

**Lanesboro Public Library Board
Wednesday, July 15th – 5:00 p.m.
Lanesboro City Council Chambers**

Present: Gwen Harmon, Mary Junko-Isle, Anna Lane, Mindy Albrecht-Benson, Sjeila Goetzke
Staff: Mitchell Walbridge, Luke Wahl, Darla (virtual)

Chairperson Goetzke called the meeting to order at 5:01pm

A. Public Comments

Sandy Webb via Mindy Albrecht-Benson: Reminding board members that the community theatre play of A Wrinkle in Time is coming up.

B. Agenda Approval

Member Lane moved to approve the agenda as provided, Member Albrecht-Benson seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

C. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular Meeting, June 10, 2026

Member Albrecht Benson moved to approve the minutes from the June 10th, 2026 meeting as provided, Member Harmon seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

D. Financial Report

a. Rose Bell Memorial Fund

No transactions reported in the Rose Bell Memorial Fund.

b. Donations Fund

No transactions reported in the Donations Fund.

c. 2026 Budget YTD

Director Wahl noted that the grant funds from SELCO are under the operating supplies and mentioned that the program expenses line has a number of charges that are being covered by grant funds.

d. Approval of Bills

Chair Goetzke asked Director Wahl about the charge from Lakeshore, Director Wahl informed the board that it was for floor seats, and that he also ordered a rotating shelf for board books using grant funds. The Scoop also offered to match the library spend for teen prizes for the summer reading program.

Member Albrecht-Benson moved to approve the bills as provided, Member Lane seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

e. Unaudited Fund Balance – Quarter 2

Member Albrecht-Benson asked Administrator Walbridge about the status of the budget based on current expenses including the PTO payout of former Director Johnson. Administrator Walbridge advised that we were likely to break even this year.

E. Circulation Report

Director Wahl noted the new numbers reported for the number of patrons using their library cards at the desk, but it doesn't count Libby or renewals. Member Albrecht-Benson shared appreciation of this being added to the report.

Committee & Staff Reports

A. City Council

Member Albrecht-Benson reported that the 2027 budget process is underway and the library board will likely see a draft of the preliminary budget next month.

B. Friends of the Lanesboro Library Liaison

Member Junko-Isle reported that the 100th year celebration will be pushed back to a different year due to new historical evidence, although the library in some form has been around for over 100 years. Informed the board of a sign making event for the Buffalo Bill Days parade and encouraged board members to join.

C. SELCO Board Liaison

Member Harmon noted no meeting since the June library board meeting.

D. Director's Report

Director Wahl reported that 80 kids are signed up for summer reading compared to 27 last year, prizes seem to be a hit. The events have been well attended and the Waffle Party teen program was very successful.

Chair Goetzke asked if it was a mix of genders for the teen program, Director Wahl reported it was about 50/50 and that having the EMS picnic on the same day was helpful.

Director Wahl also reported on other events including a papermaking event, clowns, and working on the relationship with the Lanesboro Child Care Center. He noted that Library Assistant Ruth will have her last day on July 31st.

Member Albrecht-Benson asked Director Wahl if he needed any support from the board. Director Wahl noted that he will be looking at budgets in the upcoming months and it will be good to continue this conversation. He noted interest in increasing budgets for programming to ensure consistency year after year, and looking at part time or sub staffing.

Member Harmon asked about getting volunteers for the storytime, Director Wahl suggested that this could be good in the future.

Chair Goetzke mentioned that it could be worthwhile to look at the staff salary portion of the library budget with the difference between current and previous Director salaries to see if we have room to adjust other budget lines. Administrator Walbridge informed the board that this could give some flexibility and it might be worth taking a look at the staffing budget in the preliminary budget for 2027.

Continued Business

New Business

A. Consider Appointment of Assistant Librarian

Director Wahl informed the board that the hiring committee chose Matthew Ralph as the Assistant Librarian candidate and that he had accepted a preliminary offer, Member Lane noted his background in theater camps and marketing.

Member Albrecht-Benson moved to appoint Matthew Ralph as the Assistant Library at Grade 1, Step 2 with a start date of July 28th. Member Harmon seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at 5pm

Chair Goetzke adjourned the meeting at 5:37pm

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Junko-Isle
Secretary