

Minutes of regular meeting
Board of trustees of the Hatch public library
Mauston Wisconsin
Meeting date February 22, 2026

A. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS.

Present: J McGinley, C Murphy, M Barrett, J Lueneburg, A Bortoff,
T Benson and Library Director B Christenson. Absent: J Andreason

The meeting was called to order by J McGinley at 5:31PM at the Hatch Public Library.

B. DISPOSITION OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1. MOTION by A Bortoff, seconded by J Lueneburg to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 26, 2026. Motion carried.

C. PUBLIC PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD

No public presentation

D. DIRECTORS FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE LIBRARY

1. MOTION by J McGinley, second by T Benson to accept January 2026 Financial Report. Motion carried.

E. ACTION ON BILLS: None

F. PROGRESS AND SERVICE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

1. Statistical report: The Board discussed the anticipated decrease in visits and circulation for March because there will be limited services and no meetings or programs.
2. Youth services report: During March Carissa will be going to daycare and doing school visits, and there will still be weekly storytimes, but no additional programming is planned in the temporary space.
3. Facilities report: HVAC controls for the upstairs are still being installed. Library staff are preparing for temporary services in the Community room.
4. Services report: Christenson attended Library Legislative Day in Madison on February 10. 31 people attended the Winter Sowing program on February 16.
5. Friends of the library report: Friends met on February 11. All the concert dates are booked and now they are starting to plan food for Music in the Park.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Personnel committee: Has not met
2. Budget committee: Has not met
3. Lower level committee: Has not met

H. COMMUNICATIONS None

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Lower level project updates: Christenson reported on progress of the lower level project including many reupholstering meetings. The group discussed the carpet, lower level phones, fire alarm, HVAC, keys, and copy machine installation. There is a delay in delivery of the ceiling panels so there will not be an open house on April 20 and there is not yet a confirmation of the completion date. The group discussed maintaining the comfortable, welcoming feeling in the upstairs when recarpeting and reupholstering and also the wish to honor the vision and integrity of donors, community members, and designers from 25 years ago. The Board will take a tour of the progress made in the lower level following the meeting.

K Lawrence donation update: President McGinley reported that there has been some confusion regarding the removal of some items from the property. The Library Board agreed that attorney Feldman should work with interested parties about the timeline and any removal of property. The hope is to have the property listed for sale as is, in early March. Mr. Feldman contacted John McGinley with his itemized expenses which will be settled from the estate.

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. Annual Report was discussed. Christenson shared the completed 2025 annual report for the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Motion made by C Murphy second by J McGinley, to approve the 2025 Annual report and affirm the Winding Rivers Library System did provide effective leadership and did adequately meet the needs of the library. Motion carried.

K. OTHER ITEMS NEEDING TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD

1. Christenson presented information and a quote for new blinds in the community room. There are two types of blinds, either roller blinds or wooden slats. The old blinds have been broken for awhile, the string mechanism on the top center blinds do not work. The blinds we have are not made anymore so we can't replace the original. The group had questions on price and value. Suggestions were made to check Menards and Home Depot. The item was tabled for the next meeting.

L. DATES FOR NEXT TRUSTEES MEETINGS:

March 30, 2026 5:30PM

April 27, 2026 5:30PM

May 26, 2026 5:30PM

M. ADJOURNMENT- J McGinley adjourned meeting at 6:31PM

Submitted by Mary Barrett, Secretary