

**MONROE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

1. At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Monroe County Library System held on April 9, 2025, at the Carleton Branch Library, the meeting was called to order by Chair Peven at 5:01 p.m. He declared that a quorum was available to participate.

Present: Rob Peven, Chair; Beth LaPensee, Vice-Chair; Rita Gordon, Secretary; Mike Grodi, Trustee; and Nancy Bellaire, Director

Excused: Catharine Calder, Trustee

Staff: David Ross

A quorum being present, the Board proceeded to transact business.

2. Motion by Rita Gordon, supported by Beth LaPensee, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.
3. Motion by Beth LaPensee, supported by Mike Grodi, to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.
4. Public Comment – Community Librarian David Ross welcomed the board to Carleton and shared information about upcoming programs.
5. Consent Agenda – Motion by Rita Gordon, supported by Mike Grodi, to approve the items on the consent agenda and place them on file. Motion carried.
6. Committee Reports
 - Finance Committee** – March financial reports show that about 75.6% of our expected revenue has arrived and we have spent almost 24% of our planned expenditures with 25% of the year behind us. We do not yet have the April penal fine information, but we received \$47,814 in March. Our 10-year average penal fine revenue is \$80,405.
 - Facilities Committee** – Nancy Bellaire shared photos of the concrete sidewalk repair at Ellis and Daume, as well as Navarre construction photos.
 - Policy and Personnel Committee** – No committee meeting took place. Nancy Bellaire invited the board to attend the All-Staff Training Day on Friday, May 2.
 - Technology Committee** – No meeting.
 - Woodlands Update** – Mike Grodi reported on the Governing Board meeting and the Woodlands automation contract with MCLS.
 - Legislative Update** – Funding cuts at the Federal level were discussed—these funding cuts put MelCat Interlibrary Loan and Mel databases at risk for MCLS. The bookmobile staff, Ashley Liford, Jessica Neboyskey, and Barbra Krueger will accompany Nancy to MLA's Legislative Day in Lansing, where we will ask Rep. Bruck and Sen. Bellino for support in the State budget to replace these lost funds.

7. Unfinished Business – None.

8. New Business–Motion by Mike Grodi, supported by Beth LaPensee, to approve payment of the bills for the month ending March 31, 2025, in the amount of \$256,203.70. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Grodi, supported by Rita Gordon to table the Artificial Intelligence Policy until the Technology Committee has met. Motion carried.

9. Staff Report – The history of the Carleton Branch was discussed.

10. Director Bellaire shared information about two letters of support written for grants this month, one for a museum grant to digitize more microfilm and a second grant for the Community Center/Navarre project. She also updated the board on the tuition costs for library science programs and shared photos of a surprise open house planned by the Ellis Reference Staff in honor of Lou Komorowski's 40th anniversary with MCLS.

11. Board Comments

The board said that they were glad to be in Carleton and thanked David for hosting the meeting. Mike Grodi said that it is good to be back on the board and he is happy to be in a position to be advocating for the Library. Rita Gordon welcomed Mike to the board and sent her congratulations to Lou Komorowski for his work anniversary. Rob Peven thanked Lou for his service to the community.

12. Public comment—None.

13. Announcements

Date of Next Board Meeting – Wednesday, May 14, 2025 at 5 p.m. at the Dorsch Branch, 18 E. 1st St., Monroe, MI.

14. Adjournment

Motion by Rita Gordon, supported by Beth LaPensee, to adjourn the meeting at 5:38 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Peven, Chair

Rita Gordon, Secretary