

City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

La Crosse Public Library 800 Main Street La Crosse WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Library Board

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 5:00 PM La Crosse Public Library
Auditorium (Lower Level)

Call to Order

The Chair, Sue Anglehart, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call

PRESENT: Sue Anglehart, Kathy Ivey, Araysa Simpson, Ross Seymour, Aaron Engel, Mac Kiel, Erin Raymus, Katie Bittner (joined at 5:19 p.m.), Jessica Thill (left at 5:58 p.m.), Tamra Dickinson

ABSENT:

STAFF: Shanneon Grant, Dawn Wacek, Daniel Whitmore, Amber Leibundgut-Peterson, Cynthia Arauz, Miranda Greeno

Agenda Items:

1 Approval of Minutes from Regular Board Meeting – March 11, 2025

Motion to approve the minutes from the regular Board meeting of March 11, 2025.

(Kathy Ivey/Aaron Engel) Carried

- 2 Approval of Minutes from Committee of the Whole No April Meeting
- 3 Approval of Bills & Financial Reports March 2025

Motion to approve the bills and financials reports from March 2025. (Ross Seymour/Erin Raymus) Carried

4 Reports

4.1 Director's Report

4.11 Programming Highlights

Director Grant shared with the Board that April 6-12 is National Library Week. In celebration, the Library will be handing out LPL swag to patrons and hosting its popular 4th Annual Tiny Art Show. Library staff was celebrated on National Library Workers Day with an appreciation lunch.

4.12 Organizational Transitions

Library leadership is currently focusing on refining staff scheduling and communication between departments post-restructure. The upcoming renovation as well as the retirement of Director Grant are two more significant changes on the horizon. Library leadership wants to make sure staff are well supported through these transitions.

4.13 Flexible Facility Grant Updates

a. Renovation Timeline

The forthcoming renovation has shifted from a multi-phase plan to a single-phase plan. Meaning all construction will happen simultaneously. Doing this should reduce construction time by one month. Another benefit of this is that instead of Main Hall serving as a space for storage, it will serve as a space for public computers, copiers, popular collections, etc. The bid opening will take place on May 1. Construction will start at the end of June and must be finished by September 2026.

b. Service Impacts

The Library will be closing the Creation Space and Archives Reading Room on May 15. Creative activities and kits will be available at the North Community Library as well as out in the community this summer. Archives staff will be available via phone and email for local history reference and genealogy resource assistance.

c. Alternate First Floor Restroom Project

There is sufficient need to update the Library's first floor restrooms. These restrooms are located in a high traffic area and are heavily used. This use will only increase after the renovation and addition of a new large meeting room. There are also the elements of ADA compliance and security to consider. The first floor restrooms need to be closed during construction, regardless of whether they are remodeled in this phase. Renovating the restrooms would not increase the construction timeline. Waiting to remodel the restrooms will mean an increase in cost to do so.

d. Special Trustees Historical Expenditures

Trust Point only distributes quarterly statements, so these statements provide a general picture. On average, it has taken about 2.5-4.5 years for the expended funds to be restored. Staff will continue researching and plans to provide more information at the May meeting.

4.2 Committee of the Whole Report - No April Meeting

5 New Business

5.1 Consideration/Approval of Half Day Closure May 9, 2025, for Staff Development Workshop

Motion to approve a half day closure on May 9, 2025, for Staff Development Workshop.

(Erin Raymus/Kathy Ivey) Carried

6 Topics for Future Meetings

- 6.1 Naming Opportunities Policy
- 6.2 Capital Campaign Preparation
- 6.3 Grant Administrator

7 Public Comment / Other

8 Old Business

8.13 Appointment of Interim Director (CLOSED SESSION)

CLOSED SESSION

Motion to convene in closed session under the exemption set out in Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)c which reads as follows: Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, and will reconvene again in open session.

(Aaron Engel/Mac Kiel) Carried

Time: 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

- Sue Anglehart Aye
- Kathy Ivey Aye
- Katie Bittner Aye
- Aaron Engel Aye
- Mac Kiel Aye
- Erin Raymus Aye
- Ross Seymour Aye
- Araysa Simpson Aye

Motion to reconvene into open session. (Araysa Simpson/Erin Raymus) Carried

Time: 6:08 p.m.

Motion to appoint Dawn Wacek as Interim Director, effective May 23, 2025, at salary grade 18, step 1, for the duration of her interim service. (Kathy Ivey/Erin Raymus) Carried

Adjournment at 6:10 p.m.

Motion to adjourn. (Mac Kiel/Aaron Engel) Carried