



Board of Trustees Regular Meeting MINUTES

Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 4:00pm
McGuire Community Room
610 Woodmere Ave., Traverse City, MI 49686

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Pakieser at 4:00pm. Present were: Pakieser (President); Deyo (Vice President); Odgers (Treasurer, arrived at 4:05); Gedman (Secretary); Vickery, Jones (Trustees). Beuthiin was absent. Also present were: Howard (Director); Baldwin, and Carpenter (Staff).

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

All members in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

It was MOVED by Jones, SUPPORTED by Deyo, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED.

4. **Public Comment**

President Pakieser opened the floor for public comment. The following people addressed the board: Marika BeVier, introduced herself as the new TADL trustee appointed by the County. BeVier has been a patron of TADL for 20 years and a Friends of the Library board member for eight years.

5. **Consent Calendar**

a. *Approval of Minutes:*

Regular Meeting of October 16, 2025

Closed Session Minutes of October 16, 2025

b. *Department Reports*

c. *Finance and Facilities Committee Report – November 4, 2025*

d. *Policy and Personnel Committee Report – November 11, 2025*

e. *Financial Report*

f. *Member Library Communications – FLPL | IPL | PCL*

g. *Friends of TADL Report – Jud Barclay, President*

h. *Correspondence*

Howard suggested removing item f, Member Library Communications, since a representative from Fife Lake Public Library was present. It was MOVED by Jones, SUPPORTED by Gedman to remove item f, and to accept and affirm receipt of the balance of the Consent Calendar items as presented. Motion CARRIED.

6. **Items Removed from the Consent Calendar**

Cheyenne Wilcox, Director of Fife Lake Public Library (FLPL), noted that FLPL continues to serve the Grand Traverse Senior Network and continues to support the local school's programming. She thanked TADL for the hotspots provided to them this year and, on behalf of FLPL and the FLPL Friends, Wilcox thanked Trustee Jones for his service on the TADL Board as well as his support of FLPL and service on the FLPL Friends Board.

7. **Director Report**

Howard confirmed her written report and added the following:

- Long-time librarian Katheryn Carrier has retired. She was a reference librarian at TADL for over 35 years. The staff wished her well with a small party. Several past retirees attended.
- The book bike was filled nearly everyday and multiple trips were made to donate the food to Father Fred.

Howard shared a newly finished marketing video. The voice-over was done by TADL employee, Matt Archibald, and the people featured are local library users. The video and extra footage will be able to be used in a variety of ways in future marketing efforts. The board was impressed with the heartfelt message, quality, and professionalism presented in the video.

Odgers made note of the new billboards and loved the link to saving money by using the library.

8. **Old Business**

a. *Strategic Plan*

Howard introduced the completed Strategic Plan for 2026-2028. Many thanks went to Brady, Carpenter, and Boulter for their extra efforts in the process. She noted that the four categories of focus include: Leading with Intention and Joy (which will be a focus throughout the three years); Optimize Physical Spaces (main focus year 2026); Foster Understanding (main focus year 2027); and Cultivate Connections (main focus year 2028). A measurement plan was included with the plan and will be completed throughout the plan years. There was some discussion about the plan with Vickery noting appreciation for the plan process as a moment for the board to do aspirational thinking allowing the board and staff to be proactive rather than reactive to the future of the library. It was MOVED by Jones, SUPPORTED by Odgers, to approve the strategic plan presented that will serve as a helpful guide to move the library forward over the next 3 years. Motion CARRIED

9. **New Business**

a. *Resolution: 2025 Final Budget Amendment*

Baldwin provided a brief overview of the 2025 final budget amendment and answered questions. It was MOVED by Deyo, SUPPORTED by Vickery to accept the 2025 final budget amendment as presented. A roll call was taken with the following results:

Odgers – aye	Gedman – aye	Pakieser – aye
Deyo – aye	Vickery – aye	Jones – aye
Beuthin – absent		

Motion CARRIED with 6 aye and 1 absent.

10. **Acknowledgement and Celebration of Trustee Joseph Jones' Service to the Library**

Jones resigned his position on the TADL Board, effective December 31, 2025. He was presented with a plaque to honor his 12 years of service on the TADL Board, including two years as President. Pakieser noted that he took his appointment seriously but was also able to bring humor to the table at times. Vickery thanked Jones for being a light that guided the way for him as a new board member. His interpersonal skills are at a level of admiration. Deyo also thanked Jones for his guidance and leadership and appreciated his good efforts for the community. Gedman reiterated prior thoughts and appreciated his generosity, service, and kindness. Odgers read a story and then presented Jones with a chair from all the trustees that he had always wanted which he could sit in and watch for shooting stars and Venus. She emphasized his passion for libraries and the Freedom to Read, thanked him for his service and wished him everything that is good in the world.

Jones thanked everyone for the gift and the well wishes. He explained that when he started there was some division between the libraries in the district. His main goal was to make sure the member libraries were represented and their resources weren't allocated to other entities, believing that what good things came to the Main library should also come to those in the district. It took many years to develop but he is proud to have accomplished his goal of good working relationships within the district.

Pakieser stood to give Jones a standing ovation for his extraordinary work over 12 years and Vickery made claim that Trustees don't go away, they just slowly turn the page.

11. **Public Comment**

President Pakieser opened the floor for public comment. There was none.

12. **Trustee Comment**

Gedman brought to the board's attention that there is some lobby activity again for the 'ax my tax' initiative. Thus far there are 180 signatures in support and if such a law passed eliminating property tax it would also eliminate millage funding.

13. **Closed Session**

A closed session was not needed.

14. **Adjournment**

Upon a motion by Jones, supported by Deyo, for adjournment, President Pakieser adjourned the meeting at 4:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by board vote on January 15, 2026

V. Carpenter, Recording Secretary

S. Gedman, Board Secretary