

**LAKELAND LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
BOARD MINUTES – Official
Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.
Kent District Library Service Center**

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

Lakeland Staff Present: Amber McLain, Ann Langlois

Absent: Matt Lubbers-Moore (SF)

- 1) CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by John McNaughton.
- 2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Lance Werner moved, supported by Rob Bristow, to approve the agenda as presented - *motion carried.*
- 3) PUBLIC COMMENTS**
 - a) Kevin Wisniewski from MADL shared a comment about regarding Terry Cross's retirement and the timeframe for which the consideration for outsourcing deliver occurred.
- 4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Lance Werner moved, supported by Ron Suszek, to approve the board minutes from February 12, 2026 with the addition of Jessica Hunt as present– *motion carried.*
- 5) FINANCIAL REPORT:**
 - a) February Financials and Check Register: Abby Black moved, supported by Maggie McKeithan, to approve the February Financials as presented - *motion carried.*
- 6) PRESIDENT'S REPORT**
 - a) None
- 7) DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
 - a) Carol shared information regarding a Library Cooperatives of MI program that happened recently which covered details of becoming a District library and what that entails.
 - b) Carol pointed out that there is a gap in her director's report – she was going to attend an Innovative event, but decided not to out of an abundance of caution as we are in the infancy stages of considering negotiations with III.
- 8) COUNCIL/COMMITEE REPORTS**
 - a) Advisory Council Official Minutes from November 13, 2025 included for information.
- 9) NEW BUSINESS:**
 - a) Delivery Proposal Review and Discussion
 - i) Carol discussed the process of how this proposal came to be with Terry Cross's retirement, our two drivers coming up on retirement, as well as the process for researching different options to replace our current delivery structure. The proposal was crafted with many things in mind: the cost of gas, the cost of maintenance and vehicles, the need for consistency of drivers and delivery, and dedication of the service. Carol also clarified that the fiscal year for delivery will be May to April.
 - ii) Discussion ensued regarding the timeframe for which the proposal came about, how costs will change with no longer maintaining health insurance for employees and truck maintenance, as well as the inter-connectedness of this proposal with the possibility of a new ILS.
 - iii) Lance Werner moved, supported by Maggie McKeithan, to approve the outsourcing of Lakeland Library Cooperative delivery services - *motion carried.*
 - b) MERS Carve-Out Discussion
 - i) Abby Black moved, supported by Rob Bristow, to approve the attached revised MERS DB Adoption Agreement to carve out Drivers employees into a new division with a 5-yr vesting - *motion carried.*
 - c) Amended adjusted expenses for 2025-2026 Operating Budget
 - i) Rob Bristow moved, supported by Lance Werner, to adopt the amended adjusted expenses for 2025-2026 Operating Budget as presented in the Delivery Proposal - *motion carried.*

10) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- a) Kevin Wisniewski expressed displeasure with the decision to outsource delivery.
- b) Amy Stockwell asked about whether current LLC drivers were eligible for retirement.
- c) Kevin Meyer asked when the outsourced was slated to start and it was confirmed to be around May 1.

11) BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

- a) John McNaughton shared the Grand Rapids Public library approved a new five-year strategic plan, and it is available at grpl.org.

12) NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 9, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. at Kent District Library Service Center.

13) ADJOURNMENT: Lance Werner moved, supported by Abby Black, to adjourn at 10:15 - *motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted by,
Amber McLain