regarding reading for fun in different age groups. Discussion ensued regarding how service models may change to address the issues, how to work with ai, and also the rise in complaints about homelessness as a new tactic against libraries.
- 10) PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
 - a) Jen Salgat shared that Lake O changed their summer reading activities to include “brain activities” to emphasize that libraries are not just books, but access to information and resources.
 - b) Discussion ensued about how to inspire reading.
- 11) BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**
 - a) Abby Black shared that OA approved free printing and faxing for veterans.
- 12) NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, August 14, at 9:30 a.m. at Kent District Library Service Center.
- 13) ADJOURNMENT:** Abby Black moved, supported by Rob Bristow, to adjourn at 10:15 - *motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted by,
Amber McLain