



LEARN READ EXPLORE

COLEMAN AREA
— Library —

Meeting Minutes

Call to order. The regular meeting of the Coleman Area Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, October 20, 2026

Members Present

 Y Board President: Nancy Robison Y Board Vice President: Thomas Coon Y Trustee: Jeremy Longstreth
 Y Treasurer: Jason Lewis Y Secretary: Greta Tigner N Trustee: Lyndsy Bock
 Y Director: Amy Comber Gross

Guests: Robin Lott

Members Absent: Lyndsy Bock

Approval of Agenda. It was moved by Jeremy Longstreth to approve the agenda. Supported by: Thomas Coon. All yes, motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Minutes. It was moved by Nancy Robison to approve the meeting minutes from September 2026. Supported by: Jeremy Longstreth. All yes, motion carried.

Approval of Treasurer's Report. It was moved by Jeremy Longstreth to approve the treasurer's report from October 2026. Supported by: Jason Lewis. All yes, motion carried.

Approval of Bills. It was moved by Jason Lewis to pay the October 2026 bills. Supported by: Greta Tigner. All yes, motion carried.

Director's Report. A general library update was given. See attached report.

Unfinished business.

1. Discussion was held of the proposed Midland County-Wide millage, with additional information and advice shared from library's legal council

New business.

1. Discussion was held regarding Director's request to receive and approve a bid for cleaning of the flooring throughout library, including tile and carpeting. It was moved by Jason Lewis to grant the library director the ability to accept, review, and approve a bid for cleaning of the library flooring not to exceed \$5,000. Supported by: Jeremy Longstreth. All yes, motion carried.
2. Review of proposed new **Patron Behavior Policy**. It was moved by Nancy Robison to approve the Patron Behavior policy. Supported by: Jason Lewis. All yes, motion carried.
3. Review of proposed new **Materials Selection Policy**. It was moved by Jeremy Longstreth to approve the Materials Selection Policy. Supported by: Greta Tigner. All yes, motion carried.
4. Review of proposed new **Gift and Donations Policy**. It was moved by Jeremy Longstreth to approve the Gift and Donations Policy. Supported by: Jason Lewis. All yes, motion carried.

Announcements. Next Board Meeting will take place on November 17, 2026

Adjournment. It was moved by Nancy Robison to adjourn the meeting on October 20, 2026 of the Coleman Area Library Board of Trustees at 7:40 PM. Supported by: Greta Tigner. All yes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Amy Comber Gross, Library Director

Director Report for October 2026 Library board meeting

Events:

1. The library won the “Most Spirited Business” award for our painted window display of an American flag and the town of Coleman during Coleman’s “Walk Through Town” event.
2. Community collaborations: On Oct. 1, the library partnered with Ubay Credit Union and the Coleman Family Center for a fun Neighboring Week event. Also, Amy recently held discussions with the “Career & College Access Network” about moving the “Post-Secondary Hub” from the Family Center to the Library. This would provide locals with access to info about college-prep, skilled trades, as well as “up-skill” training and adult ed opportunities.
3. Happening this month: Purr-anormal adoptable cat event with **Karma Cat Café** on Friday, Oct 23. On Tuesday, Oct. 27 local author Rick Sigsby will present “**Michigan: By the Glass**” about Michigan-made liquors, spirits, and wines. Light refreshments will be served.
4. Next month: In November we’ll have a Hunger Games Escape Room, a Stuffed Animal Sleepover and special guest Ms. Lucy Goose, Make & Take book tote craft, and more.
5. The library will be closed for Thanksgiving on Thursday, Nov 26 and Friday, Nov 27.

Staff news:

1. The library will be hiring an entry-level employee sometime in October or November. Interested applicants may bring their resume to the front desk of the library.

Building Maintenance and Grounds:

1. Furnaces and floor heat are scheduled to be checked by Lewis Bros. in November
2. Lawn Sprinkler system will be flushed and turned off in November
3. Exterior pole lights have been turned back on for the evenings during winter months

Finances, Grants & Donations:

1. The library was awarded the Pilcrow Foundation Children’s Book grant. This is a 2-to-1 matching grant and the library’s share of the match (\$400) will come from donations made in memory of Jane Ruhle-Fitzgerald. This grant will add \$1,200 in new children’s books to the library’s collection.
2. The library was awarded a grant of \$500 from the Rob-See-Co Rural Library Grant program to be used for our ‘Outdoor Explorers’ program in 2027. ‘Outdoor Explorers’ helps preschoolers discover the wonder of nature and science through hands-on play.
3. The library received and assembled the new Children’s Play Stand, a memorial gift from the Weage Family. It has been a popular addition to the Children’s Room.
4. The library is working on setting up a new sewing and embroidery station within our MakerSpace in the front corner of the library. The sewing area is made possible from donations in memory of Jane Ruhle-Fitzgerald.
5. State of Michigan reports that the legislature provided additional one-time funding to libraries in its 2027 budget. That money is expected to be distributed as a third State Aid payment during 2027.