

APPROVED

Cromaine District Library

Budget Hearing/Regular Board Meeting
Thursday June 19, 2025

Trustees Present: Bill Bolin, Jeannine Gogoleki, Becky Basley, Nancy Rosso, Holly Naylor, Dawn Smith, Kim Armstrong

Members Absent: None

Staff Present : Sarah Neidert, Darlene Randolph

Public Present: Debbie Palba, Jeff Amayo, Willian Nylund, Julie Bellanit, Tom Gentner, Alex Yarber, Ashley Nollf, Glenn Gogoleski, Kate Mazzara, Todd Basley, Amanda Maher, Ryan Maher, Elizabeth Streight, Julie Ohashi, Andre Brack, Marita Branch, Vivian Nylund, Walt Palka, James Kerster, Michelle Julian, Dave ViAaker, Michelle ViAaker, Sherry Szekeres, Diane White, Jessica Palmer, L. Picala, Mares Hirschert, Lucy Egenolf, Michele R. Dale-Cannaert, Gary White, Angela Yarber, Curt Schaap, Erin Boyer, Bruce Alin, Gayla Rewker-Alin, Emily Pastore, Madison Armstrong, Terrence Armstrong, Ashlynn Mulka, Chris George, Lindsay Sapp, Cathy Peu, Terry Lee, Mary Cafmeyer, Kate DeRosier, Malia K., Mary Lou Miller, Denise O'Connell, Rene Deachin, Deb Irish, Karen G., Audreanna W., Donald Thompson, Holly Taylor, Lynn Burrows, Elizabeth Gauthier, Shelby Dinser

BUDGET HEARING: President Bolin called the Budget Hearing Meeting to order at 6:30 pm. A roll call was taken.

Present: Jeannine Gogoleski, Becky Basley, Nancy Rosso, Holly Naylor, Dawn Smith, Kim Armstrong, Bill Bolin

Absent: None

Public Comments Regarding the Budget:

Kate DeRosier spoke and wrote:

Hello, I have comments about the proposed budget. Overall, the projected revenues of 2.7 million and projected surplus of \$120,000 after expenses looks good for library reserves.

Previous library boards worked hard to provide a cushion for maintaining a historical building and providing for community needs. A projected surplus is a welcome outlook. So I need to point out that the decision to withdraw membership in professional library associations can be revisited.

Cromaine District Library – Board Meeting
June, 2025

Removing the library from the American Library Association and the Michigan Library Association – total cuts of \$4,750.00 – is unnecessary because public funds more than cover those costs. I looked at the anticipated reduction though and found the \$2,000 of \$4,750 was added to conventions and professional meetings for staff, so the actual cut amounts to \$2,750.00.

Then I noticed that Legal Fees have been increased in the proposed budget – increased by 150% - from \$4,000 to \$10,000 to cover anticipated increases in legal fees due to policy changes being pursued by trustees so obviously, the reason for the cuts professional association memberships has nothing to do with fiscal responsibility and prudence.”

I took a look at Hartland Townships proposed budget and find ample memberships supported for the board of trustees, the department heads and staff. Professional memberships for the Planning Board for example and for the Township Board: \$4,950 added to the coming year’s budget to support the township’s association membership in the Michigan Municipal League.

The township supports professional memberships because they support continuing education of staff and the benefits of exchanging information and support that comes with that.”

She then read the missions of MLA and ALA.

How many of you on the board participate in – are members of groups and associations even though you don’t agree with everything the group does or stands for.

She then read ethics statement 1, 2 and 8

I am asking you to reconsider and reinstate the professional memberships in the ALA and MLA and recognize that our library has outstanding professionals serving the library community.

Stephanie Booth addressed the board.

Budget Update:

Treasurer Basley praised the hard work and due diligence to Director Neidert, the staff and the Finance Committee. It shows the community the fiduciary responsibility of the library is taken seriously.

Vice President Gogoleski thanked Treasurer Basley for her job as treasurer.

Trustee Naylor said that this was a great job and it will improve our community.

The Public Hearing on the Budget was closed at 6:40 pm with a motion by Vice President Gogoleski, seconded by Trustee Smith.

Ayes: All

Nays: None Motion carried.

REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Trustees Present : Bill Bolin, Jeannine Gogoleski, Becky Basley, Nancy Rosso, Holly Naylor, Dawn Smith, Kim Armstrong

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Sarah Neidert, Darlene Randolph

Public Present: Debbie Palba, Jeff Amayo, Willian Nylund, Julie Belcanti, Tom Gentner, Alex Yarber, Ashley Nolff, Genn Gogoleski, Kate Mazzara, Todd Basley, Amanda Maher, Ryan Maher, Elizabeth Streight, Julie Ohashi, Andre Branck, Manita Branch, Vivian Nylund, Walt Palka, James Kerster, Michelle Julian, Dave, ViAaker, Michelle ViAaker, Sherry Szekeres, Diane White, Jessica Palmer, I. Picala, Mares Hirschert, Lucy Egenolf, Michele R. Dale-Cannaert, Gary White, Angela Yarber, Curt Schaap, Erin Boyer, Bruce Alin, Gayla Rewker-Alin, Emily Pastore, Madison Armstrong, Terrence Armstrong, Ashlynn Mulka, Chris George, Lindsay Sapp, Cathy Peu, Terry Lee, Mary Cafmeyer, Kate DeRosier, Malia K. Mary Lou Miller, Denise O'Connell, Rene Deachin, Deb Irish, Karen G., Audreanna W., Donald Thompson, Holly Taylor, Lynn Burrows, Elizabeth Gauthier, Shelby Dinser

I.	President Bolin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.	
II.	Pledge of Allegiance	
III.	Roll Call A roll call was taken Present: Jeannine Gogoleski, Becky Basley, Nancy Rosso, Holly Naylor, Dawn Smith, Kim Armstrong, Bill Bolin Absent: None	
IV.	Secretary Rosso reminded the public that any person speaking during the Call to the Public would need to write out their comments on the "Call to the Public Request Form" in order to be included in the minutes. This way they are not misinterpreted.	Agenda Approval

	<p>President Bolin read an excerpt from “Roberts Rule of Order” to the public in order to clarify expected public conduct in an open meeting.</p> <p>President Bolin requested the board move into a closed session. Trustee Naylor said, “This is inappropriate without collaborating with the board ahead of time. A vote would need to happen. This would need to be placed on the agenda.”</p> <p>Vice President Gogoleski said a motion for an amended agenda would need to take place.</p> <p>President Bolin did not make a motion to amend the agenda.</p> <p>The board moved along to approve this agenda.</p> <p>Approval of Agenda</p> <p>Vice President Gogoleski moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Naylor.</p> <p>Ayes: All</p> <p>Nayes: None Motion carried</p> <p>A. Approval of regular meeting minutes, 05/16/24</p> <p>B. Acknowledge receipt of the April Financial Reports and payment of April invoices totaling \$86,661.72 and payroll obligations totaling \$99,093.21.</p> <p>C. Director’s Report</p> <p>D. Committee Reports</p> <table> <tr> <td>Community Relations</td> <td>June 03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Personnel Committee</td> <td>June 05</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Finance Committee</td> <td>June 10</td> </tr> </table>	Community Relations	June 03	Personnel Committee	June 05	Finance Committee	June 10	
Community Relations	June 03							
Personnel Committee	June 05							
Finance Committee	June 10							
V.	<p>Approval of Consent Agenda</p> <p>Vice President Gogoleski moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Trustee Smith.</p> <p>Ayes: All</p> <p>Nayes: None Motion carried.</p>	Consent Agenda Approval						

VI..	<p>Director's Report-Update</p> <p>Director Neidert gave an update on the Outdoor Improvement Project. It is likely to begin in the fall of this year. A soil infiltration test will need to be done. This will hopefully take place in the next two weeks. This test to see how much drainage is required. There will be a “pit” dug with an excavator.</p> <p>She was concerned this would be taking place during the summer concerts, but there will be someone from the company watching and securing this at all times.</p> <p>Treasurer Basley was interested in what kind of company handles the work for the testing of the soil infiltration on the library property. Director Neidert said that a geotechnical, environmental and hydrogeological services company will handle that.</p> <p>An additional survey will be needed for a land combination. The library owns two plots: The land which the library sits on and the plot on which is currently the lawn. A document has to be prepared to submit to the township requesting combining them as one.</p> <p>Summer Reading Programs are up and running. Youth and Adult Departments have been very busy.</p> <p>Secretary Rosso asked Director Neidert how the Pilot Program for homebound is going. Director Neidert responded that there has been no sign up yet. The thought is to start with a small number of signups.</p> <p>The new staff server is received at Applied Innovation, and they are currently configuring it to prepare for installation. I am happy we are able to pay for this project out of this fiscal year's funds.</p>	Directors Update
VII.	<p>Discussion/Decision</p> <p>A. Public Budget Hearing Discussion/Decision</p> <p>No discussion needed.</p> <p>-Resolution #2025-14, Amending the Operating Fund Budget for FY2024-25</p> <p>Vice President Gogoleski moved to approve Resolution 2025-14, Amending the Operating Fund Budget adopted for FY2024-25, seconded by Trustee Naylor. A roll call was taken.</p>	<p>Public Budget Hearing</p> <p>Adopting new budgets/amending still-current budgets</p>

	<p>Ayes: Jeannine Gogoleski, Becky Basley, Nancy Rosso, Holly Naylor, Dawn Smith, Kim Armstrong, Bill Bolin</p> <p>Nayes: None Resolution passed.</p> <p>-Resolution #2025-15, Amending the Improvement Fund Budget for FY2024-25</p> <p>Vice President Gogoleski moved to approve Resolution #2025-15, amending the Improvement Fund Budget adopted for FY2024-25, seconded by Trustee Smith. A roll call was taken.</p> <p>Ayes: Jeannine Gogoleski, Becky Basley, Nancy Rosso, Holly Naylor, Dawn Smith, Kim Armstrong, Bill Bolin</p> <p>Nayes: None Resolution passed.</p> <p>-Resolution #2025-16, Amending the Gift Fund Budget for FY2024-25</p> <p>Treasurer Basley moved to approve Resolution #2025-16, Amending the Gift Fund Budget adopted for FY2024-25, seconded by Trustee Naylor. A roll call was taken.</p> <p>Ayes: Jeannine Gogoleski, Becky Basley, Nancy Rosso, Holly Naylor, Dawn Smith, Kim Armstrong, Bill Bolin</p> <p>Nayes: None Resolution passed.</p> <p>-Resolution #2025-17, Adopting the Gift Fund Budget for FY2025-2026</p> <p>Treasurer Basley moved to adopt Resolution #2025-17, Adopting the Gift Fund Budget for FY2025-2026, seconded by Trustee Smith. A roll call was taken.</p> <p>Ayes: Jeannine Gogoleski, Becky Basley, Nancy Rosso, Holly Naylor, Dawn Smith, Kim Armstrong, Bill Bolin</p> <p>Nayes: None Resolution passed.</p>	
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	<p>-Resolution #2025-18, Adopting the Improvement Fund Budget for FY2025-2026</p> <p>Treasurer Basley moved to adopt Resolution #2025-18, Adopting the Improvement Fund Budget for FY2025-2026, seconded by Vice President Gogoleski. A roll call was taken.</p> <p>Ayes: Jeannine Gogoleski, Becky Basley, Nancy Rosso, Holly Naylor, Dawn Smith, Kim Armstrong, Bill Bolin</p> <p>Nayes: None Resolution passed.</p> <p>-Resolution #2025-19, Adopting Operating Fund Budget for FY2025-2026</p> <p>Treasurer Basley moved to adopt Resolution #2025-19, Adopting the Operating Budget for FY2025-2026, seconded by Secretary Rosso. A roll call was taken.</p> <p>Ayes: Jeannine Gogoleski, Becky Basley, Nancy Rosso, Holly Naylor, Dawn Smith, Kim Armstrong, Bill Bolin</p> <p>Nayes: None Resolution passed.</p> <p>B. Policy #3010/ Discussion/Decision (Community Relations)</p> <p>Secretary Rosso said this policy is fraught with many violations of 1st Amendment Rights. “We have been advised by ACLU, our attorney, and staff from the Library of Michigan on labeling and this policy is an effort to disregard that legal advice. Effectively, what this policy will do is “Ban Books.” This is highly risky, and a risk the library does not need to take.”</p> <p>Trustee Naylor is concerned in the implementation of this policy and is concerned with the challenges that may come forth.</p> <p>Vice President Gogoleski said we have gone through this policy line-by-line at the special meeting on June 3rd. This clean copy of the policy should be all set.</p> <p>Trustee Smith respects the boards opinions and decisions. “It was a good group input and we all worked hard on this. I disagree that this would violate any law. We are doing this according to the law and Constitution.</p>	<p>Policy 3010</p>
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	<p>Secretary Rosso reviewed other libraries in Livingston County, none have such a detailed policy close to what we have put into ours.</p> <p>Trustee Smith responded that they may want to follow our policy in the future.</p> <p>Secretary Rosso recommended that the board seek an independent legal opinion on this policy before a vote is taken-from someone referred by Library of Michigan. Trustee Smith disagreed.</p> <p>-Resolution #2025-09, Materials Selection and Reader Guidance Policy</p> <p>Vice President Gogoleski moved to approve Resolution #2025-09, Materials Selection and Reader Guidance Policy, seconded by Treasurer Basley. A roll call was taken.</p> <p>Ayes: Jeannine Gogoleski, Becky Basley, Holly Naylor, Dawn Smith, Kim Armstrong, Bill Bolin</p> <p>Nayes: Nancy Rosso Resolution passed.</p> <p>C. AV for Community Room</p> <p>Director Neidert received a quote which is under \$4,000. This was budgeted for. There would be a camera on top of the big tv screen with surrounding microphones.</p> <p>Trustee Naylor asked if there is any plans for the staff to assist?</p> <p>Director Neidert would like an answer as to if we want or don't want this.</p> <p>Treasurer Basley said that it was already voted down a year ago. This should go back to the Personnel Committee for review and the full review should come back to the board. "Let's follow the process."</p>	AV Community Room
VIII..	<p>Information/Board Comments</p> <p>Vice President Gogoleski wanted the public to be aware of how much the staff and director do toward Public Community Outreach.</p> <p>Trustee Naylor commented that the Summer Concert Series are fast approaching.</p>	

IX.	<p>Call to the Public:</p> <p>Julie from Dunham Lake is for the inclusion of all literature</p> <p>Jessica Palmer spoke</p> <p>Kate Mazzara spoke</p> <p>Kate DeRosier spoke and wrote: Most people do not want government interference in their personal lives. The majority of people in our library community want and expect the freedom to decide what is best for themselves and for their own children. Recent survey results do not support the need for a new library policy. The new policy is being presented as necessary to protect minors. However, a restrictive policy about children’s books is not what the respondents to the recent library survey asked for.</p> <p>There is no need to throw out and rewrite library policy. The library has an effective collection development policy to handle challenges to library materials and content. The recent effort to rewrite policy comes from political pressure and motivation from a small number and not from the majority of library users.</p> <p>Conflict and division are not in the best interest of the library community or the library’s future. The library board has ONE constituency, and it is the 27,000 plus residents of the district. The rights of ALL library users should be respected.</p> <p>A policy that ignores Constitutional rights violates your oath of office and this can end badly in the courts and/or at the polls for the board and library. Policy decisions should adhere to the founding principles of our Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Decisions inconsiderate of Constitutional rights betray the oath administered by our Township Clerk that each of you took. “I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and Faithfully discharge the duties of Cromaine District Library Trustee”. – the NON partisan office to which you were elected.</p> <p>Ashley Nolff spoke</p> <p>Deb Irish spoke</p> <p>Denise O’Connell spoke</p> <p>Jeff Amayo spoke</p> <p>Marita Branch spoke</p> <p>Karen G. spoke</p> <p>Stephanie Booth spoke</p> <p>Mares Hirschert spoke</p> <p>Michele Dale-Connaert spoke and wrote: I am a life-long resident of Hartland Township. My family moved to the area in 1939 after purchasing the Shad farm</p>	
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	<p>north of Clyde Road. My roots do not run as deep as the founding families, but my respect for the community and its citizens has always been an important aspect of my life.</p> <p>The act of choice in this process is what makes a free society so wonderful. When choice is taken away from citizens, society is no longer free. An author chooses to write a specific story based on a theme. The thoughts and ideas behind the story become the intellectual property of the author. When we force our own beliefs onto others, we lose the ability to generate an intellectual society. When you tell others what they can and cannot read, you are attempting to have control and authority over other citizen's ability to make decisions, thus taking away their freedom to choose. In a fair and just society with a quote, "Friendly Association of Wholehearted Service," which the Hartland Area Project promoted, it suddenly disappears.</p> <p>If you move forward with your proposed "ban on certain books" or limiting access" where will your "oversight" end?</p> <p>Finally, I want to remind the Cromaine District Library Board of Trustees that you are on the board to serve the best interests of the library and the citizens who live in the community and support the library. Your position does not give you the right to do "your will", but to represent the "will of the people". Right now, you are not doing the will of myself and and many citizens who support the Cromaine District Library. I encourage you to listen to the members of this community who still believe in the "Friendly Association of Wholehearted Service" established by John Robert Crouse Sr, through the Hartland Area Project which is still active today at the Cromaine District Library almost 100 years later.</p> <p>Andreanna from Brighton spoke and wrote: I live in Brighton, but I am a cardholder in Cromaine. I'm here today to affirm that <i>the freedom to read is a vital expression of freedom of speech</i>. Removing or restricting LGBTQ+ books in not just censorship—it is harmful to our community.</p> <p>LGBTQ+ people are part of our community. <i>Their stories belong on our library shelves just like everyone else's—because representation isn't a privilege: it's a right</i>. When people see themselves reflected in books, it affirms their identity, fosters empathy in others, and builds a more inclusive, compassionate society.</p> <p>Public libraries are meant to serve <i>everyone</i>. Ensuring that diverse stories remain accessible isn't just good policy—it's a promise to all of us that we belong.</p> <p>Holly Taylor spoke and wrote: As a Hartland Community member and parent of four kids, I wholeheartedly disagree with this goal to use the library as a place to push one political agenda.</p> <p>If this were about maturity, we would put Bridge to Terribithia and A Fault in Our Stars on the grief shelf. If this were about morality, we would put The Giver and</p>	
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	<p>Pert Pan on the homicide shelf. If this were about prejudice, we would take only LGBTQ books and sequester them.</p> <p>As parents, we know that our kids will outgrow Dr. Seuss and Curious George and need books with more substance. It is our job to help them when they encounter topics that are new or difficult. The library’s job is to welcome all people and provide the books that allow them to explore beyond the limits of our small town.</p> <p>The staff in your children’s department are so friendly and welcoming, helpful and respectful of me as a parent. I am asking the board to follow their lead.</p>									
X.	<p>Information</p> <p>Upcoming meeting dates include virtual committee meetings</p> <table><tr><td>TBA for August</td><td>Community Relations & Strategic Planning Committee, July cancelled</td></tr><tr><td>TBA for August</td><td>Personnel Committee, 11:00 am, virtual July cancelled</td></tr><tr><td>TBA for August</td><td>Finance Committee, 2 pm, virtual July cancelled</td></tr><tr><td>August 17</td><td>Board of Trustees July cancelled</td></tr></table> <p>Ad Hoc Committee will also be scheduled via email</p> <p>Vice President motion to cancel July committee and board meetings, seconded by Treasurer Basley.</p> <p>Ayes: All Nayes: None Motion carried.</p>	TBA for August	Community Relations & Strategic Planning Committee, July cancelled	TBA for August	Personnel Committee, 11:00 am, virtual July cancelled	TBA for August	Finance Committee, 2 pm, virtual July cancelled	August 17	Board of Trustees July cancelled	<p>Upcoming Meeting Dates</p>
TBA for August	Community Relations & Strategic Planning Committee, July cancelled									
TBA for August	Personnel Committee, 11:00 am, virtual July cancelled									
TBA for August	Finance Committee, 2 pm, virtual July cancelled									
August 17	Board of Trustees July cancelled									
XI.	<p>Agenda Items for Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Review of year-end statistics – (April-June)● Strategic Plan Review - July● Personnel Policies in August<ul style="list-style-type: none">#7002 – Personnel Policy & Employee Handbook#7003 – Evaluation of director and Library Staff#7005 – Compensation of Library Employees● #8004 – Conduct of Library Board Meetings (Personnel)● Outside Project Update	<p>Items for next meeting</p>								

XII.	Adjournment: Motion by Vice President Gogoleski, seconded by Treasurer Basley. Adjourned at 8:15 pm. Ayes: All Nays: None Motion passed.	Adjournment

Nancy Rosso, SECRETARY
Cromaine District Library Board

Darlene Randolph, Recording Secretary
Cromaine District Library Board

Documents distributed to the Board for/at this meeting:

- 5/16/2024 Proposed Regular Meeting Minutes
- Director's Report – June 2025
- Financial Reports – April 2025
- Finance Committee Minutes 06/ 10/25
- Personnel Committee Minutes 06/05/25
- Community Relations Minutes, Special Meeting 06/03/25
- Policy #3010, Title Materials Selection and Reader Guidance Policy
- Resolution #2025-09, Policy #3010
- Roberts Rules for Conduct and Decorum Call to the Public
- Copy of Notice of Public Hearing
- Director Neiderts Proposed Budget/Notes
- Resolution 2025-14 Amending the Operating Fund Budget for 2024-2025
- Resolution 2025-15 Amending the Improvement Fund Budget for 2024-2025
- Resolution 2025-16; Amending the Gift Fund Budget for 2024-2025
- Resolution 2025-17; Adopting the Gift Fund Budget for 2025-26
- Resolution 2025-18; Adopting the Improvement Fund Budget for 2025-2026
- Resolution 2025-19; Adopting the Operating Fund Budget for 2025-2026

