



**COUNTY OF MARATHON  
WAUSAU, WISCONSIN**

**OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA**

**A meeting of the Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees,  
Monday, December 16, 2024, at 12:00 noon  
Library Headquarters, Wausau Community Room.**

Persons wishing to attend the meeting by computer or phone may log or call into the **meeting beginning five (5) minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following website <https://meet.goto.com/440361909> or number [1 877 309 2073](tel:18773092073). Access Code for dialing in 440-361-909.**

When you enter the meeting, **PLEASE PUT YOUR COMPUTER AND PHONE ON MUTE!**

**AGENDA**

- 1. (12:00 p.m.) Call to Order**
- 2. Acknowledgement of Visitors**
- 3. Approval of Minutes**
- 4. Bills and Services Report**
- 5. (10 minutes) Public Comments** *(Anyone addressing the Library Board is asked to do so in a respectful, professional, and courteous manner. The "Public Comments" portion of this meeting is offered as an opportunity for citizens of Marathon County to be heard. The Board, however, is under no obligation to provide this forum. As such, any misuse could result in the removal of these privileges. Any person who wishes to address the Library Board during the "Public Comment" portion of meetings may only provide comment pertaining to an item on the agenda. He or she must sign in or e-mail their name, address, and the topic they wish to present to the Library Personnel Specialist no later than five minutes before the start of the meeting [library-administration@mcpl.us](mailto:library-administration@mcpl.us))*
- 6. (15 minutes) Reports Regarding Recent Meetings and Communications. For Discussion and Informational Purposes Only. No Action will be taken.**
  - A. President**
  - B. Other Board Members**
  - C. Library Director**
  - D. Board Committees**
  - E. Friends of the Library**
  - F. MCPL Foundation**
  - G. Wisconsin Valley Library Service**
- 7. MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION (roll call vote suggested)**
  - A. Pursuant to §§ 19.85(1) (c) for the purpose of conducting a performance evaluation of the Director.**
- 8. MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION (roll call vote not suggested)**  
**Announcements and/or Action Regarding Closed Session Discussions**
- 9. Announcements**
- 10. Request for Future Agenda Items**
- 11. Next Meeting Dates**
  - Monday 01/27/2025
  - Monday 02/17/2025
  - Monday 03/17/2025
  - Monday 04/21/2025

12. Adjourment

Signed:   
Library Director or Designee

\*All times are approximate and subject to change

\*Any person planning to attend this meeting who need special accommodations in order to participate should call the Library Administration Office at 715-261-7213 or e-mail [library-administration@mcpl.us](mailto:library-administration@mcpl.us) one business day before the meeting.

EMAILED TO: Wausau Daily Herald, City Pages, and

EMAILED TO: Other Media Groups

EMIALED BY: H. Wilde

EMAILED DATE: December 10, 2024

EMAILED TIME: 9:30 a.m.

NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

Regular meeting of the Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees, Monday, November 18, 2024.

Present: Kari Sweeney, Reid Rayome, Gary Gisselman, LeeAnn Podruch, Andrea Sheridan, Chris Voll, Leah Giordano

Absent:

Others: Katelyn Sabelko, Heather Wilde, David Hahn, Stephanie Martell and Ollie Carlson and one other visitor Remote visitors: none

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Kari Sweeney.  
Kari Sweeney acknowledged visitors at the meeting.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY GARY GISSELMAN; SECONDED BY ANDREA SHERIDAN TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEE MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 21, 2024, MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY KARI SWEENEY; SECONDED BY LEEANN PODRUCH TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 2024 BILLS AND SERVICES REPORT. MOTION CARRIED.**

Public Comments –None

President – None

Other Board Members – None

Director's Report – Presented in the Board packet and by Director Leah Giordano.

- Staff met and have found a way to reduce processing costs by eliminating the taping by Baker and Taylor on some paperback books.
- The new HVAC system project continued in October and November.
- The 2025 library budget passed at the county board level.
- The county is making changes to the employee wellness clinic with a new provider that will have expanded locations and services for employees.

Board Committees – None

Friends of the Library – During the November 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> book sale the Friends raised almost \$4000. The Friends of the Library Board has approved the 2025 programming budget.

MCPL Foundation – The Foundation met on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

Wisconsin Valley Library Service – The WVLS Board met on November 16<sup>th</sup> and will meet again in January.

Election of Library Board Officers- Trustee LeeAnn Podruch reported that the nominating committee recommends Reid Rayome for President and Kari Sweeney for Vice President for the upcoming term.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY LEEANN PODRUCH; SECONDED BY ANDREA SHERIDAN TO APPROVE THE SLATE AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.**

2025 MCPL Holiday Closures- Presented in the Board packet.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY KARI SWEENEY; SECONDED BY REID RAYOME TO APPROVE THE 2025 HOLIDAY CLOSURES AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.**

Library Service Highlight: Passport Services- Presented by Ollie Carlson, Circulation and Page Team Lead.

- MCPL serves as a passport acceptance facility. Other locations in Wausau are the post office and the courthouse.
- All circulation staff take the training to become passport application acceptance agents. Additional training is required for the passport manager.
- Staff double check and give advice on applications for new or renewal passports but do not make the decision on whether an individual will receive a passport.
- The government requires that the library charge a \$35 application fee. Photos can be taken for \$10 each.
- Staff helped 410 adults and 240 children with passports and 185 people with renewals for a total of 835 people helped so far in 2024.
- Providing this service is a good way to introduce people to the library who haven't been in the building before.

Announcements – The Board President is working on the Director's annual review and will email it to the Board for input. The Board will deliver the annual review to the Director in closed session at December's meeting.

Request for Future Agenda Items- None

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY CHRIS VOLL; SECONDED BY REID RAYOME TO ADJOURN AT 12:20 P.M. MOTION CARRIED.**

  
Library Director or Designee

Note: These minutes subject to approval at the next Library Board meeting scheduled for December 16, 2024.

Regular meeting of the Marathon County Public Library Board of Trustees, Monday, October 21, 2024.

Present: Kari Sweeney, Reid Rayome, Gary Gisselman, LeeAnn Podruch, Leah Giordano

Absent: Andrea Sheridan, Chris Voll

Others: Katelyn Sabelko, Heather Wilde, David Hahn, and Stephanie Martell  
Remote visitors: none

The meeting was called to order at 11:59a.m. by Kari Sweeney.  
Kari Sweeney acknowledged visitors at the meeting.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY REID RAYOME; SECONDED BY LEEANN PODRUCH TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2024, MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY KARI SWEENEY; SECONDED BY GARY GISSELMAN TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 2024 BILLS AND SERVICES REPORT. MOTION CARRIED.**

Public Comments –None

President – Nathan Turajski has resigned from the MCPL Board of Trustees. The county administrator is reviewing possible replacements. Kari Sweeney and Andrea Sheridan have terms expiring this year and will seek reappointment.

Other Board Members – None

Director's Report – Presented in the Board packet and by Director Leah Giordano.

- A multiple year project has come to an end with the last grant funded Wi-Fi antennas being installed at branches.
- The director is working with the county administrator to implement some improvements in Workday for the hiring of library personnel.
- When the county wellness clinic lost its primary care provider, the county opted to look for a new healthcare vendor. The county plans to maintain the clinic for county employees and potentially add additional services.
- The county human resources department recently created the Adventure Closet. County employees are able to check out sports equipment, kitchen tools and other items for their personal use. The library is housing these items and handles the checkout to employees.

Board Committees – The nominating committee will need to meet to nominate a President and Vice President for the upcoming year.

Friends of the Library – The Friends have added new shelving and are holding bag sales to decrease excess inventory.

MCPL Foundation – None

Wisconsin Valley Library Service – None

Library AHU/Chiller Project Update - Presented by Craig Christians, Construction Project Manager.

- The current library construction project is to replace air handlers, install a new chiller, replace the backup generator, and build a dumpster enclosure separate from the equipment.
- The third-floor air handler has been installed and now air handlers will be installed on the first and second floors. This phase will be the most disruptive to the public and will last through November or early December.
- On November 11<sup>th</sup> the west main entrance doors and part of the upper parking lot will be closed so the contractor can remove old equipment and bring in new equipment. Afterwards the construction crew will work on installation behind tents on the first and second floor to create the least amount of disruption.
- On October 31<sup>st</sup> there will be a power shut down from 9pm to midnight, but a backup generator will be run for required items.
- While working on the outside portion of the project, the crew ran into a soil issue which resulted in a need to use rigid inclusions, delaying this portion of the project.
- The full project completion date is projected for May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

January 2025 Meeting Date Change- Due to the county's staff day, the board will move its January 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY KARI SWEENEY; SECONDED BY LEEANN PODRUCH TO MOVE THE JANUARY 20, 2025, MCPL BOARD MEETING TO JANUARY 27, 2025. MOTION CARRIED.**


Library Service Highlight: Central Wisconsin Book Festival Recap – Presented by Katelyn Sabelko, Library Services Manager.

- The 2024 Book Festival had 15 events with 480 attendees.
- The headline act was David Wroblewski, an internationally bestselling author, and was held in Stevens Point.
- Book Festival plans for 2025 will start in November.

Announcements – None

Request for Future Agenda Items- None

A MOTION WAS MADE BY KARI SWEENEY; SECONDED BY REID RAYOME TO ADJOURN AT 12:35 P.M. MOTION CARRIED.



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Library Director or Designee

# Marathon County Public Library Bills for Approval November 2024\*

<b>Library</b>		
52131 Financial, Banking and Investment Services		
Unique Management Services Inc	\$	81.55
	<b>\$</b>	<b>81.55</b>
52250 Telephone, Internet and Cable		
Charter Communications	\$	542.94
Frontier	\$	723.01
	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,265.95</b>
52560 Other Special Services		
Amazon Capital Services	\$	17.91
Baker & Taylor Company	\$	1,982.97
Blackstone Publishing	\$	41.30
	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,042.18</b>
52990 Sundry Contractual Services		
Abbotsford Public Library	\$	23.00
Madison, City of	\$	18.95
Unique Management Services Inc	\$	18.99
	<b>\$</b>	<b>60.94</b>
53130 Printing and Forms		
Roto Graphic Printing Inc	\$	149.00
	<b>\$</b>	<b>149.00</b>
53142 Software - IT		
Heartland Business Systems	\$	713.09
	<b>\$</b>	<b>713.09</b>
53161 Books Library		
Amazon Capital Services	\$	2,535.99
Baker & Taylor Company	\$	15,046.42
OverDrive Inc	\$	776.95
	<b>\$</b>	<b>18,359.36</b>
53168 Audio-Visual Materials		
Amazon Capital Services	\$	490.34
Baker & Taylor Company	\$	334.29
Blackstone Publishing	\$	475.52
Midwest Tape LLC	\$	3,441.16
	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,741.31</b>
53190 Office Supplies		
Amazon Capital Services	\$	370.95
Ebsco Information Services	\$	600.99
Staples	\$	80.55
ULINE Inc	\$	446.74
	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,499.23</b>
53220 Subscriptions		
Ebsco Information Services	\$	11,990.18
	<b>\$</b>	<b>11,990.18</b>
53260 Advertising		
Wausau Area Newcomer Service, LLC	\$	25.00
	<b>\$</b>	<b>25.00</b>
53321 Personal Auto Mileage		
Staff	\$	148.87
	<b>\$</b>	<b>148.87</b>
53494 Technology Supplies		



Amazon Capital Services	\$	275.23
<b>Technology Supplies</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>275.23</b>
55320 Building/Offices Rent		
Athens, Village of	\$	6,396.83
Metro Fire Protection, Inc.	\$	35.00
Mosinee, City of	\$	3,470.10
WI Public Service Corporation	\$	218.02
<b>Building/Offices Rent</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>10,119.95</b>
<b>Library - Gifts/Donations</b>		
52172 Artist and Event Performances Services		
Grall, Chris	\$	150.00
<b>Artist and Event Performances Services</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>150.00</b>
53161 Books Library		
Baker & Taylor Company	\$	15.68
<b>Books Library</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>15.68</b>
53936 Other Supplies		
Amazon Capital Services	\$	846.66
<b>Other Supplies</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>846.66</b>
<b>CIP Library</b>		
52140 Technology Services		
Envisionware, Inc.	\$	1,350.00
<b>Technology Supplies</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,350.00</b>
52990 Sundry Contractual Services		
Per Mar Security & Research Corporation	\$	3,118.80
<b>Sundry Contractual Services</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,118.80</b>
53936 Other Supplies		
Demco	\$	735.50
<b>Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>735.50</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>57,688.48</b>

\*Current as of 12/6/24 when pulled from Workday (county system)

## Marathon County Public Library Budget vs Actual (Library cost center) for November 2024\*

Ledger Account	Amended Budget	Actuals (Current Period)	Actuals (YTD)	Budget Remaining
<b>Library Cost Center</b>				
<b>Revenues</b>				
46170 Sale of Maps, Poll Lists, Copies	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 1,104.58	\$ 13,764.26	\$ 1,764.26
46190 Other General Government Fees	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 1,520.00	\$ 25,510.00	\$ 1,510.00
46710 Library Fees	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 1,706.31	\$ 38,253.25	\$ (6,746.75)
46199 Employee Share of Insurance **	\$ -	\$ 3,778.75	\$ 3,778.75	\$ 3,778.75
47393 Local Department Charges Internal Service Fund **	\$ -	\$ 44.19	\$ 44.19	\$ 44.19
48200 Rental of Buildings and Property	\$ 42,153.00	\$ 10,538.25	\$ 42,153.00	\$ -
48900 Other Miscellaneous Revenues	\$ -	\$ 318.47	\$ 1,632.93	\$ 1,632.93
49210 Transfer from the General Fund	\$ 63,085.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (63,085.00)
49299 Transfers from Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 63,085.00	\$ 63,085.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 186,238.00</b>	<b>\$ 19,010.55</b>	<b>\$ 188,221.38</b>	<b>\$ 1,983.38</b>

<b>Personnel Expenses</b>				
51111 Salaries and Wages	\$ 2,078,706.00	\$ 144,294.19	\$ 1,772,626.19	\$ 306,079.81
51120 Overtime	\$ 22,935.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,935.00
51390 Other Special Pay	\$ -	\$ 1,471.30	\$ 17,792.73	\$ (17,792.73)
51580 Unemployment Compensation	\$ 2,102.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,102.00
51510 Social Security	\$ 160,775.00	\$ 10,536.37	\$ 129,639.32	\$ 31,135.68
51520 Retirement Employers Share	\$ 131,875.00	\$ 9,210.64	\$ 112,466.37	\$ 19,408.63
51541 Dental Insurance	\$ 12,031.00	\$ 663.10	\$ 7,418.55	\$ 4,612.45
51550 Life Insurance	\$ 7,016.00	\$ 38.06	\$ 409.33	\$ 6,606.67
51560 Workers Compensation	\$ 1,261.00	\$ 87.94	\$ 1,073.02	\$ 187.98

51590 Other Employer Contributions	\$	30,030.00	\$	1,596.00	\$	30,256.25	\$	(226.25)
51593 Health Insurance	\$	508,987.00	\$	31,463.73	\$	350,958.12	\$	158,028.88
<b>Personnel Expenses Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,955,718.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>199,361.33</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,422,639.88</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>533,078.12</b>

### Operating Expenses

52130 Accounting and Audit Services	\$	1,300.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,300.00
52131 Financial, Banking and Investment Services	\$	1,200.00	\$	81.55	\$	908.70	\$	291.30
52192 Other Professional Services	\$	6,500.00	\$	-	\$	6,500.00	\$	-
52250 Telephone, Internet and Cable	\$	22,750.00	\$	1,265.95	\$	19,965.63	\$	2,784.37
52420 Machinery/Equipment Maintenance Services	\$	6,500.00	\$	-	\$	6,731.00	\$	(231.00)
52140 Technology Services	\$	16,000.00	\$	-	\$	13,625.97	\$	2,374.03
52560 Other Special Services	\$	34,000.00	\$	2,042.18	\$	35,796.75	\$	(1,796.75)
52561 Reimburse County	\$	6,400.00	\$	-	\$	6,365.00	\$	35.00
52932 Copier Charges	\$	6,500.00	\$	-	\$	6,511.01	\$	(11.01)
52990 Sundry Contractual Services	\$	15,000.00	\$	60.94	\$	6,435.31	\$	8,564.69
53110 Postage and Courier	\$	1,700.00	\$	-	\$	1,235.14	\$	464.86
53130 Printing and Forms	\$	5,000.00	\$	149.00	\$	3,355.00	\$	1,645.00
53142 Software - IT	\$	6,000.00	\$	713.09	\$	6,488.91	\$	(488.91)
53161 Books Library	\$	275,045.00	\$	18,359.36	\$	230,838.96	\$	44,206.04
53168 Audio-Visual Materials	\$	56,596.00	\$	4,741.31	\$	46,179.91	\$	10,416.09
53169 E-Books Library	\$	34,252.00	\$	-	\$	34,296.24	\$	(44.24)
53190 Office Supplies	\$	27,000.00	\$	1,499.23	\$	19,498.70	\$	7,501.30
53220 Subscriptions	\$	18,600.00	\$	11,990.18	\$	15,589.55	\$	3,010.45
53221 Electronic Subscriptions	\$	35,200.00	\$	-	\$	35,712.53	\$	(512.53)
53240 Membership Dues	\$	118,497.00	\$	-	\$	118,951.21	\$	(454.21)
53250 Registration Fees/tuition	\$	3,500.00	\$	-	\$	829.72	\$	2,670.28
53260 Advertising	\$	4,000.00	\$	25.00	\$	3,540.77	\$	459.23

53321 Personal Auto Mileage	\$	3,500.00	\$	148.87	\$	2,056.09	\$	1,443.91
53410 Meeting Expenses	\$	2,700.00	\$	-	\$	683.26	\$	2,016.74
53494 Technology Supplies	\$	3,000.00	\$	275.23	\$	5,679.14	\$	(2,679.14)
53936 Other Supplies	\$	10,000.00	\$	-	\$	8,768.44	\$	1,231.56
55190 Insurance Other Premiums	\$	48,000.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	48,000.00
55320 Building/Offices Rent	\$	65,000.00	\$	10,119.95	\$	44,790.99	\$	20,209.01
<b>Operating Expenses Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>833,740.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>51,471.84</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>681,333.93</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>152,406.07</b>
Total Expenditures	\$	3,789,458.00	\$	250,833.17	\$	3,103,973.81	\$	685,484.19
Net Change	\$	(3,603,220.00)	\$	(231,822.62)	\$	(2,915,752.43)	\$	687,467.57

\*Current as of 12/6/24 when pulled from Workday (county system).

\*\* Payroll revenue- temporary holding position for County Finance

Marathon County Public Library Budget vs Actual (additional cost centers) November, 2024\*

	Budget	Actuals (Current Period)	Actuals (YTD)	Budget Remaining
<b>Library - Gift/Donation Cost Center</b>				
Total Revenues	\$ 202,783.00	\$ 18,505.00	\$ 288,870.07	\$ 86,087.07
Total Expenditures	\$ 202,783.00	\$ 1,012.34	\$ 80,948.98	\$ 121,834.02
<b>Library - Gift/Donation Cost Center Net</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 17,492.66</b>	<b>\$ 207,921.09</b>	<b>\$ 207,921.09</b>
<b>CIP- Library Cost Center</b>				
Total Revenues	\$ 498,265.00	\$ -	\$ 498,264.97	\$ (0.03)
Total Expenditures	\$ 498,265.00	\$ 5,204.30	\$ 175,660.39	\$ 322,604.61
<b>CIP-Library Net Change</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (5,204.30)</b>	<b>\$ 322,604.58</b>	<b>\$ 322,604.58</b>

\*Current as of 12/6/24 when pulled from Workday (county system).

## TOTAL CIRCULATION STATISTICAL SUMMARY

For the month of November 2024

Branch	2023 CURRENT MONTH	2024 CURRENT MONTH	% CHANGE	2023 YEAR-to-DATE	2024 YEAR-to-DATE	% CHANGE
ATHENS	1,802	1,788	-0.78%	18,506	19,821	7.11%
EDGAR	1,235	1,115	-9.72%	13,765	13,925	1.16%
HATLEY	1,864	1,633	-12.39%	21,141	20,343	-3.77%
MARATHON	2,194	2,222	1.28%	27,321	25,626	-6.20%
MOSINEE	2,225	2,332	4.81%	27,694	27,096	-2.16%
ROTHSCHILD	7,425	7,715	3.91%	87,876	89,459	1.80%
SPENCER	1,194	863	-27.72%	12,497	11,765	-5.86%
STRATFORD	1,828	1,966	7.55%	23,132	23,714	2.52%
WAUSAU	30,477	30,082	-1.30%	340,364	352,651	3.61%
WAUSAU DRIVE UP	1,901	1,396	-26.56%	19,933	19,047	-4.44%
HOMEBOUND	485	1,052	116.91%	6,327	6,949	9.83%
ILL	144	155	7.64%	1,797	1,968	9.52%
OVERDRIVE	17,186	16,873	-1.82%	175,147	194,744	11.19%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>69,960</b>	<b>69,192</b>	<b>-1.10%</b>	<b>775,500</b>	<b>807,108</b>	<b>4.08%</b>

\*MCPL Athens branch was closed November 6-11, to move into new location

## ON-SITE CIRC TO NON-RESIDENT CUSTOMERS

November 2024

	CUSTOMER STATISTICAL CLASSES							TOTAL NON-RESIDENT CIRC	TOTAL CIRC	% of CIRC by BRANCH
	WVLS-CLARK	WVLS-LANGLADE	WVLS-LINCOLN	SCLS-PORTAGE	NFLS-SHAWANO	WVLS-TAYLOR	SCLS-WOOD			
ATHENS	192	0	18	0	0	820	0	1,030	19,821	5.20%
EDGAR	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	13,925	0.01%
HATLEY	13	0	3	0	0	0	0	16	20,343	0.08%
MARATHON	19	0	81	0	0	3	0	103	25,626	0.40%
MOSINEE	0	0	28	0	0	2	0	30	27,096	0.11%
ROTHSCHILD	119	0	19	0	0	1	0	139	89,459	0.16%
SPENCER	649	0	0	0	0	2	24	675	11,765	5.74%
STRATFORD	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	13	23,714	0.05%
WAUSAU	122	0	1,703	0	0	133	67	2,025	352,651	0.57%
WAUSAU DRIVE UP	10	0	36	0	0	0	0	46	19,047	0.24%
MISC*									203,661	
TOTAL MCPL	1,125	0	1,888	0	0	961	104	4,078	807,108	0.51%
% of CIRC by COUNTY	0.14%	0.00%	0.23%	0.00%	0.00%	0.12%	0.01%			

\*MISC=HOMEBOUND,WVLS-D,WVLS-L,III, OVERDRIVE

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## TOTAL MONTHLY CUSTOMER COUNT

For the month of November 2024

	2023 CURRENT MONTH	2024 CURRENT MONTH	% CHANGE
<b>MARATHON COUNTY</b>			
RESIDENT ADULT	52,184	52,682	0.95%
RESIDENT CHILD	8,526	9,002	5.58%
HOMEBOUND	97	102	5.15%
STAFF	65	66	1.54%
TEMPORARY	565	494	-12.57%
<b>TOTAL FOR MARATHON COUNTY</b>	<b>61,437</b>	<b>62,346</b>	<b>1.48%</b>
<b>NON-COUNTY ON SITE BORROWERS</b>			
ADULT	2,582	2,619	1.43%
CHILD	232	237	2.16%
TEMPORARY	26	29	11.54%
<b>TOTAL FOR NON-COUNTY ON SITE BORROWER</b>	<b>2,840</b>	<b>2,885</b>	<b>1.58%</b>
<b>INTERLIBRARY LOAN</b>			
ILL	413	417	0.97%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>64,690</b>	<b>65,648</b>	<b>1.48%</b>



# Marathon County Public Library

## Director Report

### December 2024

#### Highlights

##### International Games Month

Library Services staff held a series of events throughout November to celebrate International Games Month.



In addition to weekly board game programs, we held a special large-scale event every weekend in November. On the first Saturday of the month, we held the kickoff event—a mini gaming convention in collaboration with the organizers of Evercon. On the second Saturday, we featured a hand-crafted Murder Mystery event in which participants played detectives solving the murder of Marian Librarian. Our event on the third Saturday of November offered patrons a nostalgic experience: A life-sized version of the Oregon Trail game. Our fearless trailblazers rolled a giant dice and contended with various obstacles on their journey. On the final Saturday, library staff helped organize a meetup for Magic: The Gathering enthusiasts to play together and show off their cards.

Throughout the week, we displayed our robust collection of game-related books. The feedback from participants was very positive, and we're grateful to everyone who attended our events!

*-Jailin P, Library Specialist*

##### Memory Kits Spark Joy and Connection at MCPL

The Marathon County Public Library (MCPL) has added a new resource to its collection: Memory Kits! These specially curated kits are designed to help caregivers create meaningful moments with loved ones experiencing memory loss or cognitive challenges.

"I originally designed the Memory Kits as a project for my Master's degree coursework," shares Jailin, library specialist and homebound coordinator. "I had been trying to brainstorm additional things I could offer the disabled community, as I am passionate about promoting accessibility in the library."



The kits come in three charming themes: "On the Farm," "Colorful Classics," and "No Place Like Home." Jailin found inspiration for these themes from other Wisconsin libraries that offer memory kits, such as the T.B. Scott Free Library in Merrill, as well as from her own understanding of our community. She recognized that farming is a significant part of Marathon County's heritage. Jailin conducted extensive research on expert recommendations for reminiscence therapy and carefully selected each item over a months-long process. Each kit is thoughtfully packed with books, movies, music CDs, and engaging tactile activities. One of Jailin's favorite items included in the kits is a soft, lavender-scented plush cow that can be warmed in the microwave for extra comfort!

These kits aren't just about activities though; they're about creating connections. "I envision people bringing these kits home, or to a residential facility where their loved one lives, and engaging together," Jailin explains. "Whether that's reading a book together, watching a nostalgic movie, doing an activity and reminiscing together, or just sitting in comfortable quiet while listening to the included music and enjoying the pleasant scent jars, the goal is meaningful engagement and connection."

Funded by the Friends of the Library, the Memory Kits can be found near the Large Type collection on MCPL's second floor. They check out for two weeks at a time (one kit per patron), and are currently available exclusively to MCPL cardholders.

The response has already been enthusiastic, with positive buzz from staff and social media followers. Looking ahead, there's potential for expanding the collection if patron usage and feedback remain strong.

*-Robyn V, Marketing Specialist*

## Library Services

Programming, outreach, branch visits, and more filled November with activity for the Library Services team. Jordan, Julie, Olivia, and Jailin worked together to offer our first month-long celebration of International Games Month. The youth team featured events for “Dinovember,” including a visit from Dino Chris for a triceratops-themed presentation. The team also ventured beyond the library this month. Jailin visited Riverview Terrace Assisted Living in Wausau to share information about the Homebound Program. Kate visited our Edgar and Marathon City branches to advise coordinators on collection maintenance strategy. Murray attended the annual Wisconsin Library Association Conference in Green Bay, an excellent opportunity for professional development.

A final highlight of the month was the hiring of a new team member. Margaret P was promoted from Library Assistant on our Circulation team to the Library Specialist – Events Coordinator position. Her first day will be Monday, December 9. We look forward to welcoming Margaret to the team.

*-Katelyn S, Library Services Manager*

## Branches

In Edgar, The Wildcat Early Learning Center visited the library on the 7th with 9 in attendance. A recurring monthly visit to their building is also being planned for next year. Edgar also hosted 2 beginning computer classes for 14 participants.

Hatley was also busy with a new class visit. The first-grade class from Hatley Elementary visited the library on November 13th. They had recently completed a unit about libraries in class and their teacher wanted them to see what their local library was like. The class got a tour of the library, learned how books are organized by the call number on the spine, and helped create a display about hibernating animals. They also had a lot of great questions, like how to check out books, what happens when you damage a book, and how many items can be checked out at a time. The Hatley branch also received a new train table for children and their caregivers to play with when they visit. It has been very well received!

The Rothschild branch collaborated with the Marathon County Veterans Services department to host an author event with Robert Petersen, Vietnam Veteran and author of several books, including the 2021 title *12,400 Miles to Green Bay* for Veteran’s Day. Employees of the Veterans Services office also returned on the 11th and hosted a resource fair to connect local veterans with services and information.

The Spencer branch has restarted their popular cribbage club and were joined by 15 players in November. Participants were happy we could offer this program again. Spencer staff also welcomed a class visit from Spencer Elementary School.

The Stratford branch hosted a Play & Learn “How Does This Sound” program on Nov. 18. A representative from Children’s Wisconsin/Marshfield Family Resource Center led a session on

listening skills and taught the children how to make and use an echo device. The Stratford Youth Library Opportunities (YOLO) group met on Nov. 12 to work on crafts to decorate the library for winter. The group also brainstormed several programming ideas for 2025.

Sarah, our Mosinee branch coordinator, was awarded the WVLS scholarship to attend the 2025 Power Up Conference. Congratulation Sarah!

In staffing news, Jenna Schemenauer has been hired as the new Hatley branch assistant. She started orientation on November 25th and will begin regular work at the branch soon. We are excited to welcome Jenna to the team! The Rothschild branch is currently accepting applications for a 30-hour branch assistant. The position closes on December 11th and we hope to hold interviews in early January.

*-Laura W, Branch Team Lead*

## Library Services Statistics & Activities

### Team News & Projects

- Notary: 25 appointments
- Proctoring: 0 appointments
- Tech Time: 5 appointments
- MCPL study rooms were booked 99 times in November
- Homebound Services:
  - Items sent out: 504
  - Volunteer deliveries completed: 23
  - New (or recently returned) HB patrons: 3
  - Active HB accts at the start of the month: 87
  - Reading slips, letters, or notes received: 33
- Weeding:
  - Edgar: Adult DVDs, Adult Nonfiction
  - Marathon City: Adult Biographies, Juvenile DVD, Juvenile Fiction
  - Rothschild: Juvenile Fiction
  - Wausau: Adult Fiction, Adult Large Print, Picture Books
- Outreach:
  - Jailin visited Riverview Terrace on Nov 12 and signed up 3 new Homebound patrons, 2 regular library patrons, and distributed information about the Homebound Program and the library
- Ongoing projects:
  - Booklists refresh (Kate, Jailin, Julie, Ben)
    - Homeschooling, dyslexia-friendly books, "Romantasy," and more booklists added to Aspen
    - Booklists display on website improved
  - Collection maintenance (Kate, Murray)
    - Kate visited the Edgar and Marathon City branches on Nov 12
    - Kate created new book club kits with assistance from Kathy
    - Murray attended the Wisconsin Library Association Conference Nov 6-9 and learned about best practices and trends in collection development
  - Events database upgrades (Ben)
    - Worked with WVLS to improve events feed on website, updated County website to use new events feed, and integrated events calendars
  - Graphic design (Ben)
    - Designed program posters and handouts for all MCPL locations
  - Library history digitization project (Julie)

- Lost & Found management (Kathy)
- Manga collection update (Murray)
  - Entire collection has been reviewed and missing volumes from popular series have been ordered; weeding of unpopular series to follow
- Marketing and social media (Robyn)
  - Interviewed on WXCO Radio on Nov 5 & Nov 19 to discuss upcoming library programs
  - Wrote article on Memory Kits for the WVLS newsletter
- Obituary indexing (Jailin, Jordan, Kathy)
- Policy & procedure edits (Kate, Rose, Olivia)
- Programming
  - International Games Month events ran throughout the month (Jailin, Jordan, Julie, Olivia)
  - Dinovember events ran throughout the month (Rose)
  - A Winter Reading Program for Adults is currently in the planning stage (Julie, Olivia)
  - Planning has begun for Summer Library Program 2025 (Tara, Rose, Olivia)
  - The MCPL Professional Development Book Club wrapped up in Nov; the topic for 2024 was enhancing events and services to teens in the library
- Reference skills orientation update (Julie)
- Website and newsletters (Ben)
  - Updated new study and meeting room forms on website, created new methods to feature content on homepage, improved book reviews and spotlights

## Events and Programs

### Youth Events

#### Story Times:

- November 4: Family Story Time—65
- November 6: Play & Learn Story Time—77
- November 11: Family Story Time—60
- November 11: Author Story Time & Visit—35
- November 13: Play & Learn Story Time—64
- November 18: Family Story Time—42
- November 20: Play & Learn Story Time—64
- November 21: Head Start Story Time—24
- November 25: Family Story Time—36

#### Other Programs:

- November 9: Dino Chris Presents “Triceratops”—20
- November 12: Pokémon Club—50
- November 21: LEGO Block Party—23
- November 27: Land Before Time Movie Matinee—18
- November 27: Dinosaur Bookmark—60
- November 30: Children’s Room Scavenger Hunt—140
  
- **Number of November Youth Services programs – 15**
- **Total attendance for November Youth Services programs – 778**

### Adults/All Ages Events

- November 2: International Games Month: Mini Gaming Convention – 35
- November 4: Adaptive Communities—11
- November 5: International Games Month: Card Games & Board Games—0

- November 5: Cribbage—3
- November 7: Stuffed Animal Emergency Room—5
- November 9: International Games Month: Mystery in the Stacks—22
- November 11: Genealogy Meetup—2
- November 12: Extension Gardening: UW Gardening Resources—3
- November 12: International Games Month: Card Games & Board Games—7
- November 12: Cribbage—3
- November 16: International Games Month: Oregon Trail Live!—27
- November 19: Card Games & Board Games—0
- November 19: Cribbage—3
- November 20: Wisconsin Music Bingo with WPR—12
- November 23: International Games Month: Magic the Gathering—5
- November 26: Adaptive Communities—16
- November 26: International Games Month: Card Games & Board Games—6
- November 26: Cribbage—0
- **Number of November programs and activities – 18**
- **Total attendance/participation for November programs – 160**

## Media Summary

### Social Media Statistics:

- Facebook (MCPL): 5,399 followers (+19)
  - New likes (+14)
  - Unfollows (0)
- Twitter: 1,215 followers (-13)
- Pinterest: 962 followers (+0)
- Goodreads: 349 friends (-1); 1,498 reviews (+2)
- Instagram: 1,168 followers (+4)
- YouTube: 522 subscribers (+2)

### Hot Happenings in the River District (email newsletter)

- November 6 – Mystery in the Stacks
- November 13 – Oregon Trail Live
- November 20 – Magic: The Gathering
- November 27 – Dinosaur Bookmarks & Movie Matinee

### WSAW Channel 7

- November 5 - Marathon County Public Library branch in Edgar to offer free class on Medicare: <https://www.wsaw.com/2024/11/05/marathon-county-public-library-branch-edgar-offer-free-class-medicare/>

### WXCO 1230 AM, 98.9 FM

- November 5 - 85th Assembly Democratic candidate Yee Leng Xiong. Robyn Vargas of the Marathon County Public Library.: <https://civicmedia.us/shows/chad-holmes-show/2024/11/05/85th-assembly-democratic-candidate-yee-leng-xiong-robyn-vargas-of-the-marathon-county-public-library>
- November 19 - Robyn Vargas of the Marathon County Public Library. Eric Hovde concedes, kind of.: <https://civicmedia.us/shows/chad-holmes-show/2024/11/19/robyn-vargas-of-the-marathon-county-public-library-eric-hovde-concedes-kind-of>

### City Pages

- November 7 – Big Guide – Ongoing: MCPL Learn How to Play Cribbage-WA; Events: Friends of MCPL Book Sale-WA, Fall Craft Club-MO, Author Robert Peterson-RO, Mystery in the Stacks-WA, Veterans Resource Fair-RO, MA Book Club, ED Book Club, HA Book Club, MCPL Spencer Branch

- Cribbage, November Game Night-WA, Yoga & Meditation Class-MO, Puzzle Competition-MO, Friends of MCPL Members Only Book Sale-WA, Oregon Trail Live-WA, SP Book Club, MO Book Club, November Game Night-WA, RO Book Club
- November 14 – Big Guide – Ongoing: MCPL Learn How to Play Cribbage; Events: Puzzle Competition-MO, Friends of MCPL Members Only Book Sale-WA, Oregon Trail Live-WA, SP Book Club, MO Book Club, November Game Night-WA, RO Book Club, ST Book Club, Magic: The Gathering-WA, Needlework Social Hour-ED, November Game Night-WA; Lectures/Workshops: Computer Basics for Beginners-ED; Kids/Teens: Play & Learn-WA, Family Story Time-AT, Family Story Time-ST, Mini Makers-SP, Family Story Time-MA, Family Story Time-WA, Play & Learn How Does This Sound-ST, Family Story Time-RO, Family Story Time-ED, Read to a Therapy Dog-MO, Pokemon Club-RO, Family Story Time-MA, LEGO Block Party-WA, Family Story Time-WA, Family Story Time-HA, DINOvember Dinosaur Bookmark-WA, Movie Matinee for Kids-WA; Lifelines: Medicare 101-ST
  - November 21 – Big Guide – Ongoing: MCPL Learn How to Play Cribbage; Events: Magic The Gathering-WA, Needlework Social Hour-ED, November Game Night-WA, MA Book Club, ED Book Club, HA Book Club; Genealogy Basics-ED; Kids/Teens: Family Story Time-AT, Family Story Time-MA, LEGO Block Party-WA, Family Story Time-WA, Family Story Time-HA, DINOvember Dinosaur Bookmark-WA, Movie Matinee for Kids-WA, Mini Makers-AT, Family Story Time-RO, Family Story Time-ED, Mini Makers-RO, Play and Learn-WA, Tails and Tales-MO
  - November 28 – Big Guide – Ongoing: MCPL Learn How to Play Cribbage-WA; Events: Snowflake Craft-RO, Essential Oils Craft-MO, MA Book Club, ED Book Club, HA Book Club; Lectures/Workshops: Genealogy Basics-ED, DIY Painted Wood Ornament Craft

#### Record Review

- November 6 – People – Athens: Family Story Time, Mini Makers; Edgar: Family Story Time, Stuffed Animal Sleepover, Book Club, Computer Basics; Marathon City: Book Club, Family Story Time; Stratford: Family Story Time, How Does This Sound, Book Club
- November 13 – People – Athens: Family Story Time; Edgar: Needlework Social Hour, Family Story Time, Computer Basics; Marathon City: Family Story Time; Stratford: Medicare 101, Family Story Time, How Does This Sound, Book Club
- November 20 – People – Athens: Family Story Time; Edgar: Needlework Social Hour, Family history basics, Book club, fake snow sensory play, Computers basics; Marathon City: Family Story Time, Book club, Mini Makers; Stratford: Family Story Time
- November 27 – People – Athens: Mini Makers, Family Story Time; Edgar: Family Story Time, Family History Basics, Book club, Fake snow playtime; Marathon City: Family Story Time, Book club, Mini Makers, DIY Snowman ornament; Stratford: Family Story Time, Magnetic Magic

#### Mosinee Times

- November 7 – MCPL Mosinee: Gentle Yoga & Meditation, Author and Vietnam Veteran Robert Petersen to visit MCPL Rothschild
- November 14 – MCPL Book Clubs: Spencer, Mosinee, Rothschild, Stratford; Marathon County Public Library Youth Events; Play & Learn How Does This Sound-ST, Read to a Therapy Dog-MO, Pokemon Club-RO, LEGO Block Party-WA, Movie Matinee for Kids-WA, DINOvember Dinosaur Bookmarks-WA
- November 21 – December Story Time Dates Set at Marathon County Public Library, MCPL Edgar to offer genealogy basics class
- November 28 – Marathon County Public Library Youth Events: Mini Makers-AT, Mini Makers-MO, Mini Makers MA, Fake Snow Sensory Play-ED, Lego Block Party-RO, Mini Makers-SP, Pokemon Club-WA, Mini Makers-RO
  - “Those Were The Days” column – November 28, 1974: The proposed merger between Joseph Dessert Public Library and the Marathon County Public Library has been tabled.

#### Wausau Pilot & Review

- November 10 – Marathon County Public Library programs: <https://wausaupilotandreview.com/2024/11/10/marathon-county-public-library-programs-57/>



- November 15 - Marathon County Public Library programs, youths:  
<https://wausaupilotandreview.com/2024/11/15/marathon-county-public-library-programs-youths-10/>
- November 16 – December story time dates set at Marathon County Public Library:  
<https://wausaupilotandreview.com/2024/11/16/december-story-time-dates-set-at-marathon-county-public-library-2/>
- November 16 - Marathon County Public Library book clubs: December:  
<https://wausaupilotandreview.com/2024/11/16/marathon-county-public-library-book-clubs-december-5/>
- November 20 - Marathon County Public Library programs:  
<https://wausaupilotandreview.com/2024/11/20/marathon-county-public-library-programs-58/>
- November 29 - Marathon County Public Library programs, adults:  
<https://wausaupilotandreview.com/2024/11/29/marathon-county-public-library-programs-adults-24/>

## Materials

### Youth

November '24	2024 Annual Budget	Rollover from 2023	Total w/carryover	Free Balance	Spent as of 11/30/24	% Spent
Juvenile Audiobooks	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$26.33	\$9,973.67	99.74%
Juvenile CDs	\$300.00	\$30.54	\$330.54	\$4.32	\$326.22	98.69%
Juvenile DVDs	\$7,500.00	\$99.53	\$7,599.53	-\$0.38	\$7,599.91	100.01%
Juvenile Video Games	\$2,350.00	\$0.00	\$2,350.00	\$25.25	\$2,324.75	98.73%
Young Adult Audio Books	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.32	\$1,799.68	99.98%
<b>Youth AV Subtotal</b>	<b>\$21,950.00</b>	<b>\$130.07</b>	<b>\$22,080.07</b>	<b>\$55.84</b>	<b>\$22,024.23</b>	<b>99.75%</b>
Juvenile Fiction	\$26,000.00	\$10.05	\$26,010.05	\$40.48	\$25,969.57	99.84%
Juvenile NonFiction	\$26,000.00	\$53.24	\$26,053.24	\$49.87	\$26,003.37	99.81%
Juvenile Picture Books	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$39.70	\$29,960.30	99.87%
Juvenile Spanish	\$1,500.00	\$23.56	\$1,523.56	\$48.73	\$1,474.83	96.80%
Juvenile Standing Order	\$7,500.00	\$0.00	\$7,500.00	\$1,243.73	\$6,256.27	83.42%
Young Adult Fiction	\$12,200.00	\$0.00	\$12,200.00	\$538.04	\$11,661.96	95.59%
Young Adult Graphic Novels	\$3,700.00	\$30.98	\$3,730.98	\$3.27	\$3,727.71	99.91%
Young Adult NonFiction	\$3,400.00	\$0.00	\$3,400.00	\$3.99	\$3,396.01	99.88%
Juvenile e-books	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$30.43	\$1,969.57	98.48%
<b>Youth Print Subtotal</b>	<b>\$112,300.00</b>	<b>\$117.83</b>	<b>\$112,417.83</b>	<b>\$1,998.24</b>	<b>\$110,419.59</b>	<b>98.22%</b>
<b>Youth Services TOTAL</b>	<b>\$134,250.00</b>	<b>\$247.90</b>	<b>\$134,497.90</b>	<b>\$2,054.08</b>	<b>\$132,443.82</b>	<b>98.47%</b>

### Adult

	2024 Annual Budget	Rollover from 2023	Total w/carryover	Monthly Allotment	Free Balance	Spent YTD	% Spent	Budget Transfers	Free Balance after Budget Transfers
Adult Audiobooks	\$11,500.00	\$279.58	\$11,779.58	\$1,045.45	\$766.47	\$11,013.11	95.77%	560.00 to AF, 200.00 TO ANF	\$6.47
Adult Music CD	\$5,000.00	\$102.72	\$5,102.72	\$454.55	\$903.01	\$4,199.71	83.99%	880.00 TO ADVD	\$23.01
Adult DVD	\$17,750.00	\$284.08	\$18,034.08	\$1,613.64	-\$878.44	\$18,912.52	106.55%		\$1.56



Adult Video Games	\$1,550.00	\$0.00	\$1,550.00	\$140.91	\$86.43	\$1,463.57	94.42%	85.00 TO OVERDRIVE	\$1.43
Adult AV Subtotal	\$35,800.00	\$666.38	\$36,466.38	\$3,254.55	\$877.47	\$34,922.53	97.55%		\$32.47
Adult Paperbacks	\$2,500.00	\$6.29	\$2,506.29	\$227.27	-\$31.93	\$2,538.22	101.53%		-\$31.93
Adult Paperbacks S.O.	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$450.00	N/A	\$450.00	\$0.00	0.00%	420.00 TO AF	\$30.00
Adult Fiction	\$47,000.00	\$139.22	\$47,139.22	\$4,272.73	-\$985.39	\$48,124.61	102.39%		-\$5.39
Adult LT Fiction	\$7,500.00	\$96.97	\$7,596.97	\$681.82	\$1,529.10	\$9,126.07	121.68%		-\$904.10
***Adult LT S.O.	\$5,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00	\$500.00	\$1,271.88	\$4,228.12	76.87%		\$1,271.88
Adult Non-fiction	\$71,000.00	\$386.22	\$71,386.22	\$6,454.55	-\$197.39	\$71,583.61	100.82%		\$2.61
Adult Non-fiction S.O.	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	N/A	\$408.58	\$1,591.42	79.57%	400.00 TO ALT	\$8.58
Adult Biographies	\$11,000.00	\$37.54	\$11,037.54	\$1,000.00	\$228.77	\$10,808.77	98.26%	225.00 TO ALT	\$3.77
Adult Spanish	\$500.00	\$11.33	\$511.33	\$45.45	-\$13.73	\$525.06	105.01%		-\$13.73
Adult Hmong	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$750.00	\$68.18	\$211.49	\$538.51	71.80%	210.00 TO OVERDRIVE	\$1.49
Overdrive - ebooks	\$16,000.00	\$0.00	\$16,000.00	\$1,454.55	-\$70.97	\$16,070.97	100.44%		\$224.03
Adult Print Subtotal	\$164,200.00	\$677.57	\$164,877.57	\$14,927.27	-\$257.79	\$165,135.36	100.57%		\$587.21
Adult Services TOTAL	\$200,000.00	\$1,343.95	\$201,343.95	\$18,181.82	\$619.68	\$200,057.89	100.03%		\$619.68

## Support Services Statistics & Activities

### Circulation Team

- New library card applications processed by the Circulation Team: 179
- Accounts linked: 39
- Checkout total for Wausau First Floor: 30,082
- Ashley H processed 155 Interlibrary Loan items
- November Passports News:
  - 29 - Adult Passport Books
  - 19 - Minor Passport Books
  - 4 - Adult Passport Cards (2 were unique applications, 2 were attached to book applications)
  - 0 - Minor Passport Cards

The MCPL Passport team accepted a total of 50 passport applications at \$35.00 each, and 55 photos were taken at \$10.00 each for a total of \$2,300 recorded. We also assisted with 10 renewal applications.

- Ashley H:

- Inquired to Jailin about Dyslexia-Friendly books per email we received at main desk. She created a list that includes books about dyslexia and books with dyslexia font: <https://mcpl.catalog.wvls.org/MyAccount/MyList/12196>
- Switchovers adult fiction.
- Switchovers adult biographies.
- Helped the page team by shelving video games and did multiple pull lists.
- Withdrew children's picture books x
- Removed Xmas CDs from storage and got them out for patrons.
- Tested 6 different discs due to patron comment.
- Conducted additional ILL work beyond traditional circulations (60 requests received and processed):
  - Under \$10 per Amazon: 1
  - Too new: 2
  - Feature Film: 2
  - Email inquiries/renewals: 12
  - Phone inquiries/renewals: 7
  - V-Cat items: 6
  - Unfilled: 5
  - Hold pickup phone calls: 1
  - Library of Congress: 1
  - Available as eBook/eAudio: 1
  - Available to read online: 1
  - Courtesy Returns to other libraries: 1
  - Emails to Wausau West for ILL pickup: 2
  - 48 requests filled
- Margaret P:
  - Seasonal Halloween switchovers - set to storage.
  - Scanned in seasonal Christmas books/cd's/DVD's for all the branches changing location codes. Then organized and packed the books & other items to be sent to branches.
  - Helped the page team by emptying bins and sorting carts.
  - Finished passport agent training.
  - Young adult switchovers.
  - Began inventory of adult fiction section.
  - Assisted with pull lists.
  - Withdrew books & other items for the library.
- Maggie B:
  - Ordered supplies for the team.
  - Continued to assist with the Homebound program.
  - Helped the Page team by emptying bins, sorting carts, and doing transits.
  - Had regular shifts at the drive-up and is continuing to help out on projects downstairs.
  - Juvenile to Adult account switch-overs.
  - Unlinked accounts as juveniles turned 16.
  - Processed new videogames.
  - Completed Passport Recertification course.
- Erin Q:
  - Adult fiction weeding list.
  - Adult fiction switchovers.

- 11 billed items, 7 paid, 2 waived.
- 7 NDLS sent to patrons.
- Completed Passport Recertification course.
- Only 20 last Wausau/MCPL copies withdrawn due to damage! (compared to 42 and 41 in September and October)
- Mai Yia L:
  - Completed the missing in transit list.
  - Had regular shifts at the drive-up and worked on projects downstairs.
  - Library card application double checks.
  - Continued inventory in adult paperbacks.
  - Continued work on Passport Recertification course.
  - Withdrew items.
- Mollie P:
  - Assisted the page team by emptying return bins and sorting carts to be shelved.
  - Assisted with pull lists.
  - Adult fiction weeding.
  - Adult non-fiction switchovers.
  - Inventoried in juvenile fiction.
  - Sorted all Christmas items into which branch they would be sent to.
  - Continued to work on online training to become a passport agent.
- Ollie C:
  - Created switchover, clean-up, location code, and missing in inventory lists throughout the month for Circ team to work on.
  - Ordered several forms and tracking labels for Passport Program.
  - Sent out Christmas items to the branches.
  - Attended the November Library board meeting and gave a short presentation on the Passport Program at the library.
  - Worked on several projects for VCAT Cooperative Circulation.
  - Coordinated with Murray to rearrange some of the Young Adult Collection.
  - Worked on adult fiction and large print weeding.
  - Gathered all returned Halloween items and organized them to go back into storage for the year.
  - Completed WVLS billing list.
  - Solved several mysteries about strange item statuses.
- Over the course of the month **five** patrons were banned for different lengths of time due to policy violations.

## Support Services Team

- Baker & Taylor's prices for taping of paperback books have increased greatly lately. Stephanie, the Collection Development team and the Support Services team have been working to control these costs by discontinuing taping of inexpensive books (pocket paperbacks, juvenile readers), and continuing taping for more expensive books (large print paperbacks, graphic novels). The Teams decided the best approach was to create new B&T accounts to expand our processing options, and to shift the ordering of collections between these accounts as appropriate.
  - Chris L, James B and Dawn L met with Katie Z of WVLS on 11/11. Purpose of the consultation was to lay out our plan to make changes to the B&T accounts and request the required Sierra background work.
  - Katie created the new vendor codes in Sierra.
  - Dawn coordinated the requested new accounts/changes with B&T.
  - James updated the documentation that advises us on which account to use when.
- Kayla K reports that receiving is going smoothly.
- Team members' Self evaluations have been completed.

- Katelyn and Chris attended the V-Cat Council meeting on 11/14 and Chris reported on behalf the Bibliographic/Interface Committee.
- James and Kate S of Collection Development Team visited Edgar and Marathon branches on 11/12. They collected remaining Juvenile Favorites to be relabeled and addressed other shelving issues. Since July, they have visited every branch other than Rothschild.
- James reports that branch Favorites relabeling is nearly complete. We will finish Wausau Favorites before proceeding to the next relabeling project.
- Michelle K worked with Stephanie to place the final Demco order of the year.
- Dawn reports that November was balanced across all funds.
- Circulation total for Wausau Drive Up: 1,396.

## Page Team

- Children's picture books shifting project was completed.
- Young Adult had some organizational changes and Haley worked on shifting and rearranging.
- Throughout the month of November the Page Team shelved 28,813 items. They handled an additional 3,794 more items for holds or transits to home libraries.

## Information Technology

- Public Computer Deployment Update:
  - All Wausau public computers have been replaced.
  - We ran into an issue deploying the new computers in Rothschild. We are currently working with WVLS and CCITC to get the correct configurations in place so we are communicating between the branches and WVLS.
- Security screens are being added to desk computers to help protect patron information. Computer screens are only visible when viewing straight on.
- Configuration of new Wausau desk staff and branch staff computers continues.
  - Wausau Main Desk computers have been replaced.
- New RFID Readers are being configured and deployed.
  - RFID Readers replaced in Wausau Support Services.
  - RFID Readers replaced at Wausau Main Desk.
- David found a recycling program that Sharp offers for our new printer/copiers that we purchased. This no-cost program covers the recycling of the empty toner cartridges and waste receptacles. This is a great "green" feature and an added bonus to updating our printers at Wausau and the branches.
- Several projects remain ongoing:
  - Update to fiber at branches:
    - Athens: It looks like we can treat Athens as a new install and Josh K. at WVLS has initiated the install process. An on "On Site" inspection will be scheduled before proceeding.
    - Edgar:
      - *Hatley: Connected to WCAN on 05/12/2023*
    - Marathon City:
    - Mosinee:
      - *Rothschild: Fiber Connection through Rothschild PD (WiscNet)*
    - Spencer:
    - Stratford:
  - Creating technology tutorials for staff.
- Additional projects are on the horizon:
  - Plan a deployment date for Windows 11. (Will be deployed with new patron computers)

- Investigate moving library to Office 365 licensing instead of the current Office 2013 in use.
- Investigate hosting Teams phones on our own Microsoft tenant.
- Investigate VoIP options for our phones at the branches.

## Branch Statistics & Activities

### Athens Monthly Report

#### Events and Programs

- The November Book Club pick was *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. Six people participated in an enjoyable discussion. The December selection will be *A Winter Dream* by Richard Paul Evans and will be held on December 10 at 2:00.
- Weekly Family Story time is held every Wednesday. 52 Children and 21 Adults attended 4 story times during the month of November with an average of 18 participants per session.
- Nov 20: Samantha Boivin, Athens School Psychologist from the Athens School District shared a story and a turkey craft during our family story time, and spoke with the attending parents about the resources offered through the school system.
- Nov 21: Kitty R held a Wired Ribbon Bow Making Class from 5:00-6:30. There were five bow makers in attendance. The participants went home with bows to adorn their garlands, outdoor pots, wreaths, and crafts.
- Mini makers is a process art craft held the first week of the month. Children can use their imagination to create any artwork they wish with the supplies on the crafting table. 23 children took part in this craft.
- There were 14 class visits through the month of November, one with a reading presentation.
- Our first bi-weekly craft of November was Designer Acorns. Twelve children created fancy acorn characters using scrapbook paper for their cap and clothing. The face was adorned with googly eyes and a gem nose. The second bi-weekly craft was "Handsome turkeys." Children were given a turkey body and they created feathers using their handshapes. Older youth created paper bag origami bookmarks.

#### Circulation Statistics

- November circulation totaled 1,788 items. This is a 0.78% decrease from November of 2023. In 2024 year-to-date, Athens has circulated 19,821 items. This is a 7.11% increase from 2023.

#### Library News

- Shahara filled in one shift at Rothschild and Kitty worked Edgar Branch one day during November to help cover desk.
- Passport Photo Service has taken 3 photos in November. Kitty has assisted 4 customers with passport forms.

#### Facilities

- Athens celebrated the 1 year anniversary in the new building on November 13.

### Edgar Monthly Report

#### Events and Programs

- Book club discussed the book *The Golden Spoon* by Jessa Maxwell on the 12th with 6 in attendance. Everyone loved the book and it was a new genre for many of them.
- Story time was held on the 5th with 5 people in attendance and on the 19th with 3 in attendance.
- Medicare 101 on the 6th was attended by 8 adults.
- The Wildcat Early Learning Center visited on the 7th with 9 in attendance; we have planned on a monthly visit to their building in the future.

- Our stuffed animal sleepover was on the 11th with 2 participants.
- The first beginning computer class was on the 18th with 8 in attendance and on the 25th with 6 in attendance.
- Needlework Social Hour was on the 25th with none in attendance.
- The 'Community' Puzzle was finished on the 30<sup>th</sup>; patrons are excited for a new one to work on.

#### Circulation Statistics

- The circulation statistics for the month of November were 1,115 checked out. This is a 9.72% decrease from the same month last year. A total of 13,925 items have been checked out so far this year. This is a 1.16% increase from 2023.
- There were 0 curbside pickups for the month.

#### Library News

- Kitty helped work the desk during story time on the 5th
- James and Kate visited on the 12th
- Hannah attended the Coordinator Meeting on the 15th
- Hannah covered a shift in Rothschild on the 11th
- Allycia covered a shift in Mosinee on the 22nd

#### Facilities Updates

- A water main broke on the 27th so a 'boil alert' was in effect; the library was without drinkable water until the 2nd of December.

## Hatley Monthly Report

#### Events and Programs

- Two caregiver-led story times were held at the Hatley branch in November, with eight people attending on November 12th, and zero people attending on November 26th.
- Book Club met on November 12th to discuss *It Ends With Us* by Colleen Hoover. 12 people attended the meeting. At the meeting, book club members decided on the books they would be reading in 2025. In December, book club will be discussing *One Perfect Day* by Lauraine Snelling.

#### Circulation Statistics

- In November, Hatley circulated 1,633 items. This is a 12.39% decrease from November last year. In 2024 so far, Hatley has circulated 20,343 items. This is a 3.77% decrease from 2023.

#### Library News

- The first grade class from Hatley Elementary visited the library on November 13th. They had recently completed a unit about libraries in class and their teacher wanted them to see what their local library was like. The class got a tour of the library, learned how books are organized by the call number on the spine, and helped create a display about hibernating animals. They also had a lot of great questions, like how to check out books, what happens when you damage a book, and how many items can be checked out at a time.
- The new Hatley branch assistant, Jenna S., began her training in Wausau at the end of the month. We are very excited to have her on our team!
- Hatley has a new train table for children and their caregivers to play with when they visit. It has been very well received!

#### Facilities Updates

None at this time.

## Marathon City Monthly Report

#### Events and Programs

- Book Club: Lisa M. and 10 patrons had a lively, thoughtful discussion of the book *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes & other Lessons from the Crematory* by Caitlin Doughty. The book club meets on the second Monday of the month from 5:45-6:45 pm. The next book club session will meet on Monday, December 9th with a discussion of the book, *Carrie Soto is Back* by Taylor Jenkins Reid.

- Story Time: Our 30 minute family story time programs are held on Thursday mornings at 10:30 am. We held 3 family story time events including a special visit by members of the Marathon City Volunteer Fire Department. The fire fighters came to speak to the children about home fire safety and showed them their gear, equipment and a real Fire Truck! The 4K class from St. Mary's school joined us for this special event, so we had a total of 45 attendees! One of the fire fighters read the children a story, we sang a song and then made a cute fire truck craft. The other themes of the month focused on squirrels and turkeys. We listened to stories, sang songs and made simple crafts with 19 children and caregivers attending these two events. We are very excited about the growth of our story time program!
- The St. Mary's 4k class came for their monthly visit. Twenty students and 2 adults walked down to the library for a quick story time and book check out with their own library cards.
- During the week of October 28 through November 2, we offered a Fall Craft Week. Over 30 children of all ages stopped in to create a variety of fall-themed craft projects. After a super busy event-filled month in October, we didn't plan as many events for November. However, our circulation numbers grew and we focused on branch projects, so we kept very busy.
- In December, our monthly book club, weekly family story time and St. Mary's 4k story time will be held as usual. On December 11, we are hosting a DIY Snowman Ornament event. Children of all ages can stop in to create a cute snowman craft.

#### Circulation Statistics

- Marathon circulated 2,222 items during the month of November, which is a 1.28% increase from this time last year. So far in 2024, Marathon has circulated 25,626 items. This is a 6.20% decrease over last year.

#### Library News

- We are working on completing inventory for the year.
- Lisa H. attended the virtual coordinators' meeting on November 15.
- We are looking forward to the installation of new computers later this month.

#### Facilities Updates

- None at this time.

## Mosinee Monthly Report

#### Events and Programs

- Our Mini Makers process art program series brought in 4 patrons for creative tape and yarn resist paintings.
- The next day was our monthly outreach story time at Head Start, with 16 children and 3 adults listening to stories and songs all about rescue and construction vehicles.
- A similarly themed Family Story Time following our Head Start outreach program brought in 7 patrons, who also did a fire truck craft and along with a garbage truck craft that helped children practice their shapes.
- On the 7th, 10 patrons had a ton of fun making cute gnomes and yarn-wrapped decorative letters for our monthly fall Craft Club.
- On our monthly session of a Read to a Therapy Dog, 8 patrons absolutely loved reading to Buddy!
- Our second fall session of Gentle Yoga and Meditation brought in 1 patron for a relaxing morning.
- Unfortunately no patrons joined us for our Wings of Fire Party on the 12th, but 25 patrons made their own flying dragon craft later in the week in our children's area of the library.
- Two patrons registered for our first puzzle competition in honor of International Games month, but due to the low registration neither attended.
- Eight patrons joined us for Adult Book Club.
- Passive Programs: Throughout November 14 patrons told us their favorite picture book in honor of Picture Book Month. Fifty-nine patrons also participated in our passive dot decoration and coloring station. We also had 9 patrons make buttons at the end of the month using the IFLS Button Maker kit.

- Upcoming Programs: The following programs will continue into December: Family Story Time on the first Wednesday of the month, our Mini Makers Process Art program on the first Tuesday of the month, the adult and teen Craft Club on the first Thursday of the month, Gentle Yoga and Meditation, and the Read to a Therapy Dog program on the third Tuesday of the month.

#### Circulation Statistics

- Mosinee circulated 2,332 items in November 2024. This is a 4.81% increase. Mosinee has circulated 27,096 items in 2024. This is a 2.16 % decrease.

#### Library News

- Self-appraisals were completed and sent in.
- Sarah had rounding with Katelyn on the 8th.
- Sarah was awarded the WVLS scholarship to attend the 2025 Power Up Conference.
- Displays in November: We had a “DINOvember” display for our picture book section, featured nonfiction in both our adult and children’s areas in honor of “KNOWvember,” and our adult fiction section featured books centered on a coffee theme in honor of “National Espresso Day.” Our display behind the circulation desk reminded patrons that, “Books are a feast for your imagination,” while our fireplace featured cookbooks.

#### Facilities Updates

- Our fire inspection on the 6th revealed our emergency light was out, and Public Works would be notified.
- Our wonderful custodian Dave did another temporary window repair, replacing and painting another rotted out window frame. We are still waiting on an update from the City of Mosinee regarding the window restoration project.

## Rothschild Monthly Report

#### Events and Programs

- We held two family story times in November for 50 people. Because our attendance has been steadily growing, we will be moving story time into our larger community room in 2025.
- In November, 10 members of our book club met to discuss *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick. We will take the month of December off and will meet again in January to discuss *Good Night, Irene* by Luis Alberto Urrea.
- We had 3 recurring events in November – 5 people joined us for Lego Block Party, 7 people joined us for our preschool focused Mini-Makers program, and 14 people joined us for Pokémon Club. We also collaborated with the Marathon County Veterans’ Service office to host an author event with Robert Petersen, Vietnam Veteran and author of several books, including the 2021 title *12,400 Miles to Green Bay for Veteran’s Day*. Employees of the Veterans’ Service office also returned on the 11th and hosted a resource fair to connect local veterans with services and information.
- In November, we had various book displays around the library including “Winter is coming, try a new hobby!”, “Just One Word” (one word titles), and a display of Thanksgiving books.

#### Circulation Statistics

- In November, Rothschild circulated 7,715 items. This is a 3.91% increase from last year. In 2024, Rothschild circulated 89,459 items. This is a 1.8% increase from last year.

#### Library News

- We are currently displaying Giacometti inspired sculptures from our local 5th graders. We love these sculptures and have enjoyed welcoming the families in to the library to see their student’s art!
- Laura attended the branch coordinator meeting.
- Our new busy boards for the children’s area arrived. We are waiting for village staff to complete the install. We also received a new rug for story time.
- Stephanie visited the library to discuss furniture options.
- David visited the library to begin replacing all of the computers.



- Staff worked on inventory and completed weeding projects in J fiction.

#### Facilities Updates

- None at this time.

## Spencer Monthly Report

#### Events and Programs

- From October 7th to November 9th, 19 patrons participated in our fall passive tree craft.
- On November 11th, 15 patrons came to our Cribbage at the Library event.
- During the week of November 11th, 4 children participated in our Mini Makers event of “Hand Turkeys.”
- On November 18th, 18 members of the “As the Page Turns” book club in Spencer met to read *House of Secrets* by Tracie Peterson. In December, the club will read and discuss *James Paterson* by James Paterson.
- On November 26th, 13 children from the Spencer Elementary School had a class visit where they read a story with us, checked out books, and colored in a coloring sheet.

#### Circulation Statistics

- In November, Spencer circulated 863 items. This is a 27.72% decrease from last year. In 2024, Spencer circulated 11,765 items. This is a 5.86% decrease from last year.

#### Library News

- Ashley attended the branch coordinator meeting on November 15th.
- Ashley had rounding with Katelyn on November 22nd.
- Self-appraisals were completed and sent in by Ashley and Ann.
- Weeded the Juvenile books on CD section.

#### Facilities Updates

- None at this time.

## Stratford Monthly Report

#### Events and Programs

- Family Story Time hosted 51 people during the three Wednesday morning sessions in November. Great books and some fun games, crafts, and songs helped us explore the topics of dancing, dinosaurs, and bears.
- Our Youth Library Opportunities (YOLO) group met on Nov. 12 to work on crafts to decorate the library for winter. The group also brainstormed several programming ideas for 2025.
- Fifty-seven patrons enjoyed our Dinosaur scavenger hunt during the month of November.
- Seven patrons attended our Book Club on Nov. 20 to discuss *The World Played Chess* by Robert Dugoni.
- Six people enjoyed a Play & Learn “How Does This Sound” program that was held at our branch on Nov. 18. A representative from Children's Wisconsin/Marshfield Family Resource Center led a session on listening skills and taught the children how to make and use an echo device.
- There were no attendees for a Medicare 101 informational program on Nov. 22 presented by Donna Heil, a local health and life insurance agent.
- The 3rd-5th grade St. Joseph’s class came over on Nov. 1, 8 and 22. The visits included four children and a teacher. The children also enjoyed our Dinosaur Scavenger Hunt while here.
- The St. Joseph’s Pre-School class visited Nov. 13 for a Story Time and book check-out. Eight children and their teacher attended.
- The 7th & 8th Grade St. Joseph’s class stopped by on Nov. 14 for a book check-out. The visit included seven students and their teacher.
- 1st & 2nd grade St. Joseph’s class dropped in on Nov. 25 for a book check-out. The visit included nine children and a teacher. The children also enjoyed our Dinosaur Scavenger Hunt while here.

### Circulation Statistics

- We circulated 1,966 items in November. This is a 7.55% increase from last year. So far in 2024, we have circulated 23,714 items. This is a 2.52% increase from 2023.

### Library News

- MJ subbed in Rothschild on Nov. 6 and 15th. Darla worked an extra hour here so that MJ could sub in Rothschild Nov. 6.
- MJ attended the Branch Coordinator Meeting on Nov. 15.
- Our library presented “A Feast of Delicious Books” display in November that featured fiction books with food themes. We also provided a “Dino-vember” display filled with books and movies about dinosaurs, both non-fiction and fiction.
- We completed inventory in November.
- Darla and MJ completed their Personal Appraisals in November.

### Facilities Updates

- Stephanie dropped off a better desk for Darla on Nov. 15, and took some discarded items we no longer needed here back to Wausau.
- Stephanie brought along new phones for our branch that David ordered. They did not eliminate the loud buzzing on our line, however, so David put in a service call to Frontier.
- Frontier worked on our phone line on Nov. 23 and they were able to fix the issue so that the phone line no longer buzzes.
- The Village Public Works put together our new café table and hung our wall coatrack for us.

**WISCONSIN VALLEY LIBRARY SERVICE**

**Board of Trustees Meeting**

September 21, 2024

Wausau, Wisconsin

NOTE: These minutes are to be regarded as the unofficial record of the meeting until the Board of Trustees has approved them. The next Board meeting is November 16, 2024.

President Tom **Bobrofsky** called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM. Roll call was taken by **Wendt** and a quorum was declared present.

**Present**

Tom Bobrofsky, President  
Mike Otten, Treasurer  
Sonja Ackerman, member  
Jim Backus, member  
Carol Bartlein, member\* (arrived 9:45)  
Candice Grunseth, member  
Louise Olszewski, member\*  
Kay Palmer, Vice President  
Judy Peterson, member  
Petra Pietrzak, member  
Kari Sweeney, member

**Others Present**

Marla Sepnafski, WVLS Director  
Erica Brewster,\* WVLS staff  
Susie Hafemeister, WVLS staff  
Josh Klingbeil, WVLS staff  
Jamie Matczak,\* WVLS staff  
Brenda Walenton, WVLS staff  
Kris Adams Wendt, WVLS staff  
Katie Zimmerman, WVLS staff

\*denotes remote attendance

**Excused**

Eileen Persike, member  
Jessica Bernett, member  
Diane Peterson, member

**Vacant**

Marathon County representative

**NOTE:** All exhibits may be accessed at <https://wvls.org/bot-agenda-exhibits/>.

**CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL**

**Ackerman/Pietrzak motion to approve the agenda as presented. All aye. Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** (Exhibit 1)

**J. Peterson/Palmer motion to approve minutes of the August 17, 2024 WVLS Board meeting. All aye. Motion carried.**

**FINANCIAL REPORTS AND CURRENT BILLS** (Exhibits 2-7)

**Sweeney/Olszewski motion to approve the financial reports and current bills as presented. All aye. Motion carried.**

**JANUARY - AUGUST 2024 TREASURER’S REPORT** (Exhibit 8)

**Ackerman/Palmer motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. All aye. Motion carried.**

**2025 WVLS PLAN** – draft (Exhibit 9)

**Brewster** drew the Board’s attention to item 6 at the bottom of page 7 added since the draft plan was reviewed on August 17: *Prepare to bring the WVLS website into full compliance with WCAG 2.1 Level AA technical standard to meet the new Title II ADA rule by April 26, 2026.* In mid-August the US Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division announced on ADA.gov updated regulations to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities act, requiring all websites and mobile apps provided by state and local government entities comply with new ADA accessibility standards. All public (Title II) entities, including public libraries, will need to have all website and mobile apps fully compliant with the new ADA standards for accessibility, or suffer the same penalties as when a building is

not fully ADA accessible. More information regarding implementation plans to address these standards for WVLS libraries will be forthcoming.

**Otten/J. Peterson motion to approve the revised 2025 WVLS Plan. All aye. Motion carried.**

**2025 WVLS BUDGET – draft (Exhibit 10)**

**Walenton** explained revisions to the grant income line item. It is anticipated that aligning WVLS library websites with the change to ADA compliance standards may necessitate additional revisions when the Board next reviews end of 2024 reports and adjusts the 2025 budget at its February meeting.

**Palmer/Ackerman motion to approve the 2025 WVLS Budget as amended. All aye. Motion carried.**

**NICE PROJECT; ILS MERGER BETWEEN NWLS NETWORK AND WVLS V-CAT (Exhibit 11)**

**Zimmermann** walked the Board through exhibit 11. The Northern Wisconsin ILS Consortium Exploration (NICE) Project was an effort by Northern Waters Library Service (NWLS), Wisconsin Valley Library Service (WVLS), and their respective consortia to determine the value and feasibility of a merger to a shared Integrated Library System (ILS). Following an extensive study, it was determined, when put to a vote, that the merger did not have sufficient support among consortium members in either system to move forward at this time. WVLS staff will reflect on the outcome and have follow-up conversations with stakeholders. A report of lessons learned and next steps for V-Cat will be developed, including opportunities for improving V-Cat services for library users and future collaborations. Considerable Board discussion ensued. Appreciation was expressed to Zimmermann and WVLS staff for their considerable efforts.

**Pietrzak/Bartlein motion that the WVLS Board go on record in continuing support of the NICE Project, while recognizing the validity of the V-Cat bylaws and decision and recommends keeping the door open to revisiting the project within two years. All aye. Motion carried.**

**REPORTS:**

**Resource Library (Exhibit 12):** The Marathon County Public Library Resource Library Report includes the agenda and Director's Report for the September 16, 2024 MCPL Board of Trustees meeting, as well as the agenda and minutes from the July 15 and August 19, 2024 meetings.

**WVLS Director (Exhibit 13): Sepnafski** and other WVLS staff members in attendance took turns reviewing items from the Director's Report while taking comments and questions. **Wendt** reviewed the state library aid requests from the 2025-2027 [DPI budget released on September 16](#) (see pages 99-119). WLA talking points will be developed for **Library Legislative Day on February 11, 2025**. The next WLA Library Development & Legislation Committee meeting is September 27.

**WVLS Library Advisory Committee (Exhibit 14):** The LAC held its second 2024 meeting on August 15. The agenda included discussion of collection development issues, as well as review of the draft 2025 WVLS system plan and budget recommended for approval by the WVLS Board.

**V-Cat Council (Exhibit 15):** Highlights of the September 5 V-Cat Council meeting were covered during the Director's Report.

**COLAND (Exhibit 16): Otten** and **Klingbeil** shared highlights from the September 13 meeting of the Council for Libraries and Network Development (COLAND). The next COLAND meeting is on November 8.

**WLA Conference** (Exhibit 17): **Bobrofsky** promoted attendance at November 5-8 WLA annual conference in Green Bay and reviewed board travel expenses policy.

**CONCERNS, COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM AREA LIBRARY PERSONNEL AND TRUSTEES:** Informal discussion topics included the recent downtown fire in Loyal, Central Wisconsin Book Festival, trustee training, and board member visits to interesting libraries outside of WVLS counties.

**CALENDAR**

WVLS Board meeting: Saturday, November 16, 2024

WLA Annual Conference, KI Center, Green Bay: November 5 - November 8, 2024

**ADJOURNMENT: J. Peterson/Olszewski motion to adjourn. All aye. Motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 12:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Kris Adams Wendt, Meeting Recorder