

WHITE PINE LIBRARY COOPERATIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes, June 24, 2026

Approved August 26, 2026

Welcome

The meeting was held at St. Charles District Library in St. Charles, MI. Kate Van Auken called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. There were 31 attendees at the meeting: 26 in person and 5 online via Zoom.

Introductions

Kate Van Auken welcomed attendees to the meeting, inviting them to share their name, library affiliation, and either A.) something you're reading, B.) something you're looking forward to, or C.) how summer reading is going.

Approval of Agenda

Jeanette Morrish moved, and Nannette Pretzer seconded to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion was carried.

Approval of Minutes

Jeannette Morrish moved, and Nannette Pretzer seconded to approve the April 22nd, 2026, Advisory Council minutes. The motion was carried.

Director's report

Kate Van Auken presented her report. Topics included the State Budget; OverDrive leadership and lending model updates; WPLC ILL history. [See the Director's Report for more details and further explanation.](#)

Coordinator's report

Alison Blattner presented her report. Topics included cataloging, interlibrary loan, and Clio updates. [See the Coordinator's Report for more details and further explanation.](#)

Old Business

\$100,000 Wish List

Twenty-five members submitted responses to the survey regarding the use of WPLC's surplus fund balance. The top four suggestions for use were A.) paying for OverDrive's annual platform fee, B.) purchasing more 1 copy/1 user content for WPLC's OverDrive collection, C.) increasing WPLC's annual reimbursable services grant to \$2,000, and D.) paying for any RIDES participation or fuel surcharge fees. These results would be taken to the Board for them to decide how to move forward.

Plan of Service Survey Results

The annual Plan of Service survey received many responses this year discussing the role that the cooperative plays for member libraries. Many respondents mentioned their appreciation for the collaborative nature of the cooperative's culture and the importance of protecting it. Additionally, members reported feeling that the cooperative feels like a true partner. This feedback will be used to guide the Plan of Service for the year ahead and will be passed on to the next Director.



New Business

Director's Search Update

Nicole Markel shared updates about the ongoing director search. Fourteen applications were received, and the committee would be narrowing down candidates to invite for a Zoom meet and greet on Wednesday, July 1, 2026. From there, top candidates will be selected for in-person interviews.

Public Comments/Membership News:

Sara Morrison, St. Johns District Library, shared that she had been on the front page of a local Lansing paper as the library undergoes a millage campaign.

BillieJo Bluemer announced that a township contracted with Rauchholz Memorial Library has a proposal on their upcoming ballot to pay for said contract.

Michelle Duclos, Frankenmuth Wickson District Library, also shared that her library would be asking for an additional millage this year.

Christian Dunham, Bullard Sanford Memorial Library, discussed a recently obtained grant that will be used to install an electric vehicle charging station at the library.

James Gonzalez, Midwest Tape/Hoopla, "Hoopla and AI Content"

James Gonzalez spoke to member libraries about the state of digital content, the way generative AI has impacted the publishing landscape, and how Midwest Tape is responding to it. James detailed the way content is screened before being added to the Hoopla catalog and how they rely on publishers to provide accurate, complete data about materials. He explained that while some publishers are seeking standardization for AI disclosures when creating deals with authors, that is not the case with all publishing houses. Additionally, James noted that if certain authors/publishers are repeatedly flagged by their screening and human review before addition to Hoopla's catalog, their company policy allows them to cut off repeat offenders for low-quality, AI-generated content.

Additionally, he discussed Hoopla's collection development tools which allow libraries to review what place AI-generated materials have in their personal collections. Tags have been created to identify AI-generated content, AI narration, and book summary titles. Libraries can decide on an individual basis whether they want certain titles included or not. In order to completely prevent all future AI titles from being available in their collection, libraries must reach out to support to have these items turned off.

New tools, policies, and support for libraries are currently being developed. James additionally mentioned that Hoopla is considering the addition of patron-facing labels for materials that use some manner of generative AI. Libraries looking for updates on this process and additional information are encouraged to check out videos and podcasts hosted on "The Hub" at library.hoopladigital.com.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on August 26th, 2026, at Rawson Memorial District Library, 6495 Pine St, Cass City, MI 48726.

