



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

La Crosse Public Library
800 Main Street
La Crosse WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Library Board

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

5:00 PM

La Crosse Public Library
Auditorium (Lower Level)

Call to Order

The Chair, Sue Anglehart, called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Roll Call

PRESENT: Sue Anglehart, Kathy Ivey, Araysa Simpson, Erin Raymus, Aaron Engel, Jessica Thill, Rosanne Northwood, Katie Bittner, Mac Kiel (joined at 5:05 p.m.), Tamra Dickinson

ABSENT:

STAFF: Shanneon Grant, Dawn Wacek, Daniel Whitmore, Brooke Newberry, Amber Leibundgut-Peterson, Miranda Greeno

Agenda Items:

1 Welcome and Introduction of New Board Members

The Board welcomes Rosanne Northwood as the new Common Council representative and welcomes back Mac Kiel as a citizen member.

2 Approval of Minutes from Regular Board Meeting – April 8, 2025

**Motion to approve the minutes from the regular Board meeting of April 8, 2025.
(Aaron Engel/Erin Raymus) Carried**

3 Approval of Minutes from Committee of the Whole – May 6, 2025

**Motion to approve the minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting of May 6, 2025.
(Aaron Engel/Jessica Thill) Carried**

4 Approval of Bills & Financial Reports – April 2025

**Motion to approve the bills and financial reports from April 2025.
(Erin Raymus/Katie Bittner) Carried**

5 Reports

5.1 Director's Report

5.11 Vacancy Report

Librarian Emily Mootz has accepted a position at Western Technical College as a Project Proven Instructor. The position on our Public Experiences Team has been posted on LPL's website.

5.12 Staff Workshop

Director Grant expressed her appreciation to the Board for approving the half-day closure on May 9, and once again demonstrating support for library staff, this time to provide a workshop on strategies to cope with change.

5.13 Flexible Facilities Project

- *Construction bid was awarded to Market and Johnson and was approved by the Common Council on May 8.*
- *LPL is soliciting Request for Proposals for Grant Administration Services.*
- *Grant forms are being updated to pass the baton to Interim Director.*
- *LPL has received confirmation steps required to begin requesting grant reimbursement have been successfully completed.*

5.14 Programming Highlights

Ms. Grant shared with the Board that the Library is getting ready for the Summer Library Program. With construction forthcoming, many summer activities and programs will move offsite. Many of those taking place in the Library will be held in the Auditorium as Main Hall transforms into a space for public computers, printing/copying, popular collections and some seating. Creation Space will be closing May 15, along with Archives Reading Room. The Library is excited to team up with the Franciscan Spirituality Center to offer a creative space at the Clare Art Room while LPL is under renovation. While the Archives Reading Room won't be accessible during construction, online and phone services will continue.

5.2 Director Search: Hiring Committee Report

Board President Anglehart shared with the Board that from the 14 applications received, the hiring committee has chosen six qualified candidates to be interviewed during the last week in May. The hiring committee will leave the possibility open for a second interview. If a second interview is not needed, the June 3 Committee of the Whole meeting may be converted into a special meeting to approve the hiring committee's decision.

5.3 Committee of the Whole Report – May 6, 2025

5.31 Approval to utilize Operating Funds for Grant Administration

Motion to approve the use of operating funds up to \$20,000 for grant administration.

(Aaron Engel/Erin Raymus) Carried

5.32 Approval to utilize Special Trustees Fund for Restroom Remodel

The Board acknowledged that by approving this motion, they would be dipping below the one million dollar balance and spending principal to fund the restroom remodel. The Board will craft a Special Trustees Fund statement to address spending practices.

Motion to approve the use of Special Trustees Fund in the amount of \$195,000 for restroom remodel.
(Aaron Engel/Araysa Simpson) Carried

6 Old Business

6.1 Fund Balance Priorities

6.11 Approval to utilize Fund Balance for Architectural Expenses

Motion to approve the use of fund balance up to \$6,600 for architectural expenses.
(Aaron Engel/Erin Raymus) Carried

6.12 Approval to utilize Fund Balance for Library Vehicle

Motion to approve the use of fund balance up to \$76,537 to purchase a Library vehicle.
(Katie Bittner/Aaron Engel) Carried

7 New Business

8 Topics for Future Meetings

8.1 Capital Campaign Planning

8.2 Board Statement—Special Trustees Expenditures

9 Public Comment / Other

Adjournment at 6:03 p.m.

Motion to adjourn.
(Araysa Simpson/Erin Raymus) Carried