



LEARN READ EXPLORE

COLEMAN AREA
— Library —

Meeting Minutes

Call to order. The regular meeting of the Coleman Area Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, July 21, 2026

Members Present

Y Board President: Nancy Robison Y Board Vice President: Thomas Coon N Trustee: Jeremy Longstreth

Y Treasurer: Jason Lewis N Secretary: Greta Tigner N Trustee: Lyndsy Bock Y Director: Amy Comber Gross

Guests: None

Members Absent: Greta Tigner, Lyndsy Bock, Jeremy Longstreth

Approval of Agenda. It was moved by Jason Lewis to approve the agenda. Supported by: Thomas Coon. All yes, motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Minutes. It was moved by Nancy Robison to approve the meeting minutes from June 2026. Supported by: Jason Lewis. All yes, motion carried.

Approval of Treasurer's Report. It was moved by Jason Lewis to approve the treasurer's report of July 2026. Supported by: Thomas Coon. All yes, motion carried.

Approval of Bills. It was moved by Nancy Robison to pay the July 2026 bills. Supported by: Jason Lewis. All yes, motion carried.

Director's Report. A general library update was given. See attached report.

Unfinished business. None.

New business.

- a. **Request for closure of the library on 08/25/2026 for a Staff Training Day.** It was moved by Thomas Coon to close the library to the public on Tues, Aug. 25, 2026, for a staff in-service training day. Supported by: Jason Lewis. All yes, motion carried.
- b. **Presentation of 2025 Audit.** The director presented audit to the board and answered questions.
- c. **2026-2027 Millage Tax Rate Request, L-4029** It was moved by Nancy Robison to approve the Millage Tax Rate Request L-4029. Supported by: Jason Lewis. All yes, motion carried.
- d. **Presentation of Amended 2026 Budget:** It was moved by Thomas Coon to approve the amended budget. Supported by: Jason Lewis. All yes, motion carried.

Announcements. Next Board Meeting will take place on August 18, 2026

Adjournment. It was moved by Nancy Robison to adjourn the meeting on July 21, 2026 of the Coleman Area Library Board of Trustees at 7:34 PM. Supported by: Jason Lewis. All yes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Amy Comber Gross, Library Director

Director Report for July 2026 Library board meeting

Events:

1. The 2026 “Unearth a Story” Summer Reading Program is still going strong. We have 179 children enrolled and actively participating: Pre-schoolers =19, Children (1st-5th, including Sparks) =130, Teens =30 (including Ignite)
2. The library has several fun events happening later this month. On July 23 participants can create a “Dinosaur Terrarium,” made possible by Delta College. On July 24 we’ll have “Jurassic Park Trivia Night,” with pizza provided by United Bay Community Credit Union.
3. Coming up in August the library will have a “Night at the Museum Escape Room” and an interactive movie, watching Disney’s Tangled.

Staff news:

1. A Staff Training Day is being planned to help library staff become more comfortable with various emergency procedures. Amy has talked with Eric Cozat of the City of Coleman and Coleman Fire Station to develop a basic training program to cover topics such as emergency first aid, how to use a fire extinguisher, etc.

Building Maintenance and Grounds:

1. The vacuum had to be replaced after the plug’s grounding prong came out and stuck into an outlet. The metal has been removed from the outlet.
2. Frank Kroll is working on a Little Free Library that he will donate to the Coleman Area Library. It will be placed outside of the front doors and be filled with free children’s books. Currently we put these free books in a plastic tote on the ground, so this will get them up out of the weather and make it easier for families to find free kids’ books 24/7, year-round.

Finances, Grants & Donations:

1. The Midland Area Community Foundation paid the ½ deposit from the library’s Maintenance Endowment Fund to Community Construct for the roofing project to begin in August 2026.
2. Weinlander Fitzhugh delivered the finalized 2025 Audit booklets, and these have been distributed to the board members.
3. Midland County provided information for the 2026 Millage Reduction Fraction Computation. The L-4029 for Millage Tax Rate Request form is now ready for review.
4. FY27 State of Michigan Budget Includes Increased Investment in Michigan Libraries:

The Michigan Library Association shared that the final budget includes \$16,567,700 for State Aid to Libraries, along with a one-time \$375,000 increase for State Aid and a one-time \$375,000 increase for the Michigan eLibrary (MeL)—totaling \$750,000 in additional investment for Michigan libraries. The budget also retains a federal authorization line item for library services and technology programs, allowing the Library of Michigan to receive and expend federal funds for statewide services, including MeL and MeLCat. The authorization is essential because, without it, Michigan cannot spend federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds awarded to support these critical statewide resources.