



**LAKELAND LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES – Official
Thursday, November 13, 2025 after 9:30 a.m. Board Meeting
At the KDL Service Center**

Council Members Present: Elyshia Hoekstra (OC), Stef Reed (MG), Joe Zappacosta (SM)
Lakeland Staff Present: Amber McLain, Ann Langlois

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 9:57 by **Elyshia Hoekstra**.
- 2) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Ciera Bakovka moved, supported by Matt Lubbers-Moore to approve the agenda - *motion carried*.
- 3) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
 - a) None
- 4) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** **John McNaughton** moved, supported by James Pugh, to approve the Advisory Council minutes from October 9, 2025– *motion carried*.
- 5) **COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORTS:** Nothing to report.
- 6) **BOARD REPORT:** Nothing to report.
- 7) **ILS MANAGER'S REPORT:** Ann had a very busy month with assisting libraries. We had our first vendor demo for the ILS evaluation committee. The Sierra 6.4 update was completed. Ann mentioned that we will be doing a security evaluation of our practices moving forward.
- 8) **MEMBER SERVICE MANAGER'S REPORT:** Amber shared that things have been functioning as expected. She is looking to tweak some language within the expiration notification emails to try and get them to be a bit more clear. She also reminded libraries that she is available for staff training both for biblio-products and patron point, as well as de-escalation skills.
- 9) **COOPERATIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** See written report. She shared that she is still working on strategic plans with a number of member libraries. She is working with the Suburban Library Cooperative to hire a new Cooperative Director.
- 10) **OTHER REPORTS:**
 - a) **CE Committee** – Draft Minutes included for information. This is now a drop-in work group, so feel free to drop in on a meeting, there is no longer a monthly commitment. Carol asked if members were interested in a multi-event leadership series – overwhelming interest.
 - b) **YS Committee** – Youth services is continuing to truck along and is hosting their annual summer reading workshop at Zeeland at the end of this month.
 - c) **MLA** – Dale shared that lobbying really made a difference in how the budget turned out this fiscal year.
- 12) **NEW AND ONGOING BUSINESS**
 - a) **MiLibraryFinder.org** – Amber shared the finished MiLibraryFinder map website (milibraryfinder.org) and demonstrated the different versions of the map that were

created – individual library, county, region, cooperative, and full state. Unserved areas were also demonstrated.

- b) **MLA Recap** – Discussions ensued regarding sessions on misinformation, AI, wellness. Discussion also ensued regarding ALA, its debt, and its restructuring.

13) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- a) Jim Murphy from Mulder's Moving and Storage explained their services for libraries – including storing items during construction, flooring projects, etc.
- b) Virginia DeMumbrum asked if any other libraries are partnering with their school districts for a 32n grant.
- c) Stef Reed shared that a tree farm from Montcalm was selected to provide a tree for the White House this year.
- d) Ellen Peters expressed gratitude for the \$10,000 Carnegie gift given for the USA's 250th anniversary.
- e) Dale Parus shared the importance of having the visibility with legislators on the level of Dana Nessel and again emphasized the work that MLA is doing.
- f) Abby Black asked if anyone else would be attending ThinkSpace.

14) **NEXT MEETING:** Thursday December 11, 2025 following the 9:30 a.m. Board Meeting at Kent District Library Service Center.

15) **ADJOURNMENT:** Ellen Peters moved, supported by Kevin Meyer, to adjourn at 10:39 - *motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted by,
Amber McLain