

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

Place: **Iosco-Arenac District Library Headquarters, 120 W. Westover St., East Tawas, MI**

Date: **September 10, 2026, 2026**

Present: **Linda Eyer, Rick Rockwell, Sue Kingsbury, Phyllis Klender, Dan Stock, Susan Synowiec, Thelma Van Brenk and Kari Besancon**

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 4:29 pm by Chairperson Susan Synowiec.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Kingsbury and Klender motioned and seconded approval of the agenda, as amended. Seven (7) aye. Motion carried.

3. Public Participation and Reports from the Friends Groups

The Mary Johnston Memorial Library is preparing themed gift baskets for October, December, and February, leading up to its 70th anniversary in 2027. The final book sale at Tawas City Library will be on this next Saturday.

4. Board Comments

None

5. Approval of the Minutes from the August 13, 2026 Board Meeting

Klender and Stock motioned and seconded approval of the minutes from the August 13, 2026 Board Meeting. Seven (7) aye. Motion carried.

6. Treasurer's Report

Chairperson Synowiec expressed interest in viewing monthly P & L reports to date. This report will be included in next month's reports. Director Besancon will review the insurance coverage of the contents in our branches.

Rockwell & Eyer 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; Phyllis Klender, aye; Dan Stock, aye; Susan Synowiec, aye; Thelma Van Brenk, aye. Seven (7) aye. Motion carried.

7. Ratification of Bills

Kingsbury and Van Brenk motioned and seconded approval of the ratification of Voucher #26-21 dated August 27, 2026 in the amount of \$23,523.47 and Voucher #26-22 dated September 10, 2026 in the amount of \$41,063.54.

A roll call vote was taken as follows: Linda Eyer, aye; Rick Rockwell, aye; Sue Kingsbury, aye; Phyllis Klender, aye; Dan Stock, aye; Susan Synowiec, aye; Thelma Van Brenk, aye. Seven (7) aye. Motion carried.

8. Director's Report

Statistics and Reports

Director Besancon reported that the Finance Committee is currently reviewing the district's complex financial structure and reported that VLC membership costs will remain at their current rate.

Community Liaison Librarian Report – Arleen Wood

Reviewed Arleen Wood's detailed report covering collections, staff training, adult programs, and website updates.

Technology Coordinator Report – John Cargo

Reviewed John Cargo's report covering updates on the Plainfield site move, the new reporting portal, equipment status, and public Wi-Fi usage.

Both reports were well received and informative.

9. Old Business

A. Polaris, Merit, USF, and MeLCat updates

Nothing currently.

B. Arenac County Board Opening Updates

Arenac County Board of Commissioners appointed two (2) new board members to The Iosco-Arenac District Library:

We are pleased to welcome Kathi Benchley to begin her term now through 12/31/2028.

Chairperson, Synowiec will contact Kathi and invite her in to take the Oath of Office.

We are also pleased to welcome Cristine Mason for a term of 1/1/2027 – 12/31/2031.

Synowiec will also contact Ms. Mason to invite her to the Trustee Training, to attend a meeting, and to take her oath prior to joining the Board in January.

C. Iosco County Board Reappointment Updates

Synowiec reaffirmed to IADL board.

D. Staff Survey Results

The Board reviewed the Staff Survey feedback and will use these insights to guide future decisions.

E. Omer Update

Director Besancon participated in the City of Omer's interviews for a new staff member at the Omer Library. The city selected Ruth Ann Rauchi, who has recently been serving as an interim substitute for IADL.

F. Besancon Contract

Director Besancon's contract was reviewed and accepted.

10. New Business

A. Proposed 2027 Budget – Presentation and Public Hearing

1. Presentation of the Proposed 2027 District Library Budget

2. Open Public Hearing (No public guest present)

Rockwell and Stock motioned and seconded approval of the open public hearing. Seven (7) aye. Motion carried.

3. Public Comment on Proposed 2027 Budget and Property Tax Millage Rate

Director Besancon explained that we took a conservative planning approach in the proposed budget for 2027 and will request grants.

4. Close Public Hearing

Van Brenk and Kingsbury motioned and seconded to close the public hearing. Seven (7) aye. Motion carried

5. Board Action Regarding Property Tax Millage Rate/L-4029

Rockwell moved and Klender seconded a motion to support the proposed budget and for the Director to sign the L-4029. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Linda Eyer, aye; Rick Rockwell, aye; Sue Kingsbury, aye; Phyllis Klender, aye; Dan Stock, aye; Susan Synowiec, aye; Thelma Van Brenk, aye. Seven (7) aye. Motion carried.

6. Board Action Regarding Property Tax Millage Rate/L-4029

Form L-4029 was signed and will be sent to City clerks this week.

B. Penal Fines Report

Penal fine revenues are steadily declining in the budget, remaining subject to legislative discretion.

C. September Millage Distribution

The millage distribution reports were reviewed and the total millage will be reflected on next month's financial reports.

Kingsbury and Eyer motioned and seconded approval of the Millage Distribution checks. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Linda Eyer, aye; Rick Rockwell, aye; Sue Kingsbury, aye; Phyllis Klender, aye; Dan Stock, aye; Susan Synowiec, aye; Thelma Van Brenk, aye. Seven (7) aye. Motion carried.

The millage distribution checks were signed, to be mailed to the municipalities on the 17th of September.

D. Programming Grants (if any)

None

E. MLA Conference – Oscoda Township Library Manager

The Board of Trustees requested a new policy for branch manager conference attendance. The policy must balance budget constraints, attendance frequency, and fair opportunities across all branches.

Rockwell moved, supported by Stock, to approve the Oscoda Township Library Manager's conference attendance, with lodging costs not to exceed the on-site room rate. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Linda Eyer, aye; Rick Rockwell, aye; Sue Kingsbury, aye; Phyllis Klender, nay; Dan Stock, aye; Susan Synowiec, aye with reservation; Thelma Van Brenk, aye. Five (5) aye. One (1) nay; One (1) aye with reservation. Motion carried.

F. Director Trustees Training

Director Besancon invites new and current Board Members to the training which is scheduled for December 10, 2026 from 11:00 am to 3:30 pm

G. Standish Library

Members of the Board of Trustees will create a sub-committee to approach the possibility of a donor for the Standish Library.

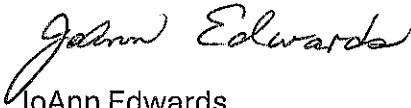
11. Items for Next Agenda

A. Building and Insurance Update

12. Adjournment

Chairperson, Susan Synowiec adjourned the meeting 6:25 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, October 8, 2026 at 4:30 pm

At Headquarters

120 W. Westover, East Tawas, MI