



Library Board Meeting
Wells County Public Library
200 W Washington St Bluffton, IN 46714
Small Meeting Room
Tuesday, September 9, 2025
Meeting Minutes
6:30pm

Present: Andrews, Johnson, MacNeill, McFarren, Mentzler, Tabor, Ulfig, Yergler

Absent: None

1. Call to Order: Tabor called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Public Hearing on the 2026 Budget
3. Public Input: None
4. Consent Agenda: McFarren made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented, Andrews seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.
 - a. August 12, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes
 - b. Librarian's Report
 - c. Treasurer's Report
 - d. August 2025 Register of Claims
5. September 1-9, 2025 Register of Claims: Ulfig made a motion to accept the Register of Claims in the amount of \$37,763.02. The motion was seconded by Johnson and passed unanimously.
6. Correspondence - F&M Bank, Adams Public, and Kate's Kart
7. Staff Report- Children's Book Festival – Kara shared information about the upcoming Children's Book Festival (which is October 11th).
8. Committee Reports
 - a. Building
 - b. Budget
 - i. Budget Calendar and MLGQ (AVGQ)
 - c. Policy and By-laws
 - i. Internal Control, Fixed Asset and Hotspot policies
 - d. Public Awareness/Outreach
 - i. SRP Stats
 - e. Nominating
 - i. Board Committees: Tabor made a motion to approve the Special Committee for Director evaluation as presented, Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
 - ii. Board Calendar: Yergler made a motion to approve the calendar as presented, McFarren seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.
 - iii. Board Member information
 - f. Director Evaluation
9. Unfinished Business
10. Personnel Business
 - a. New Hire: Johnson made a motion to hire Elizabeth Miller at the rate of \$12.60/hr for 18.5 hours per week with a September 15th start date. Ulfig seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
11. New Business
 - a. Ossian Mold: McFarren made a motion to approve the 2 quotes from Paul Davis in the amounts of \$5,081.77 for taking out drywall and cleaning mold and \$4,035.27 for reinstalling drywall. The motion was seconded by Andrews and passed unanimously.
 - b. Resolution 25-07 Indiana Internet Consortium Commitment: Yergler made a motion to approve joining the Consortium, which was seconded by Ulfig. The vote was passed unanimously.

12. Other Items for Consideration

a. Director Updates

Community Meetings/Activities attended outside the library:

Bluffton NOW! Board Meeting

Sip, Savor, and Explore Event

Chamber Board meeting

Chamber Golf Outing Event

Chamber Board Drug Task Force Committee

Recovery on the River Event

Rotary Meetings

Wells County Foundation Board

Wells County Foundation Grants Committee

Wells County Land Trust Meeting

United Way Board Meeting

Meeting Updates inside the library:

Department Head meeting – Street Fair Week/Fall in-service, Policy reviews, Budget cuts:

Due to legislative changes for tax credits and a decrease in LIT. We need to find a way to reduce our spending

by at least \$30,000.00 for our income levels to just stay the same. Not accounting for our levy increase, we

are projected to lose \$73,000 next year. \$57,000 from tax credits and \$16,000 less in LIT.

Items we are considering cutting:

Creativebug-\$1,300

Brainfuse - \$2,800

AtoZ - \$1,750

Chilton's - \$1,500

Gale Virtual Reference - \$300

Little Pim - \$900

We had budgeted Overdrive to increase by \$5,000 – we will not increase

We had budgeted Hoopla to increase to \$35,000 – we are reducing check-outs from 5/month to 4/month.

With reducing check-outs, we hope to not exceed \$30,000 (if it comes to it, we will cut

Hoopla before we cut

Overdrive or Kanopy)

Hotspots - \$7,500

Baker&Taylor - \$2,500

Reduce these budgets by:

Books - \$1,500 each age group = \$4,500 maybe more

Newspapers/Magazines - \$2,000

Non-fiction Movies - \$500

Adult Audio Books - \$1,500

Teen Audio Books - \$250

Microforms - \$450

Realia - \$1,000

Potentially Cut:

Mango Languages - \$2,800

Tumblebooks - \$900

Current Projects/Big Programs/News:

-Evergreen

-We had our meeting with the State Rep for Evergreen. At this time, we are in line for going live 4th quarter of 2027. This is further out than we had hoped, but they did think that they should be able to do our week of downtime during Street Fair, since it is so far out.

-We had staff visit Morrison Reeves Library in Richmond last month. Morrison Reeves recently switched from SirsiDynix to Evergreen. It is good to hear about the nitty gritty of

what is different/will change from a library that has recently switched and is slightly larger than Wells County.

-Children's Book Festival

October 11th

If you would like to volunteer, please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050B4BA5AB2FA1F58-56048141-childrens#/>

-Friends of the Library Book sales

2025 Book Sale Dates:

-October 22-25 with the 21st being Friends Only

13. Roundtable

14. Next Meeting Announcements:

a. Regular Meeting– Tuesday, October 14, 2025, 6:30pm at Bluffton

i. Adoption of 2026 Budgets

15. Adjournment: Tabor called the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Board Members and Appointing Information

Steve Tabor-President-Appointed by: Bluffton-Harrison MSD-Term: 8/16/2023-8/15/2027

Joe McFarren-Vice President-Appointed by: Wells County Commissioners-Term: 8/16/2024-8/15/2028

Deb Johnson-Treasurer-Appointed by: Bluffton-Harrison MSD-Term: 8/21/2022-8/21/2026

Dawn Ulfig-Secretary-Appointed by: Norwell and Southern Wells Schools-Term: 8/16/2022-8/15/2026

Matt Yergler-Board Member-Appointed by: Wells County Commissioners-Term: 8/15/2025-8/15/2029

Lauren Andrews-Board Member-Appointed by: Wells County Council-Term: 8/16/2024-8/15/2028

Dayle Mentzer-Board Member-Appointed by: Wells County Council-Term: 8/16/2025-8/15/2029

Steve Tabor, Board President

Dawn Ulfig, Board Secretary