



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2026

Teams Meeting

Meeting called to order at 4:32 PM.

Voting members in attendance: Eryn Duffee, Rob Mead, Sara Jones, Rickey Barnett, Elizabeth Roberts, Gavin Downing, Erin Atwater.

Voting members absent: Ahniwa Ferrari, Shawn Schollmeyer.

Non-voting members present: Jessie Gamble, Darion Lespier-Greaves, and Carolyn Logue.

Consent Agenda – 2 reports pulled to be reviewed for discussion.

Motion to approve consent agenda as amended. Second. Approved.

Discussion on Academic Library report and School Library report. Academic questions answered.

Action Item: Eryn and Elizabeth to follow up on School Library comments.

Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the November 5, 2025 Board Minutes. Second. Approved.

Treasurer's report

Rob shared the December 2025 financials.

Motion to approve the December financials. Second. Approved.

Rob and Jessie shared on the 2026 proposed budget with amendments pertaining to ALA travel and expanding AMI scope.

Motion to approve the 2026 budget as amended with \$98,340 in Account 7120. Second. Approved.

Legislative Report

Carolyn gave an update on the 2026 Legislative Session including cut-off dates; talking book and braille library; TIP; school librarian requests; our Lobby Day; the Legislative

Funding Task Force which resumes in April and May; digital and media equity bills that have been tabled (likely) due to cost; and the Imagination Library and other funding endeavors taken on by OSPI.

State Library Report

It was reported on a budget proviso to fund the talking book and braille library efforts which is secure and will fully fund to full services; also made a case for state resources and provided a Hill Day recap; reported that the Federal Government shut down is to be determined but library funding should be stable with ALA advocacy efforts.

ALA Report

Gavin shared that it's the 150th anniversary of ALA and there would be many efforts to recognize that milestone this year; lobbying efforts from ALA; the upcoming election and virtual meetings to prepare; and status updates on media and book awards.

Executive Director's Report

Jessie shared about the Memberclicks payment processor error and efforts to rectify; a conference update; and her maternity leave plan.

Old Business:

There was a Memberclicks update on leaving the site and building a new website, including timeline and why we could not execute the effort as soon as we wanted due to contract termination penalties from Memberclicks if we choose to terminate now.

Two options were presented for a new print on demand shop.

Motion to move on to Bonfire as a platform. Second. Passed.

Action Item: Staff will create a Bonfire account for WLA.

New Business:

Determining Committee Liaison assignments:

- Advocacy – Gavin and Sara
- Alki – Shawn (pending agreement), Rickey
- Conference – Eryn, Shawn
- Grants and Partnerships – Rob and Sara
- Legislative – Sara and Eryn
- Marketing and Communications – Elizabeth
- Member Services – Elizabeth and Ahniwa (pending agreement)

- Professional Development – Erin, Ahniwa (pending agreement)

Motion to remove Rickey Barnett as a bank signer on the Columbia account and to add Eryn Duffee as a bank signer on the Columbia account ending in 3707. Second. Passed.

America 250: Discussion on nexus of benefit to WLA. There was discussion that they would be tracking on how many libraries sign on and host relevant activities. No downsides discovered.

Motion to sign up for an America 250 affiliation. Second. Passed.

Action Item: Jessie will alert Craig Seasholes to proceed.

WLA Policy Discussion – Staff shared current WLA policies and also proposed policies the organization currently does not have. An adoption schedule for policies and other major board items for the year was proposed. General agreement on the timeline and process.

Action Items: All policies will be sent out and create a survey for Board members to offer input; will also provide a list to our ALA Rep regarding which policies we would like feedback and to solicit drafts from ALA/other Library Associations on.

Good of the Order: There was an ask for support in the Omak Library closing. This was passed to the Chair of the Advocacy Committee, and would ask for them to draft a letter of support. Discussion on protocol of responding to library closures in the future.

Gavin shared about The Librarians documentary and the success of a showing in Mount Vernon, the Seattle Northwest Film Forum, and its debut on PBS on February 9th. Discussion on the Olympia showing where 350 attended a viewing and efforts to show the documentary at the WLA Conference.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54pm.

Next meeting March 23, 2026.