

**IOSCO-ARENAC DISTRICT LIBRARY  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING**

Place: Administrative Offices, 120 W. Westover St., East Tawas, MI 48730

Date: March 12, 2026

Present: **Linda Eyer, Rick Rockwell, Sue Kingsbury, Susan Synowiec, Thelma Van Brenk, Kari Besancon and JoAnn Edwards**

Absent: **Jerry Brown, Dan Stock, Phyllis Klender**

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 2:00 pm by Chairperson Susan Synowiec.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

**Van Brenk and Eyer motioned and seconded approval of the agenda, as amended. Five (5) aye. Three (3) absent. Motion carried.**

**3. Public Participation and Reports from the Friends Groups**

It is recommended that Branch Staff present proposed programs by the Friends of the Library through grant requests for sponsorship consideration.

Synowiec shared that the Whittemore Library and the Chamber are partnering for an Easter scavenger and egg hunt at the Chamber.

**4. Board Comments**

None

**5. Approval of the Minutes from the February 12, 2026 Board Meeting**

**Rockwell and Eyer motioned and seconded approval of the minutes from the February 12, 2026 Board Meeting. Five (5) aye. Three (3) absent. Motion carried.**

**6. Treasurer's Report**

Kingsbury and Synowiec have been added as signers for IADL accounts. Director Besancon reported that millage distributions and Arenac County penal fines were secured. The annual audit, conducted during the first week of March, was completed smoothly and efficiently.

**Rockwell and Kingsbury motioned and seconded approval of the Treasurers Report.**

**A roll call vote was taken as follows: Linda Eyer, aye; Rick Rockwell, aye; Sue Kingsbury, aye; Susan Synowiec, aye; Thelma Van Brenk, aye. Five (5) aye and Three (3) absent. Motion carried.**

**7. Ratification of Bills**

**Eyer and Kingsbury motioned and seconded approval of the ratification of Voucher #26-05 dated February 26, 2026 in the amount of \$34,928.31, and Voucher #26-06 dated March 12, 2026 in the amount of \$24,060.22.**

**A roll call vote was taken as follows: Linda Eyer, aye; Rick Rockwell, aye; Sue Kingsbury, aye; Susan Synowiec, aye; Thelma Van Brenk, aye. Five (5) aye and Three (3) absent. Motion carried.**

**8. Director's Report**

**Statistics and Reports**

Director Besancon noted that the full migration to Polaris will take several months and discussed ongoing challenges. She added that staff have been very helpful throughout the process. It helped that inventories had been completed at all branches.

## **9. Old Business**

### **A. Polaris, Merit, USF, and MelCat updates**

Director Besancon reported that all branches are handling the changes very well.

### **B. Historical Societies**

Director Besancon asked if we want to continue funding the Historical Societies? Instead of relying on us, they could apply for state funding online to support their programs. If we decide to continue providing funding, Besancon would need to establish a formal contract with them. Additionally, Programming Grant Applications are required with either the branches or Headquarters to ensure programming is provided.

**Rockwell and Kingsbury motioned and seconded a motion to require Historical Societies to complete a Request for Programming Grants, have those requests approved, and have them treated as branch applications for 2026.**

**A roll call vote was taken as follows: Linda Eyer, aye; Rick Rockwell, aye; Sue Kingsbury, aye; Susan Synowiec, aye; Thelma Van Brenk, aye. Five (5) aye and Three (3) absent. Motion carried.**

## **10. New Business**

### **A. Review of By-Laws**

Ad-hoc committee members, Thelma Van Brenk, Sue Kingsbury and Linda Eyer will review, meet and discuss the current Bylaws. The committee will bring their recommendation to the April board meeting.

### **B. Huron Shores Genealogical Society Newspaper Archives**

Director Besancon explained why the newspaper archives could not be moved to the new website. This information was shared with both the Huron Shores Genealogical Society and Dan Stock, who is a member. It was agreed that these materials are not part of our collection and should be made available through another platform.

### **C. April millage distribution**

A discussion is needed regarding millage distribution, including a review of the applicable standards and rules. Besancon clarified that there will be no changes to existing formulas or percentages for this year. The board also needs to discuss the qualifications and standards required for each branch.

### **D. Approval of Programming Grants**

**None currently.**

**E. Tawas City Overage**

As of the date of this meeting, the Tawas City Library owes IADL for their allotted substitute time overage for year 2025. The Board considered overages to be deducted from millage distributions, if not paid first. It was noted that they are already over their allotted substitute time for 2026.

**Rockwell and Kingsbury motioned and seconded that Director Besancon deduct the overage from the Tawas City millage, if not paid first.**

**A roll call vote was taken as follows: Linda Eyer, aye; Rick Rockwell, aye; Sue Kingsbury, aye; Susan Synowiec, aye; Thelma Van Brenk, aye. Five (5) aye and Three (3) absent. Motion carried.**

**Note:** The Tawas City Library's overage for 2025 has been paid since this meeting of March 12, 2026.

**F. Board member discussion**

Potential replacements for Jerry Brown were discussed. The board may recommend three candidates and forward their names and contact information to the Arenac County Clerk, who can follow up and make a selection. Jerry must first submit a written resignation.

As an alternative approach, the board could solicit letters of interest and resumes from candidates and submit those materials to the County Board for consideration.

**G. Hours of Operation**

Director Besancon discussed the hours of operation for IADL Administrative Headquarter and requested a change to 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Eyer and Rockwell motioned and seconded that the hours of operation at Headquarters be 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., effective April 1, 2026. Five (5) aye; three (3) absent. Motion carried.**

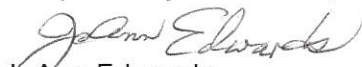
**11. Items for Next Agenda**

**A. Adult Programming Grants (if any)**

**12. Adjournment**

**Chairperson, Susan Synowiec adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,



JoAnn Edwards

Recording Secretary

A quorum of **five** is needed to conduct business.

If you cannot attend or need directions, please call Kari or JoAnn at 989-362-2651.

**PLEASE BRING YOUR CALENDARS/PLANNERS.**

**REMINDER-The next meeting is scheduled for**

**Thursday, April 9, 2026 at 4:30 pm**

**at Administrative Headquarters.**