

PIONEERLAND LIBRARY SYSTEM
EXECUTIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
Thursday, March 19, 2026, Willmar Library Multipurpose room

Members present: Eric Rudningen, Dale Anderson, Duane Anderson, Cheryl VanOrt, John Winter, Greg Thole, Mitch Kling, Bill Thyne and Kurt Stranberg. Staff on site: Laurie Ortega, Director and Guest Andrew Bregar, Head librarian, Willmar. Absent: Scott Peterson.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Rudningen. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

The agenda was approved on a motion by Kling, seconded by Winter.

Minutes of the February 19, 2026, Executive/Finance Committee were approved on a motion by Thole, seconded by Duane Anderson.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Finance Committee:

1) The February 2026 Financial Report was approved on a motion by Kling, seconded by VanOrt.

2) Bills and Check Registers were approved on a motion by Thole, seconded by Stranberg.

B. Personnel Committee:

- **New Hires:** No new hires.
- **Director search update:** Rudningen provided an update on the director search process. DDA Consulting narrowed down the initial 17 applications received to nine. The hiring committee reviewed materials and video interviews of these nine and narrowed the list to four candidates that will be brought in for in-person interviews. Of these four there are three internal applicants and one other candidate from Minnesota. In-person interviews will be held on April 9th.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:

1. 2026 Committee List: The list of 2026 Board Committees was distributed. Committee's meet on an 'as needed' basis. Board members will be notified if their committee is convened.

2. FY26 e-rate: The application for FY26 e-rate funding (begins July 1st) has been filed. Ortega will be contacting SWWC for information on specific requirements, cost, and paperwork needed to turn the e-rate management process over to them prior to the start of the next e-rate year.

OTHER:

Next board meeting scheduled for April 16, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m. (Finance @ 6:30)

Executive/Finance Meetings: May 21 @ 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 6:24 p.m.

Recording Secretary – Laurie Ortega