CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Monin at 6:02 p.m.

Present: Ms. Clampitt, Mr. Mackey, Mr. Monin, Mrs. Petruccio, Mrs. Prengaman, Dr. Valentino

Absent: Mrs. El-Khoury

Also present:
Director Eric Linderman; Assistant Director Cassie Thayer-Styes; Fiscal and Compliance Officer Vicki Simmons; Executive Assistant/Board Liaison Trisha Lastoria

Citizens present: Admin staff-HR Manager Donna Rosciszewski

Additions to the agenda: *no additions*

Citizen's Comment: *no comments*

READING OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE
Ms. Thayer-Styes read the Declaration of Independence per County Commissioner John Plecnik's request for public bodies in Lake County to recite the document at the Board meeting in honor of the 250th birthday of the United States.

Vice-President Monin presented the following minutes:

- June 15, 2026 Policy Committee Meeting of the Board of Trustees
- June 15, 2026 Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees

MOTION 50-26

Mrs. Petruccio moved and Mr. Mackey seconded that the following minutes be approved as presented.

- June 15, 2026 Policy Committee Meeting of the Board of Trustees
- June 15, 2026 Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees

On roll call the following vote was cast: All "Ayes". Motion carried.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

PLF	2025	2026	% Increase
July	$ 195,927.87	$ 198,641.68	1.39 %
YTD	$ 1,459,347.26	$ 1,383,216.40	-5.22 %

MOTION 51-26

Mr. Mackey moved and Mrs. Prengaman seconded that the Board approve the June 2026 Fiscal Officer's report:

JUNE LIST OF BILLS PAID:	**$636,827.52**
JUNE FINANCIAL STATEMENT:	YTD

	RECEIPTS	EXPENDITURES	BALANCES
General Fund	$4,252,675.10	$3,919,361.30	$2,342,796.65
Grants	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Corona Virus Relief Fund Public Library	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Carnahan Memorial Fund	$100,467.89	$0.00	$100,467.89
Capital Projects Fund	$15,853.34	$399,946.71	$1,072,269.73
Building Construction	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Computer Information	$0.00	$30,624.45	$24,575.55
Eastlake Coal Plant	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Fiduciary Fund-Worrallo	$0.00	$0.00	$13,537.79
TOTALS	**$4,368,996.33**	**$4,349,932.46**	**$3,553,647.61**
JUNE INVESTMENTS	**$2,950,084.12**		

On roll call the following vote was cast: Ms. Clampitt "Yes", Mrs. El-Khoury "Absent", Mr. Mackey "Yes", Mr. Monin "Yes", Mrs. Petruccio "Yes", Mrs. Prengaman "Yes", Dr. Valentino "Yes". Motion carried.

MOTION 52-26

Mrs. Petruccio moved and Dr. Valentino seconded that the Board approve the revised IRS mileage rate from 72.5 cents to .76 cents per mile effective 07/01/2026-12/31/2026.

On roll call the following vote was cast: Ms. Clampitt "Yes", Mrs. El-Khoury "Absent", Mr. Mackey "Yes", Mr. Monin "Yes", Mrs. Petruccio "Yes", Mrs. Prengaman "Yes", Dr. Valentino "Yes". Motion carried.

MOTION 53-26

Mrs. Petruccio moved and Dr. Valentino seconded that the Board approve the total of $99,981.38 received from the Trusts of Jack & Catherine Carnahan and Catherine Carnahan.

On roll call the following vote was cast: Ms. Clampitt "Yes", Mrs. El-Khoury "Absent", Mr. Mackey "Yes", Mr. Monin "Yes", Mrs. Petruccio "Yes", Mrs. Prengaman "Yes", Dr. Valentino "Yes". Motion carried.

MOTION 54-26

Mrs. Prengaman moved and Dr. Valentino seconded that the Board approve the receipt of $10,000.00 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York in celebration of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

On roll call the following vote was cast: Ms. Clampitt "Yes", Mrs. El-Khoury "Absent", Mr. Mackey "Yes", Mr. Monin "Yes", Mrs. Petruccio "Yes", Mrs. Prengaman "Yes", Dr. Valentino "Yes". Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUILDINGS **(Petruccio,** Mackey, Prengaman) *did not meet*

FINANCE & PLANNING/AUDIT **(Monin,** Valentino, Prengaman, *citizen-vacant*) *did not meet*

PERSONNEL **(Clampitt**, Valentino, Monin) *did not meet*

MOTION 55-26

Ms. Clampitt moved and Mrs. Prengaman seconded that the Board approve the Personnel Actions report as presented.

On roll call the following vote was cast: All "Ayes". Motion carried.

POLICY **(Mackey,** Clampitt, Petruccio) *did not meet*

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

MOTION 56-26

Mrs. Petruccio moved and Mr. Mackey seconded that the Board accept the List of Gifts for January through June 2026.

On roll call the following vote was cast: All "Ayes". Motion carried.

MOTION 57-26

Mr. Mackey moved and Mrs. Prengaman seconded that the Board approve the 2026/2027 health insurance with Cigna, effective 8-1-2026 through 7-31-2027.

On roll call the following vote was cast: Ms. Clampitt "Yes", Mrs. El-Khoury "Absent", Mr. Mackey "Yes", Mr. Monin "Yes", Mrs. Petruccio "Yes", Mrs. Prengaman "Yes", Dr. Valentino "Yes". Motion carried.

Director's Report/Eric Linderman

Strategic Plan

We have two focus groups planned for August 19 and August 20. The first of these will include partnering organizations that provide services to children. Representatives from the Willoughby-Eastlake Schools and the Andrews Osborne Academy will join us, as well as several organizations that work with multiple age groups, such as the YMCA and municipal recreation departments.

The second of these focus groups will meet on August 20 to discuss services to adults and seniors. Notably, this discussion will include representatives from senior centers. Many participants in this discussion will be part of the first discussion as well.

After these discussions, we will have half-day sessions with the Board and with our library leadership. We are looking at early-to-mid-September for those. We will begin sending out scheduling options for those meetings soon.

Health Insurance

We will begin open enrollment very soon for the insurance coverage year that begins in August. After a thorough investigation of our options, we will be renewing our current coverage with a 30% increase. We have provided information to the Stark County Schools Council of Governments, which may be a better option for us. If that consortium accepts us, I will begin a new discussion with our healthcare committee, which includes representatives from management and from the bargaining unit, to make a decision and look at a timeline for moving to the Stark County group. That decision is not linked to our current enrollment timeline, so we may have the option to move to them over the coming months.

The current plans, which are being renewed, are provided by Cigna. Those plans include a plan with a $2,500 employee deductible, a plan with a $6,000 employee deductible with a linked gap plan that pays toward the deductible, and a Health Savings Account plan, in which most costs are paid entirely by the employee up to a $7,600 individual maximum. With this option, employees are responsible for contributing to a health savings account to pay medical expenses. For this year, the library will make an annual matching employer contribution up to $500 for employee-only coverage and up to $1,000 for families.

In our discussions with the healthcare committee, we considered another option suggested by our broker, McGohan Brabender. It would have been possible to reduce the increase to about 20% overall by grouping all employees under a single plan and adding a health reimbursement account (HRA) that would reimburse employees for using healthcare providers preferred by the company managing the HRA. Some on our committee expressed a mistrust of the proposed process, and I did not feel that the plan offered enough of a price reduction to justify the amount of change and uncertainty that would come with that option.

Willoughby ArtsFest

As chair of the planning committee for the annual ArtsFest in downtown Willoughby, I work with Dana Wolfe of the Western Lake County Chamber of Commerce to lead the event. This involves monthly meetings

beginning in January, and then multiple discussions during June and early July with the members of the committee, workers from different city departments, and volunteers who help with the event.

The Willoughby Library provides children's programming for the event, and I am pleased to share that Chris Gumal and Cara Speros have been very helpful with this year's planning committee. Our Willoughby Library children's staff will be sharing a tent with the Willoughby Arts Collaborative (WAC) on the green space in front of the administration offices. WAC, who has been a good partner with the library for many projects, is providing a texture collage activity for kids, which will complement a dinosaur activity organized by the library. As part of this effort, a texture arch has been temporarily constructed over the brick pathway at the sidewalk in front of the library's administration offices.

Assistant Director's Report/Cassie Thayer-Styes

Ongoing CLEVNET App Issues

The CLEVNET app is currently experiencing service disruptions similar to those encountered last year. The issue is being caused by automated bot activity that is repeatedly querying the app's public interface to identify materials available through CLEVNET. This unusually high volume of traffic is overwhelming the system and resulting in intermittent interruptions for patrons attempting to use the app.

CLEVNET's app vendor, ByWater Solutions, is actively working to resolve the issue. The disruption is affecting libraries nationwide and internationally that use the ByWater-powered app, so this is not an issue unique to our library or the CLEVNET consortium.

Overall, our patrons have been patient and understanding as we navigate these service interruptions. At this time, there is no estimated timeline for a permanent resolution. We will continue to share updates with patrons as new information becomes available.

Museum Passes and Library of Things Circulation

The Museum Pass and Library of Things collections have continued to exceed expectations in terms of patron use. Below are the circulation statistics for each museum pass, along with the top three most-circulated items in the Library of Things collection.

Discovery Passes

Name	Number of Checkouts
Akron Zoo	44
Clevland Museum of Art	60
Holden	42
McKinley Presidential Museum	2
Stan Hywet	16
Western Reserve	19

Library of Things

Name and Library	Number of Checkouts
Blu-Ray Player- Willoughby Hills, Willoughby, Eastlake	12
Metal Detector- Willowick, Willoughby, Eastlake	10
DVD Player-Willowick and Willoughby Hills	6

Marketing & Publishing Relations Report/Patrick Culliton

Summer Reading Sponsorship

Thank you to the Boosters for once again sponsoring the Summer Reading Challenge!

ALA Resilient Communities Course

Patrick completed his Resilient Communities: Sustainability in Libraries course with ALA on June 11. It was a wonderful experience, and he can't wait to translate some of what he learned to WEPL!

News-Herald

Willoughby Public Library hosts conservation writer/wildlife photographer, 6.2.26

Eastlake Public Library hosting soccer talk as world cup kicks off, 6.4.26

Nurse/Author to teach life saving skills, 6.4.26

Willoughby Hills Public Library hosts talk and screening of Psycho, 6.10.26

Willowick Public Library to take donations to benefit Lake Humane Society, 6.22.2026

Sponsorship

Our Lake Metroparks: Concerts & More sponsorship started in June.

Paid Ads - Print and Digital

News Herald, Summer in Downtown Willoughby marketing initiative with DTW businesses.

WEPL Programs, Outreach, and Professional Development

Mad Science: Spin, Pop, Boom pics, 6.1.26 (PC)

Mad Science Photos, 6.1.26 (MR)

Millionaire's Row Photos, 6.2.26 (MH)

Dinosaur Olympics pics, 6.3.26 (PC)

East Staff Mtg/Boosters, 6.9.26 (MH)

Kpop Demon Hunter Day Photos and Videos, 6.9.26 (MR)

Forecast Live Photos, 6.13.26 (MR)

Breckenridge Book Club, 6.15.26 (MH)

Juneteenth Instagram Live, 6.15.26 (MR)

DinoROAR pics, 6.15.26 (PC)

Hills Staff Mtg/Boosters, 6.16.26 (MH)

Grass Isn't Greener pics, 6.20.26 (PC)

Breckenridge Book Discussion, 6.25.26 (MH)

Dr. Dave and Whiz Bang Science pics, 6.26.26 (PC)

Wby Senior Center Book Discussion, 6.29.26 (MH)

Boosters LaVera Fundraiser, 6.29.26 (MH)

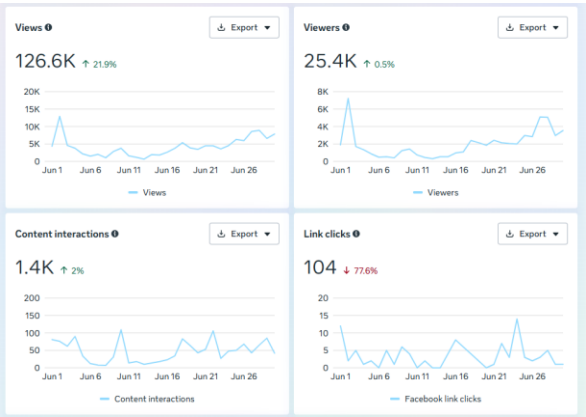
Blog

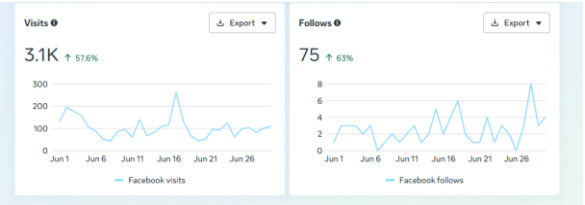
Juneteenth Live Recommendations, 6.19.26 (MR)

Pride Recommendations, 6.23.26 (MR)

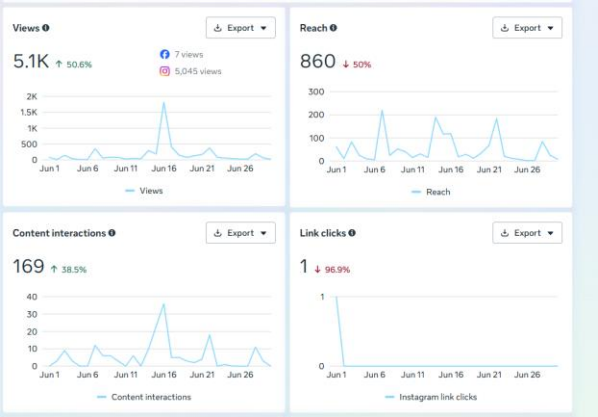
Digital Promotion Stats

Facebook:





Instagram





Koios (Google Ad Grant)

impressions

	Impressions	Clicks	CTR	Conversions	Grant Spent
Kanopy	4,094	274	6.7%	83	$2021.77
Cross Network Ads	2,959	324	10.9%	270	$2981.83
Catalog	2,208	113	5.1%	38	$2023.35
Featured Events	1,222	40	3.3%	36	$254.93
Website Discovery	1,136	151	13.3%	190	$167.28
Digital Media	972	94	9.7%	31	$1250.76
Notary Services	951	41	4.3%	17	$168.53
Library Card	646	138	21.4%	132	$101.73
ABC Mouse	504	33	6.5%	10	$304.49
Hoopla	322	23	7.1%	14	$102.95
Online Learning	164	10	6.1%	9	$162.26
Libby	142	17	12.0%	18	$169.03
Book Sales	129	13	10.1%	4	$145.71
Newspapers	115	8	7.0%	6	$97.11
Summer Reading	109	15	13.8%	11	$103.26
Local History and Genealogy	92	7	7.6%	2	$111.52
Library Services	45	3	6.7%	0	$11.46
Passports	31	1	3.2%	0	$0.68
Electronic Device Lending	22	1	4.5%	2	$10.12
Meeting Space	19	2	10.5%	0	$5.70
LinkedIn Learning	13	2	15.4%	0	$30.83
Homework Help	5	1	20.0%	0	$19.57
Toy Library	4	1	25.0%	0	$2.03
Tax Info	3	0	0.0%	0	$0.00
Mango Languages	2	0	0.0%	0	$0.00

E-newsletters

e-newsletter 6.17.26						
06/17/2026	22587	20066	1463	1037	4865	214
Total	**22587**	**20066**	**1463**	**1037**	**4865**	**214**
e-newsletter 6.24.26						
06/24/2026	22641	20104	1459	1056	4978	233
Total	**22641**	**20104**	**1459**	**1056**	**4978**	**233**
e-newsletter 6.3.26						
06/03/2026	22474	20012	1430	1008	4938	249
Total	**22474**	**20012**	**1430**	**1008**	**4938**	**249**

e-newsletter 6.10.26						
06/12/2026	22543	20047	1448	1026	4852	308
Total	**22543**	**20047**	**1448**	**1026**	**4852**	**308**

Collections & Digital Services Manager's Report/Sarah Osinsky

Digital Services

Things are moving forward to sharing WEPL's Hoopla Flex titles with other CLEVNET libraries that also purchase these types of materials. Hopefully, we will see a slight increase in circulation due to this sharing model in the coming months.

We are in the process of renewing hot spot contracts and replacing damaged units. New cases and cords were ordered to refresh the equipment that has gotten worn out.

MAP/Collection Services

WEPL MAP Department is getting a steady flow of books from Brodart. Currently, we are about 2-3 weeks behind: from when the books are shipped by Brodart to when they are hitting the shelves. Staff are working through new processes; Dawn Adams and I are monitoring the workflow to see where we can make this process more efficient. Having attended a conference with other Technical Services managers, this time frame is in line with what some other libraries are experiencing right now.

I'm pleased to share that most of the branches are on track with their spending goals for this time of year. Most of the books ordered from Brodart arrive within 90 days of ordering. Only a small percentage of books have been cancelled since the beginning of the year. I've received positive feedback from selectors on Brodart's variety of books. Support staff at Brodart have been responsive to all email communication and requests.

MAP received and processed our first orders of Wonderbooks and VOX books for 2026.

On May 27, I, along with Dawn Adams, Kim Sullivan and Shaley Vahcic, took a tour and met with representatives from Midwest Tapes, near Toledo, Ohio. We learned about improvements to their operations, such as the process they use to produce and ship materials to libraries. We learned about the history of the company and their commitment to serving libraries, along with what's coming next for their online platform, Hoopla. It was also a good morale builder for staff to spend a day together outside of their regular routine and to meet our regular contacts at Midwest Tapes in person. I feel that this tour strengthened our relationship with them.

ILL/CLEVnet

I'm pleased to report that Shaley Vahcic has completed her 9-month evaluation period. She is doing a great job in keeping up with the flow of materials in ILL and has made a positive contribution to the department. She and I visited the four WEPL branches so she could have a better understanding of branch workflow, learn about the various communities and meet some of the staff.

May 2026 Packages (Boxes or Bags): Received 793; Sent 752

June 2026 Packages (Boxes or Bags): Received 835; Sent 850

Professional Development/Meetings

May 1: NOTSL (Northern Ohio Technical Services Librarians) Spring Meeting: Connections That Matter: Exploring Library-Vendor Partnerships

May 4: WEPL Staff Day

May 20: Manager's Meeting

May 27: Midwest Tapes Tour

June 4: Facing Challenges, Embracing Change: A Day for Collection Management, presented by NEO-RLS

Eastlake Branch Report/Amy Winter

Summer Reading Decorations Show Off! Thanks to all the departments, including Circulation, who decorated this summer.



Children's Wall by Kids Computers



Children's Desk



Top of Tall Bookcase in between Children's and Nonfiction



Circulation Book Drop



Teen Bulletin Board

Eastlake Adult Programs:

Tammy has had an enthusiastic turn out for her Cleveland Museum of Art programs. This summer we have learned about artists: Manet and Morisot and Filipino Lippi in Rome.

Tammy Also hosted The Western Reserve Historical Society for a program about the Signers of the Declaration of Independence in honor of the 250th anniversary.

Tammy and MaryAnn have been hosting a series of Matinee movies this summer. They have shown Hamilton and Glory to go with the 250th theme.

MaryAnn hosted the Master Gardeners with Shady Superstars, a lecture about native plants that do well in some or all shade.

Amy continues the Make It Monday classes teaching 10 regular attendees about a different machine or feature each month.

We began our Open Lab hours (with help from the Reference staff and Jenny Sutter) so patrons can drop by between 2 and 5 pm on Wednesday and Thursdays and tour the makerspace or work with the machines under staff guidance without an appointment. We have had a variety of patrons stop by the most popular machine remains the Cricut and heat press for t-shirt making but we have had a few come for the laser engraver and embroidery machine as well.

A few examples of things we have made in class or in open lab:







Eastlake Teen Programs:

Cathy designed, constructed, and decorated a puzzle box-based scavenger hunt for teens to go with Summer Reading. With an Indiana Jones vibe, each of the five stations has a code or adventure for the teens to solve to move to the next station. She created an adventure journal to guide the teens through the different stations to solve the mystery and save the stolen artifact. Cathy made one for each branch.







Cathy hosted the Cleveland Museum of Art for a hands-on look at Roman and Greek Artifacts.

Cathy also continued her afternoon art hang out, Popcorn and Pencils, with a growing group of teens visiting every other week for a relaxed chat while you draw afternoon.

Her Art Club made mini clay sculptures and drew “Cave Art”:








On June 4th, Amy and Bryn began the yearly Roll for Adventure series. A Dungeons and Dragons Adventure with a matching dinosaur theme for the Summer Reading Challenge has been written by Bryn and Amy for a steady group of 11 teens have been attending weekly (with breaks for Art Club).



Eastlake Children’s Programs

Sam kicked off Summer Reading by bringing in Mad Science for an energetic science themed show. 80 attendees enjoyed an educational and entertaining time.

Jennifer followed up that energy the next Saturday when 148 patrons attended Kpop Demon Hunter party where kids of all ages could get pictures taken with Derpy Tiger and Rumi movie characters, paint figures, make bracelets, buttons and backstage passes, do a scavenger hunt and have a dance party.

Sam, Jennifer, and Khin continue their well-received and well-attended storytimes with Storylab, Messy Play, Story Craft and Play, and Inclusive Storytime. Sam has also kept three therapy dog programs going strong this summer with biweekly Tully Time, and Bark Break and Sit Stay Read monthly. These have all encouraged kids to keep reading throughout their summer break.

Family Tie Dye was a very colorful program as Jennifer (with extra hands from Amy) taught four time slots (20 attendees each round) how to tie and then either dip dye or bottle and tray dye their shirts, dresses, towels, etc. This outdoor adventure was very appreciated by parents who thanked the library for taking on the messy parts and let them have all the fun with their kids.

Overall, this summer has been a dino-mite time! We have had a total of 1278 people attend our children's programs as well as 267 children registering for summer reading. The prize wheel has been exceptionally popular as we've redeemed 606 rewards.










Willoughby Branch Report/Brian Campbell

I have to start this month's report by shouting out Willoughby's children's staff. In addition to maintaining their usual excellent programming and providing our patrons with a great Summer Reading experience, the children's staff has been working hard to get ready for Last Stop Willoughby and ArtsFest. Every year we learn something new which makes the following years events better. This year we are also excited to be featuring Cara and Jackie on Fox's Kickin' It with Kenny. Eric will be on the program also! It aired on July 17th, so if you missed it, please feel free to look it up online and hear about the wonderful crats we had on offer for ArtsFest. The Tiny Art Show and Teen Photo Contest, which are staples of the library's ArtsFest offerings, will also return this year.

Programs for the Fall programming period were due last week, and our reference staff have come up with a lot of unique and exciting programs! We will have a paint and sip Halloween program, an intro to cross stitching program, a puzzle building contest, as well as author visits and the continuation of popular programs such as First Chapter Reading Club, Delicious Discussions, Gardeners Gathering, Tween Trivia, and Teen Homeschool. Wrapping up our summer programming slate, on August 21st, is our Teddy and Edith Roosevelt program. We will host reenactors who will talk about the life and times of these two dynamic historical figures. This program had to be rescheduled from earlier in the year, but we are as excited as ever to be putting this one on.

We have two new series that are taking shape for the next programming period. We will be starting a silent reading club that will meet once a month in order to give readers a chance to get out of the house and socialize (or not) in a low-pressure way. We are also introducing an adaptation book club. With so many excellent TV and movie adaptations hitting the screen this year it seems like a shame that we don't yet have a way to enjoy those with our patrons.

The circulation department has undergone quite a few changes since my last report. Our 24-hour clerk, Annabeth, accepted a reference position here at Willoughby. We are very happy to have her still in the building, and she is taking on her new role very well! We also would like to welcome new clerks Sadie Zeedrich and Stacey Biddle, who are replacing Annabeth and Kelsie, who left a couple months ago. Stacey and Sadie have been great additions to the circulation department, and we look forward to working with them for years to come.

OLD BUSINESS *no old business*

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION 58-26

Mrs. Petruccio moved and Mr. Mackey seconded that the recommendation of the reappointment of Ashley El-Khoury to serve a 4-year term (previously a 7-year term) on the WEPL Board of Trustees.

On roll call the following vote was cast: Ms. Clampitt "Yes", Mrs. El-Khoury "Absent", Mr. Mackey "Yes", Mr. Monin "Yes", Mrs. Petruccio "Yes", Mrs. Prengaman "Yes", Dr. Valentino "Yes". Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING, Monday, August 17th, 2026, 6:00 p.m., WEPL Administrative Offices

MOTION 59-27

Mr. Mackey moved and Mrs. Petruccio seconded that the Board will not hold an August meeting.

On roll call the following vote was cast: All "Ayes". Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 60-26

Mrs. Petruccio moved and Mrs. Prengaman seconded that the Board adjourn at 6:43 p.m.

On roll call the following vote was cast: All "Ayes." Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

_____ _____

Board President Board Secretary