RICE LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF
October 13th, 2026
Rice Lake Public Library
2 E. Marshall St., Rice Lake, WI 54868

Members Present: Abbey Fischer, Pat Edwardsen, Melissa Kozma, Jeff Miller, Vicky Ondell, and Kyle Polzin

Members Absent: Andrea Thompson

Others Present: Rachel Thomas, Library Director and Shelby Friendshuh, Library Public Services Director

Call to Order: Abbey Fischer called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

Public Appearances: None.

Approval of the September 2026 Meeting Minutes: Vicky Ondell made a motion to approve the minutes; Pat Edwardsen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Review and Approval of September 2026 Bills: Jeff Miller made a motion to approve the bills; Vicky Ondell seconded the motion. Roll call vote: motion approved by all Board members present.

Review of September 2026 Financial Statements: Director Thomas reported that the Library's budget remains balanced to date.

Review of September 2026 Library Statistics: The Library had an average of 341 visitors per day, with 59 new patrons added. There were 121 meeting room sessions, and 613 computer sessions.

Review of Library Director's Report: September programming highlights included a full house (170 attendees) for author William Kent Kruger and a successful Red Cross Blood Drive with 39 participants. Library staff had two significant opportunities for professional development this month, with 'IFLS Palooza' held at the UWEC-Barron County campus, and a Staff Development Day at the Library.

Friends of the Rice Lake Public Library updates: Pat Edwardsen reported that the Friends met

on Saturday, September 12. The Friends are providing $5,000 in funding towards the purchase of an Everbright display for the Library.

Discussion: Library Director Review Process

The Board will conduct its annual review of the Library Director in November, which includes gathering feedback from Library staff as well as a self-evaluation provided by the Director.

Adjournment: Abbey Fischer adjourned the meeting at 5:33pm.

The next meeting of the Library Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10th, 2026.

Minutes prepared by Melissa M. Kozma.