

Enriching our community through access to information and opportunities in a welcoming and inspiring environment.

Inspire. Include. Innovate. Ishpeming

Library Board Meeting Thursday, October 16, 2025 7:00pm-8:00pm (ET) Margaret Dundon Reading Room

AGENDA

- Call to Order 1.
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Approval of Minutes from September 18, 2025 meeting*
- Public Participation (limited to 5 minutes)
- Librarian's Report 5.
 - Circulation a.
 - b. Calendar of events
 - **Budget Report** c.
 - **Book Bills** d.
 - Friends of the Library e.
 - f. Sustainable Shelves
 - Beanstack g.
- 6. Committee Reports
 - Sustainability Committee
- 7. Communications
- **Unfinished Business** 8.
 - Discussion of Ethics Statement/Policy addition to Library Board Bylaws a.
- 9. **New Business**
- 10. Public Participation (limited to 5 minutes)
- 11. Date of next meeting: Thursday, November 20, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the Margaret Dundon Reading Room
- 12. Adjournment
 - *Requires a vote

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Board Minutes September 18, 2025

Present: Elyse Bertucci, Darren Boldt, Paul Olson and Brooke Routhier. Jesse Shirtz, Library Director was present. Absent, Kaylee Reno; Public: none.

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM.

Motion by Elyse Bertucci supported by Darren to approve the August 21, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Public Participation: none.

Librarian's Report:

Jesse Shirtz, Library Director, presented information, monthly progress report, statistical report and library report for August. The Summer Reading Program Report was also provided. Survey results from the Summer Reading program indicate that people are more likely to read and visit the library as a result of participating. The calendar of event outline for October was presented. Unique Management continues to provide significant value and returns many items to the library. Covid test distribution program continued. Youth and adult outreach programs and other efforts continued and are increasing library resource access.

- Circulation: Attendance in August was again over 3,000 for the month and exceeded the previous August. Roughly 10% of the total library material was in circulation.
- Calendar of events outline for October was provided.
- Budget report: The budget report was unavailable from the City. The budget process is in full swing. The Library Director has been meeting with City staff and the Sustainability Committee.
- Book bills: Book invoices were reviewed and signed by the library board.
- Friends of the Library: Association of Friends of the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (FOL) book sale in August was successful. The meeting schedule for FOL has been moved to quarterly meetings.
- Sustainable Shelves: continues to be a good resource for books pulled from circulation.
- Beanstack: Information on accounts and activities was provided by age group. The library was recognized by Beanstack for high reading minutes!

Presentations: None.

Committee Reports:

• The Sustainability Committee met twice in September and updated the board on 2026 budget discussions.

Communications:

None

Unfinished Business:

- Policy manual review, revision and updating is ongoing. The second reading of the Code of Conduct
 was conducted. A motion was made by Darren and seconded by Elyse to approve the Code of Conduct
 as revised.
- Discussion of Ethics Statement/Policy addition to Library board by laws.
 - o City staff is providing input. No further discussion this month.

- Ray Leverton Community Room policy is in progress. The policy will be reviewed by City staff for comparison to other rental agreements. No update this month.
- Tousignant donation: A list of potential projects was provided butD is still being developed. Annual distributions no later than 2028. No update this month.
- The Children's room redesign (Friends will cover up to \$15,000 for the renovation plan). No update this month.

New Business:

- Approval of 2026 requested budget
 - o A motion was made by Brooke and seconded by Darren Boldt to recommend the budget for 2026 as presented with an increase in expenses and revenue of 3% and an increase in library clerk part time hours to 24 hour per week and capital projects as listed below.
 - o Capital Improvement items submitted for consideration to the City:
 - 1. Heating system replacement full replacement bid to allow Children's room renovations to proceed. (One bid with two options received: Keep as steam heat but replace pipes and radiators for approximately \$200,000 or switch to a hot water heat radiator system for \$500,000.
 - 2. Front steps/pillar deterioration repair
 - 3. Children's room redesign and renovation.
 - 4. Computer replacement budget annual capital replacement at 3 per year.
 - 5. Glass floor repairs.
 - 6. Tile floor repairs and carpeting replacement.
 - 7. Roof replacement fund allocation in preparation for full replacement in 2034 to 2039. The repairs completed in 2024 should provide 10-15 more years of service.

Public Participation: none.

Next meeting is October 16, 2025 7:00 PM in person at the Library.

A motion was made by Elyse Bertucci and seconded by Darren Boldt at 8:33 PM to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Brooke Routhier

SEPTEMBER 2025



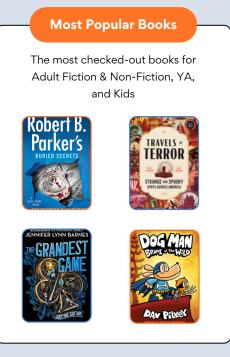
Monthly Progress Report

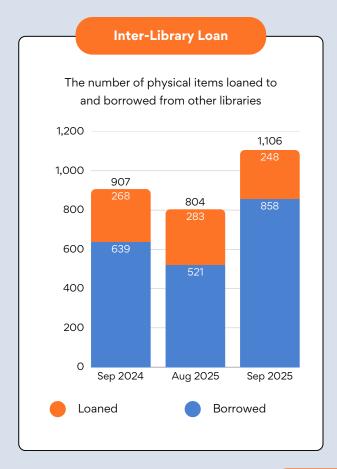
VISIT HTTPS://ISHPEMINGLIBRARY.INFO FOR PAST ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORTS & UPCOMING PROGRAMS

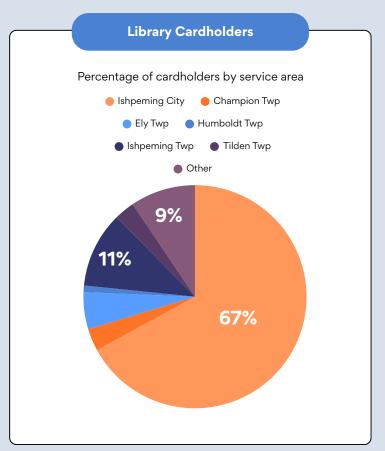
Programming Number of, and attendance at, programs for adults & youth # Kids Attendance at Kids Programs Programs # Teen Attendance at Programs Teen Programs 17 **127** # Adult Attendance at Programs Adult Programs 31 643 Total # Total Programs Attendance

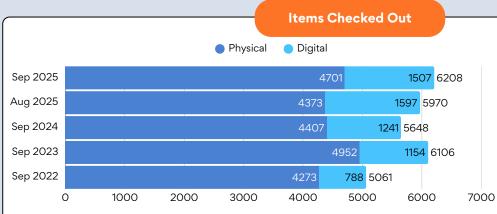












The number of physical and digital items checked out by our patrons

Percentage of total physical collection circulated:

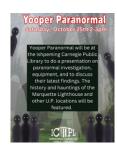
10.4%

Upcoming Programs

OCTOBER 23



25



OCTOBER 29



NOVEMBER **5**



NOVEMBER 20



September 2025 Statistical Report

September Circulation Stats

We circulated 6,208 items (4,701 physical items; 1,507 ebooks and eaudiobooks) in the month of September! This was 238 more items than last month and 560 more items than September 2024).

- We had 34 new people register for library cards in the month of September.
- 858 items were borrowed on interlibrary loan (highest month recorded this year, 219 more items than September 2024).
- Collections that have the highest percentage of circulation:
 - NEWFIC (new adult fiction) 88%
 - NEWJEASY (new picture books) 64%
 - NEWJAUDIO (Vox books) 64%

September Programming Stats

31 programs were offered throughout the month of September with 643 attendees.

- 12 programs for kids with 496 attendees
 - Tot Tuesday is back! 76 people attended storytime on September 23rd.
 - o 40 attendees for Homeschool Hangout on September 26th.
- 17 programs for adults with 127 attendees
 - 17 adults attended Bingo this month.
 - Our Senior Center Book Club is still going strong with 12-15 members each month.
- 2 programs for teens with 17 attendees
 - Graphic novel book club is still going strong as well!

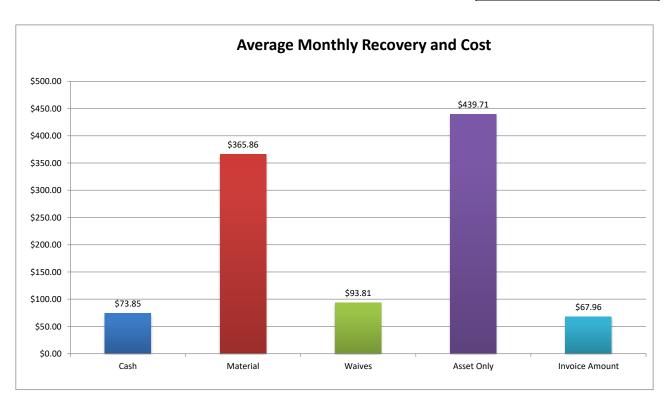
Nicole Johnson Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library



Monthly Recovery Statistics: Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

10/2024 Through 9/2025

Month	Cash	Material	Waives	Total	Assets Only	Invoice Amount	
September-25	\$15.00	\$375.85	\$39.70	\$430.55	\$390.85	\$23.30	
August-25	\$0.00	\$228.00	\$110.90	\$338.90	\$228.00	\$58.25	
July-25	\$59.00	\$140.00	\$40.20	\$239.20	\$199.00	\$93.20	
June-25	\$2.00	\$562.94	\$162.70	\$727.64	\$564.94	\$58.25	
May-25	\$0.00	\$178.98	\$52.00	\$230.98	\$178.98	\$46.60	
April-25	\$121.99	\$406.96	\$144.40	\$673.35	\$528.95	\$46.60	
March-25	\$10.00	\$1,016.83	\$110.90	\$1,137.73	\$1,026.83	\$46.60	
February-25	\$56.70	\$337.91	\$148.79	\$543.40	\$394.61	\$93.20	
January-25	\$136.53	\$420.96	\$253.01	\$810.50	\$557.49	\$116.50	
December-24	\$67.00	\$262.99	\$0.00	\$329.99	\$329.99	\$58.25	
November-24	\$86.20	\$204.99	\$10.00	\$301.19	\$291.19	\$104.85	
October-24	\$331.80	\$253.94	\$53.10	\$638.84	\$585.74	\$69.90	
Total	\$886.22	\$4,390.35	\$1,125.70	\$6,402.27	\$5,276.57	\$815.50	
Average	\$73.85	\$365.86	\$93.81	\$533.52	\$439.71	\$67.96	
					Total ROI: \$8:1		



Silent Book Club at Velodrome Coffee in Ishpeming Saturday, November 1 at Noon

Velodrome Coffee, 105 S. Main St. Ishpeming

Join us for silent book club at Velodrome Coffee in Ishpeming hosted by the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library! Bring your own book of choice to read silently for 1 hour with fellow bookworms, followed by time to socialize and talk about books!

Free to attend Contact: Nicole Johnson, Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (906) 486-4381

Tot Tuesday Storytime Tuesday, November 4, 11, 18, and 25 at 11am Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Join us for stories, songs, and movement activities followed by an optional craft and playtime! Perfect for toddlers and preschoolers!

Free to attend Contact: Heather Lander, Children's Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (906) 486-4381

Memory Café: Reverse Coloring Wednesday, November 5 at 1pm Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Try out reverse coloring at the library! This technique means that colors are already on the page, and you create the design to go with it. All supplies are provided. This program is open to all adults and the Alzheimer's Association will be onsite as a special guest to answer questions and provide information.

Free to attend Contact: Nicole Johnson, Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Alzheimer's Association Presentation on Supporting Independence Wednesday, November 5 at 2pm Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Join us for a presentation from the Alzheimer's Association about supporting Independence for people with dementia, which focuses on helping the person living with dementia take part in

daily activities, providing the right amount of support and balancing safety and independence while managing expectations.

Free to attend
Contact:
Nicole Johnson, Librarian
Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

My Adventures in the Land of Spice Part Two: India Wednesday, November 5 at 5:30pm Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Join us for another night of culture and fun as Arwen continues her journey into India. Our Library Clerk, Arwen spent six weeks in India volunteering and exploring the area, and she will be presenting on those experiences!

Free to attend Contact: Nicole Johnson, Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (906) 486-4381

Great Start's West End Playgroup
Thursday, November 6, 13, and 20 from 10:30am-12pm
Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library
Join us for open-ended free play and a snack.

Free to attend Contact: Heather Lander, Children's Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (906) 486-4381

Book Club at the Ishpeming Senior Center Thursday, November 6 at 11am Ishpeming Senior Center

The Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library is hosting a monthly book club at the Ishpeming Senior Center (121 Greenwood St., Ishpeming)! This month's selection is "By The Fire We Carry" by Rebecca Nagle. Copies are available for checkout at the library. Newcomers are always welcome to attend.

Free to attend Contact: Nicole Johnson, Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (906) 486-4381

Drop-In and Draw Club: Marlene Wood Instructs
Thursday, November 6 at 1pm

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Marlene Wood will teach a class on drawing from photographs! All supplies will be provided! For teens and adults. Class is suitable for all levels from beginners to those more experienced. Located in the Ray Leverton Community Room.

Free to attend Contact: Nicole Johnson, Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (906) 486-4381

Graphic Novel Book Club Thursday, November 6 at 4pm Thursday, November 20 at 4pm Grades 4-7

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Join us to discuss the book and have snacks. Copies of the book will be available to checkout at the library. Newcomers are always welcome to attend.

Free to attend Contact: Heather Lander, Children's Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (906) 486-4381

Baby Play Day Friday, November 7 and 21 at 10am Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

A special day for babies to play! Intended for littles under 2, this program will include a brief storytime with lots of cuddles, bounces and songs; then stay for a chance to play with infant-friendly toys and socialize with other babies and caregivers.

Free to attend Contact: Heather Lander, Children's Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (906) 486-4381

Genealogy Club Friday, November 7 at 2:00pm

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Work on your family history research, use our resources, or ask for assistance with a brick wall. For internet-based research you may bring your own device. For adults and interested youth aged 10+. This month will feature Laurie Johnson of the Marquette County Genealogical Society who will give a presentation on *Intermediate Genealogy*.

Free to attend Contact: Jesse Shirtz, Library Director Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (906) 486-4381

Adult Book Club Tuesday, November 11 at 2pm Wednesday, November 12 at 6pm Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Join us for adult book club! Copies of *Winter Counts* by David Heska Wanbli Weiden are available for check out. Meetings are held at the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library.

Free to attend Contact: Nicole Johnson, Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Edmund Fitzgerald: The Gordon Lightfoot Tribute Wednesday, November 12 at 1pm Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Join us at the library to honor the 50th anniversary of the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald with a historical performance from Mike Fornes. His tireless research and personal interaction with Lightfoot have led to accurate mannerisms, speaking patterns, clothing, and of course identical guitars used by the Canadian icon on stage. He has performed for more than a decade at the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum's annual bell-tolling ceremony for the lost souls of the Edmund Fitzgerald at Whitefish Point, Michigan. His interaction with surviving family members of the lost crewmen, and Lightfoot himself, generate many first-hand accounts of the tragedy and of how the iconic song was written.

Free to attend
Contact:
Nicole Johnson, Librarian
Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Italian Lessons: Casual Conversation Wednesday, November 12 at 4pm Wednesday, November 19 at 4pm

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Marilena Corradino will be at the library to teach Italian in a casual conversation format. This class is perfect for beginners or those who want to practice speaking Italian with others.

Free to attend

Contact:

Nicole Johnson, Librarian

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Homeschool Hangout

Friday, November 14 from 10am-12pm - *Ask An Author/Writing Lessons with Nikki Mitchell*

Special guest speakers/events will begin at 10:30am

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Homeschooling families are invited to visit the library and hangout with both old and new homeschooling friends.

Free to attend

Contact:

Heather Lander, Children's Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (906) 486-4381

Afternoon Movie

Friday, November 14 at 1pm: "The Croods: A New Age" (2020, PG) Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Children and families are invited to join us for free popcorn and a movie! Afternoon children's movies are shown on the half days and PD days for the local public schools.

Free to attend

Contact:

Heather Lander, Children's Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (906) 486-4381

Crochet Club

Thursday, November 20 at 2pm

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Gather together with fellow crafters to socialize while you work on a project of your choice. Beginning supplies and instruction will be provided if you'd like to learn how to crochet! This event is for kids, teens, and adults.

Free to attend

Contact:

Nicole Johnson, Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Genealogy Research & Documentation 101 Thursday, November 20 at 6:00pm Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Join John M. Longyear Research Librarian Beth Gruber for a presentation on conducting genealogical research and documentation of your findings. Topics will include conducting research in person and online; organization using both paper charts and family tree software; preservation of original documents and digital copies; and a brief discussion of genetic genealogy.

Free to attend Contact: Jesse Shirtz, Library Director Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (906) 486-4381

Project Linus: Fiber Artists Meetup Tuesday, November 25 at 2pm Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Calling all fibers artists including knitters, crocheters, quilters, and other fiber crafters! Gather together to work on blankets for Project Linus, an organization that donates homemade blankets to children in need. Bring your own project to work on for the cause. Also, yarn will be provided to make blankets to donate.

Free to attend Contact: Nicole Johnson, Librarian Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (906) 486-4381

Sustainable Shelves					
List Date	Total # books	# recycled	# re-sold	\$ credit earned	
4/7/2021	15	15	0	\$0.50	
6/16/2021	91	80	11	\$18.80	Items Sent to Sustainable Shelves
7/12/2021	175	152	23	\$32.84	Re-Sold
8/5/2021	133	109	24	\$26.93	16.7%
10/8/2021	111	97	14	\$17.52	
11/9/2021	141	132	9	\$16.95	
1/13/2022	178	156	22	\$19.37	
2/10/2022	379	360	19	\$24.98	
3/10/2022	521	489	32	\$40.08	Recycle
4/11/2022	432	424	8	\$22.58	83.39
5/5/2022	281	262	19	\$34.98	
6/9/2022	520	503	17	\$28.14	
8/3/2022	118	106	12	\$2.72	
10/6/2022	180	156	24	\$10.63	
3/9/2023	211	96	115	\$52.40	
4/5/2023	161	115	46	\$15.20	
5/11/2023	113	98	15	\$9.94	
7/17/2023	384		45	\$17.91	*No longer accepting books for recycling (beg. June 2023)
9/19/2023	156		16	\$5.21	
11/14/2023	124		39	\$8.71	
12/8/2023	228		57	\$11.81	
1/15/2024	203		31	\$8.84	
6/6/2024	201		7	13.66	
8/10/2024	190		10	15.1	
10/10/2024	343		19	27.84	
2/24/2025	154		12	11.78	
8/20/2025	199		26	4.34	
TOTAL:	5942	3350	672	\$499.76	

		Bea	nstack - September 2025			
		Reanstack Month	nly Registration & Participation	n Totals		
		Deanstack month	ny registration a rantopation	Totals		
Month	New Accounts	New Readers	Completed Activities	Completed Activity Badges	Logged Books	Logged Minutes
September 2025	13	13	. 26	19	1,058	30,87
August 2025	46	46	967	663	1,018	222,49
July 2025	2	2	66	40	1,261	125,54
June 2025	46	46	82	44	1,113	67,00
May 2025	2	2	6	2	583	22,71
April 2025	7	7	13	11	921	28,60
March 2025	1	1	0	0	691	27,04
February 2025	4	4	29	16	860	37,33
January 2025	6	6	51	19	1,000	67,08
December 2024	10	10	15	7	1,098	22,71
November 2024	5	5	1	1	1,028	16,83
October 2024	22	22	5	5	1,171	21,30
September 2024	1	1	6	5	1,198	18,66
TOTAL:	165	165	1,267	832	13,000	708,21
			,		,,,,,,	,
	1000 Boo	ks Before Kindergarten	: Local Area Participation Tota	uls (since January 2023)		
			·			
Local Area	Total Readers Enrolled (Challenge)	Total Completions		Total Earned Badges	Logged Books	Logged Minutes*
City of Ishpeming	48	. 7		5,625	19,221	
Champion Township	2	0		155	526	
Ely Township	14	1		412	3,794	
Humboldt Township	0	0		0	0	
Ishpeming Township	18	2		1,374	6,120	
Tilden Township	6	1		138	1,011	
Negaunee	20	2		957	4,257	
Other	6	0		69	151	
No Local Area	0	0		0	0	
TOTAL:	114	13		8,730	35,080	
	ts books read, not minutes.			,	,	
			ear-long): Your Next Chapter			
Local Area	Total Readers Enrolled (Challenge)	Total Completions		Total Earned Badges	Logged Books*	Logged Minutes
City of Ishpeming	18	7		8,408	0	161,11
Champion Township	0	0		0	0	
Ely Township	6	3		1,608	0	56,62
Humboldt Township	0	0		0	0	
Ishpeming Township	3	2		370	0	28,56
Tilden Township	0	0		0	0	

Negaunee	12	2		958	0	57,654
Other	3	1		559	0	25,771
No Local Area	0	0		0	0	0
TOTAL:	42	15		11,903	0	329,731
*This challenge only cou	nts minutes read, not books.					
		Septe	mber 2025: Back to School			
Local Area	Total Readers Enrolled (Challenge)	Total Completions	To	otal Earned Badges	Logged Books*	Logged Minutes
City of Ishpeming	11	10		7,757	0	14,860
Champion Township	0	0		0	0	0
Ely Township	1	1		428	0	1,350
Humboldt Township	0	0		0	0	0
Ishpeming Township	1	1		271	0	2,275
Tilden Township	0	0		0	0	0
Negaunee	3	0		220	0	205
Other	2	1		467	0	1,880
No Local Area	0	0		0	0	0
TOTAL:	18	13		9,143	0	20,570
*This challenge only cou	nted minutes read, not books.					



Written Report for the October 16, 2025 Meeting

Jesse Shirtz, Library Director

Outreach

- Senior Center Book Club continues to meet at the Ishpeming Multi-Purpose Senior Center once per month, with the Connected At Home phone-based book club also meeting once per month for the same book.
- Silent Book Club meets once per month at Velodrome in Ishpeming for a relaxed reading and socializing hour.

Policy Manual

<u>Meeting Room Policy:</u> with the City Attorney; waiting for feedback on the need for an indemnification clause.

Unattended Child Policy: will be on November's agenda

<u>Board of Trustee Bylaws:</u> waiting for feedback from city on existence of an "ethics statement" or something comparable within the city already

Library Repairs

The city is considering (1) repairing current system for \$250,000 or (2) replacing current system for \$500,000. This will likely be discussed as part of the City Council's 2026 budget process.

Tousignant Endowment

I met with Michael and Diana Tousignant on October 2nd. We had a constructive conversation detailing the purposes for which the endowment may and may not be used. The endowment is on track to be fully funded by the end of 2027 with annual distributions beginning in 2028. I have since reached out to the Community Foundation of Marquette County to open discussions on the endowment with them. If the Library Board would like a presentation or presence at a future meeting from the Community Foundation that can be arranged.

Book Vendor Woes

After months of frustration at the lack of fulfillment of orders, at the end of September we received the news that our main book vendor, Baker & Taylor, is "winding down" its over 100 year-old-business. This left us in a scramble to open accounts with other vendors, who are also overwhelmed with new account requests from hundreds of other libraries in the same situation. For the time being we are using Amazon's new "Books for Libraries" program as a stopgap and are working to transition to Ingram for the bulk of our book orders. We also opened accounts with several other vendors. Sifting through the mess of backordered and canceled items from B&T and finishing orders for the remainder of 2025 has been tedious and is still in progress.



Q4 Direction from Finance Director

Department Heads have been asked to please delay non-critical expenditure from the General Fund until 2026. Most of what we purchase from the GF is salaries, utilities, and building maintenance like elevator inspections, all of which are critical. We have reduced our cleaning hours for the time being. This does not affect circulating material purchases as those are made from the Public Improvement Fund.

IMLS Funding Cuts Update

From the Michigan Library Association:

"Considering the challenges leading up to this week, the outcome for libraries in the state budget is encouraging. The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) line item remains fully funded in the budget, ensuring the Library of Michigan can spend federal dollars as allocated on statewide programs like the Michigan eLibrary and catalog, MeL and MeLCat. While we continue to advocate for an increase in State Aid to Libraries, that line item remains flat for FY26. During an appropriation process that resulted in budget reductions for many state departments and agencies, the static funding for State Aid at \$16,567,700 signals a stable outcome and presents a clear directive for our future advocacy work.

The budget includes a one-time \$900,000 increase in state funding for the Michigan eLibrary (MeL), reflecting library advocates' persistent efforts to highlight the importance of MeL and the critical role of LSTA funds in supporting it. The Library of Michigan also retained funding for all positions, ensuring its team can continue delivering essential statewide programs and services to Michigan libraries."

Long story short: We will have MeLCat (state-wide interloan) for FY 2026!

MDHHS Library OTC COVID-19 Test Distribution Program

This voluntary program aims to increase access to at-home COVID-19 test kits for free. We have distributed 1,150 test kits (2,300 tests) since October 2023. Due to rescinded federal funding that supported the MDHHS in purchasing and distributing these tests this program is ending; once our current stock is depleted we will no longer have test kits to distribute.