

**LAKELAND LIBRARY COOPERATIVE  
ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES – Official  
Thursday, April 9, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.  
At the KDL Service Center**

Council Members Present: Elyshia Hoekstra (OC), Stef Reed (MG), Joe Zappacosta (SM), Carol Dawe (LLC)

Lakeland Staff Present: Ann Langlois, Amber McLain

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at time by Elyshia Hoekstra.
- 2) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** John McNaughton moved, supported by Matt Lubbers-Moore to approve the agenda - *motion carried.*
- 3) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
  - a) Mary Johnson shared that advocacy day is coming up and that the MLA elections will be closing soon.
  - b) David Edelman shared that ALA Libraries transforming Communities grant for \$20,000 was given to Hastings.
- 4) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Cierra Bakovka moved, supported by Abby Black, to approve the Advisory Council minutes from March 12, 2026 – *motion carried.*
- 5) **COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORTS:** Nothing to report.
- 6) **BOARD REPORT:** Nothing to report.
- 7) **ILS MANAGER'S REPORT:** Ann Langlois shared that most libraries have finished their part of the inventory project. She will be at IUG (Innovative Users Group) next week, so things may be slightly slower regarding response times.
- 8) **MEMBER SERVICE MANAGER'S REPORT:** Amber shared that the Patron Point and BiblioApp stats are updated for March on LLCreports.org. She also shared that she is accumulating resources that will help with remediating websites and documents to be accessible and will work on sharing this information with the members.
- 9) **COOPERATIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Carol shared that as we move forward with these projects, Lakeland will be working hard to communicate more effectively and more often, and encouraged directors to encourage their staff to read our reports to stay informed.
- 10) **OTHER REPORTS:**
  - a) **Circulation Committee Minutes: 2-25-26** – included for information.
  - b) **Continuing Education Minutes: 3-26-26** – included for information.
  - c) **Youth Services Minutes: 3-2-26** – included for information.
  - d) **MLA:** Nothing much new to report. Advocacy Day is coming up. A discussion ensued regarding the workings and success of Advocacy day.
- 12) **NEW AND ONGOING BUSINESS**
  - a) Delivery Changes Discussion
    - i) Same Day Delivery is hiring new drivers and will be procuring new trucks that will be dedicated to the Lakeland contract.
    - ii) Everything on the library side will be the same. The company and drivers are bonded, the delivery times and dates will be the same, and building access will be the same.
    - iii) Kent District Library has used this service for many years and Carol worked with them to ensure our contract was properly written and everything was covered.
    - iv) The sorting process will be the same – items sorted at LLC, totes and bags will be used, etc. The only thing changing is the trucks and on-the-road delivery.
  - b) ILS Evaluation Committee Q&A Discussion
    - i) A timeline of this process is included in the Agenda packet. Ann did literature review in 2024 including Library Technology reports to get a grasp of the landscape. The committee was formed to allow a representation from all library sizes and settings. Lakeland Library Cooperative staff were also on the committee. Five vendors were requested to respond to our Request for Information, and the RFI was posted publicly on the Lakeland website. From

those five vendors, three responses were received. The three companies that responded were invited to give demos to the committees, and Polaris was selected to give a second demo as well. The committee voted unanimously to recommend a move to Polaris. Members of the ILS council shared that Polaris was more adaptable and user friendly, that the process was thorough, that Polaris would allow for more features to be native rather than having to be relegated to third party services. Polaris also offers the ability to be more granular in what can be done for each library.

- ii) A question regarding how kids catalog work in regards to Intellectual Freedom. It would be parent's choice to have their child on that product, and not the library limiting access. Discussion ensued.
- iii) A question regarding the process of deciding Vega over other third-party apps. Ann pointed out that third party apps would still be able to connect to Polaris via API, but the consideration was that having more products "in-house" would diminish wait times and finger-pointing between companies. Discussion ensued.
- iv) A question regarding how Innovate has approached having another product available in the past - have they tried to push us to switch in the past etc. Essentially no – they have mentioned that there is another product available but never pushed it as a solution. Discussion ensued.
- v) Ann was asked what migrations she has done in the past. She has migrated from Millennium to Sierra, and helped with the process in her last time before accepting her position at Lakeland.
- vi) A question regarding iTypes and the granularity of it – Ann explained that the cooperative will still be managing the backend of standardized codes. The granularity allows for limits on items that do not have to be system-wide.
- vii) A question regarding the timeline of the migration. It takes 11 to 12 months to migrate on the vendor side, which would allow us time for training, system decisions, member input – with the switch NOT happening during summer reading. If the timeline continues, it would be late 2027.

13) **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- a) The Call for Proposals is open for the MLA Annual Conference. Share your ideas, best practices, or something awesome you/staff do at your library with colleagues across the state! Submit your proposal **Friday, May 15, 2026.**

14) **NEXT MEETING:** Thursday May 14, 2026, following the 9:30 a.m. Board Meeting at Kent District Library Service Center.

15) **ADJOURNMENT:** Virginia Demumbrum moved, supported by Cierra Bakovka, to adjourn at 11:10 AM - *motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted by,  
Amber McLain