

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library
Board of Trustees**

Call to Order: A meeting of the Alpena County Library Board of Trustees was called to order on Wednesday, August 19, 2026, at 4:00 pm by President Dustin Budd.

Present:

Board of Trustees: Dustin Budd, Julie Byrnes, Jennifer Graham, Traci Collins, Joe Fulkerson

Staff: Christina Markowski, Nancy Mousseau, Carmen Grubaugh

Guests: Christine Curley, Micah Olsen

Approval of Agenda: It was moved by Collins with support from Fulkerson to accept the agenda. The motion passed.

Review and Approval of July 19, 2026 Meeting Minutes: It was moved by Collins with support from Fulkerson to accept the minutes from the July 19, 2026 meeting with the stipulation Old Business A. Reconsideration Policy lines i and ii be deleted. The motion passed.

Financial Reports: The financial reports were reviewed by Markowski.

Approval of Bills: It was moved by Graham and supported by Byrnes that the bills as presented be approved. The motion passed.

Leadership Team Reports: The written reports were reviewed by Markowski.

Friends of the Library Report: Markowski stated the annual book sale appeared popular.

Public Comment: Diane O'Connor, Alpena, suggested a change to the Reconsideration of Library Materials Procedure due to redundancy:

Under Reconsideration Appeal c. deleting line ii "Board's responsibility to review difference of opinion between the Director and the requestor."

Old Business:

A. Reconsideration of Library Materials Procedures (Review): This item was tabled until the September 16, 2026 meeting.

B. Social Media Patron Policy (Review): This item was tabled to allow time to rewrite revisions to the Social Media Patron Policy based on the board's discussion and to allow time to consult with an attorney.

Committee Reports: Budd, on behalf of the Personnel Committee, noted they met on August 6, 2026 to discuss creating a General Library Appeals form, the Reconsideration

of Library Materials Procedures, and the Social Media Patron Policy.

New Business:

A. Top O'Michigan Insurance Presentation: Curley described the benefits of switching to Top O'Michigan Insurance including deductibles, out of pocket, cost effectiveness, medical benefits with mental wellness, health savings accounts (HSAs), and being able to consult with an agent to minimize any gaps in coverage.

Budd recommended getting direct comparisons to the library's current health insurance plan with Blue Care Network and the health insurance rates for 2027.

B. Alpena Agency Insurance Presentation: Olsen described the benefits of switching to Alpena Agency Insurance. He noted the deductible would be the same as Blue Care Network insurance but out of pocket would be higher. Olsen stated switching would be 5% cheaper for the library and funds could be invested in HSAs for library staff. He recommended the library stay with Delta Dental but upgrade its vision plan.

C. Michigan Class Discussion: Christina Markowski suggested the library's fund totaling between \$700,000 to \$750,000 be switched into Michigan Class to accumulate interest. She noted the money could be taken out at any time without fees and the account could be managed online.

The board recommended Christine Angel be invited to do a Michigan Class presentation.

D. General Appeals Form (Review): This item was tabled until the September 16, 2026 board meeting to allow time to rewrite revisions to the General Appeals Form based on the board's discussion and recommendations.

Public Comment: Mark Hunter, Alpena, recalled his service as a former library board member and suggested the library select health insurance that was easy to use with the least amount of hassle for library staff. He noted health insurance was a good place to put the library's money.

Evonne Johnson, Alpena, thanked the board for their work on streamlining and trying to clarify the Reconsideration of Library Materials Procedures. She noted subjective interpretation leads to conflict and she appreciated the specific reference to Michigan law.

Board Comment: Graham expressed concerns about additions to policies and she requested a lawyer be consulted in regards to what legal authority the 1917 law gives a library board. She stated board members' emails should be included in the board packet.

It was moved by Graham with support from Fulkerson to have emails be made part of the board packet regarding proposed policy changes or new policies. The motion passed.

Collins suggested board members' private email addresses be redacted.

Adjournment: It was moved by Collins with support from Graham to adjourn the meeting. Budd declared the meeting adjourned at 5:56 pm. The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Traci Collins (Sep 20, 2026 10:17:44 EDT)
Traci Collins

Secretary


Carmen Grubaugh
Recording Secretary