

System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW) Q3 2025 Meeting Agenda

Date: Friday, August 8, 2025

Time: 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Location: Marathon County Public Library, 300 1st St, Wausau, WI 54403

Recorder: Clairellyn Sommersmith, Winnefox Library System

Online meeting information: [Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Meeting ID: 828 2232 4240

Passcode: s1PLRJ4

Call-in Number: 1-312-6266-799

Call-in Passcode: 02826815

1. Call to Order
2. Quorum Determination
3. Proxy announcements
4. Introductions/Welcome Guests (Heser)
5. Approval of the Agenda (Heser)
6. [Approval of the Minutes of April 30, 2025](#) (Heser)
7. [Treasurer's Report](#) (Anderson)
8. [WLA Advocacy Fees for 2026](#) (Heser)
9. LD&L Report (Gay/Conway)
 - a. IMLS postcard follow up meetings with legislators
10. Member Roundtable
 - a. Discussion Topic: Workforce development support in libraries. What are you doing and what do future partnerships look like?
11. SRLAAW representative needed for Public Library Standards workgroup (Miller)
12. IMLS Update and Campaign report (Heser/Marett)
13. [Agenda reorganization](#) (Heser)
14. Affiliated Organization Reports:
 - a. [Recollection Wisconsin](#)
 - b. DPI
 - c. [WiLS](#)
 - d. [WPLC](#)
 - e. WLA
 - f. COLAND
15. Next Meeting Announcement: Tuesday, October 28 from 1:00 pm-3:00 pm prior to the WLA Conference. Madison Marriott West.
16. Adjournment

Note: All items on the agenda are considered action items, regardless of action taken.

System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW) Q2 2025 Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, April 30, 2025
Time: 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM
Location: WAPL Conference, Oshkosh, WI
Recorder: Kristen Anderson, Winding Rivers Library System

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m. by Chair Steve Hesper.

2. Quorum Determination

Present: Members Present - Steve Hesper, Chair (MCFLS), Leah Giordano, Vice Chair (Marathon County PL), Kristen Anderson, Treasurer (WRLS), Nick Demske (Racine PL), Katherine Elchert (NWLS), Tana Elias (Madison PL), Garrett Erickson (Sheboygan PL), Darryl Eschete (Oshkosh), Bruce Gay (Waukesha PL), Dawn Wacek (Proxy - La Crosse), Riti Grover (Monarch), Sue Heskin (Superior PL), Karol Kennedy (Bridges), Jessie Lee-Jones (Platteville PL), Angela Noel (SWLS), Steve Ohs (PPLS), Collen Rortvedt (Appleton PL), Becky Scherer (MCLS), Shannon Schultz (SCLS), Marla Sepnafski (WVLS), Bradley Shipp (OWLS), Clairellyn Sommersmith (Winnefox), Sarah Sugden (BCL), John Thompson (IFLS).

Excused: Karin Adams (Manitowoc), Shanneon Grant (La Crosse), Joan Johnson (Milwaukee), Nancy Kerr (LE Phillips), Tracy Vreeke (NFLS),

Affiliated Members/Guests – Sara Gold (WiLS), Ben Miller (DPI), Beth Tomev (DPI), Jennifer Chamberlain (WiLS), Ellen Kupfer (COLAND), Teresa Schmidt (DPI), Steve Conway, Kristen Whitsen (Recollection Wisconsin).

3. Proxy Announcements

Becky is proxy for Karin Adams, Manitowoc.
Steve Hesper for Joan Johnson, Milwaukee.
Dawn Wacek for Shanneon Grant, La Crosse.

4. Introductions/Welcome Guests (Hesper)

5. Approval of the Agenda (Hesper)

Motion by R. Grover, second by Leah Giordano. Motion passes.

6. **Approval of the Minutes from February 10, 2025 (Heser)**
Motion by B.Shipps, second by K. Kennedy. Motion passes.
7. **Treasurer's Report (Anderson)**
Anderson reports balance of \$6883.56 as of April 25, 2025.
Motion to accept A. Noel, seconded by B. Scherer. Motion carried.
8. **LD&L Report / Advocacy Update (Gay/Conway)**
 - Written report was emailed.
 - LD&L met with every Joint Finance member. Rep. Bradley shared library stories from childhood.
 - Conway will continue working with DPI on \$6 million request – things seem to be going well.
 - Budget target is June 30.
9. **SRLAAW Rep on the WiLS Board**
 - Motion to nominate Shannon Shultz to represent SRLAAW on the WiLS Board by B. Scherer, seconded by J. Thompson. Motion carries.
10. **Remaining Meeting Dates for 2025**
Friday, August 8 in Wausau at 9:30am
Possibly Tuesday, October 28 afternoon in Middleton. Pre-WLA Conference.
11. **Affiliated Organization Reports:**
 - a. **COLAND**
 - i. Have not met since last SRLAAW meeting.
 - ii. Executive Committee has met to plan for the future.
 - b. **DPI**

IMLS: Tribal grants were also terminated – those funds do not flow through DPI. Bad River Library was closed immediately upon notification. Other libraries have faced staffing and program reductions. They have until May 12, 2025 to appeal the decision.

Annual Reports: Completed the annual report process for 2024. Annual salary summaries were shared. Collection of data is in Wisconsin State Statute. Contract with AIR was terminated so the unvalidated data online will remain “preliminary” until it is able to be validated.

Badgerlink: New advisory cohort met and is working through two-year program – will be Badgerlink super users. Working on collecting Badgerlink user stories for advocacy.

New Director Training: 32 new library directors were trained and there was a great atmosphere. Good feedback on evaluation forms so far.

Communications: Just finishing School Library Month and celebrated National Library Week earlier this year. Dr. Underly authored a letter in the Capital Times. Link to the video testimonials is in the written report. Shout-out to the Marketing Cohort and Steve Hesel for the great job putting out a marketing toolkit so quickly.

c. Recollection Wisconsin

15% of collections in Recollection Wisconsin were created using IMLS funds. Pointed out oral history interview between Peter Hamon and Stef Morrill – said it's hilarious and worth checking out.

d. WILS

J. Chamberlain reports the Small Library Planning Cohort is open again for new libraries. Small libraries are those under 5000. Asks systems to share info with member libraries.

Ideas to Action: In the 7-8th year and is accepting applications. Small amount of money to help get something off the ground. Previous winners on the website. Encourage libraries to check out the previous projects for inspiration. \$40,000 budget this year.

Board: Elections are coming up. Shannon Shultz will represent SRLAAW on the WILS board.

Culture Keepers Collective: Bringing together people working in tribal libraries and cultural preservation. Second annual convening is coming up on the Red Cliff Nation.

e. WLA

No in-person report for WLA. Bradley reported WLA is moving quickly to post and hire a replacement for Laura Sauser. Appreciation expressed for the fantastic work Sauser has done to inject energy into the organization and advocacy.

f. WPLC

Met just prior to SRLAAW. Implementing some parts of the strategic plan, including filling committees to work on communication and the website. Data dashboard demonstration was extended through the end of June 30.

12. Discussion Items

a. Federal Funding

March 14 an Executive Order was signed to reduce IMLS to its legislatively approved minimum. Twelve of 70 staff members were retained. Two library people remain, doing the work of 30 former staffers. WI joined 20 other states in a lawsuit challenging the EO. Washington, California and Connecticut had all funding cancelled. Laura Bush grants were cancelled but other federal grants have not been terminated. Last week DPI received half of their allocation with a promise that the rest is forthcoming. Will prioritize staff and services for the next year, holding back on grants until they have a better idea the future of IMLS. IMLS reauthorization comes up in 2025 – was last signed in 2018. 16.1 of 19 library division FTEs are federally funded.

i. IMLS

Steve Hesel gave a shout-out to the marketing cohort and explained possible methods for distributing and posting postcards.

Motion by B. Scherer that SRLAAW will pay for postcard printing and systems will be billed for educational postcards to be mailed to legislators. K. Anderson second. Motion carried.

ii. Flexible Facilities Program Funding

As of 3:21pm on 4/30/2025, Section Chief Angela Davis said that the FF funds are available. John Thompson reports that a library requested reimbursement for architectural fees and was reimbursed.

b. Report On Federal Legislative Day

B. Miller reports meetings were positive with federal legislators.

c. Agenda Reorganization

Energy level is higher at the beginning of the meeting than at the end. Steve Hesel recommends considering adjusting the agenda.

Motion by J. Thompson to move discussion topics earlier in the agenda, second by T. Elias. Motion carried.

13. Member Roundtable

Karol Kennedy announced that this is her last meeting and expressed appreciation for colleagues and the important work. Riti expressed appreciation for Karol's positivity and the membership appreciated Karol.

- 14. Next Meeting: Friday, August 8 at 9:30 a.m., Marathon County Public Library, Wausau**
- 15. Adjournment @ 5:33pm**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kristen Anderson, WRLS.

SRLAAW

Treasurer's Report

August 2025

The SRLAAW meeting funds are deposited in a segregated account in the LGIP under the auspices of the Winding Rivers Library System. Reimbursement for eligible expenses can be obtained by providing receipts to WRLS.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Deposit</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Balance</u>
2020 interest income	21.28		
Membership income - 2020	3100.00		
2021 interest income	3.84		
Funds as of December 31, 2021			\$6607.63
2022 interest income	105.97		
Funds as of December 31, 2022			\$6713.60
2023 interest income	341.22		
Expenditure: NFLS (meeting refreshments)		116.55	
2024 interest income	371.13		
			\$7309.40
2025 interest income	160.25		
Expenditure: NFLS advocacy travel		505.31	
Funds as of August 4, 2025			\$6964.34

Respectfully submitted,
Kristen Anderson
SRLAAW Treasurer

2026 WLA Advocacy Fees

System	2026 State Aid	% of State Aid	2026 WLA Advocacy Fee*
Bridges Library System	\$ 2,027,198	8.10%	\$2,027
IFLS Library System	\$ 1,874,535	7.49%	\$1,875
Kenosha County Library System	\$ 664,226	2.66%	\$664
Manitowoc-Calumet Library System	\$ 520,006	2.08%	\$520
Milwaukee County Federated Library System	\$ 4,460,122	17.83%	\$4,460
Monarch Library System	\$ 1,782,117	7.12%	\$1,782
Nicolet Federated Library System	\$ 1,781,733	7.12%	\$1,782
Northern Waters Library Service	\$ 881,533	3.52%	\$882
Outagamie Waupaca Library System	\$ 1,012,170	4.05%	\$1,012
Prairie Lakes Library System	\$ 1,793,241	7.17%	\$1,793
South Central Library System	\$ 3,436,435	13.74%	\$3,436
Southwest Wisconsin Library System	\$ 605,357	2.42%	\$605
Winding Rivers Library System	\$ 1,279,055	5.11%	\$1,279
Winnefox Federated Library System	\$ 1,475,959	5.90%	\$1,476
Wisconsin Valley Library Service	\$ 1,419,411	5.67%	\$1,419
2026 Total	\$ 25,013,100	100.00%	

*1/10 of 1% of System Aid

\$25,013

System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin

2025 Q3 Meeting Agenda

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Time: 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM
Location: Marathon County Public Library,
300 1st St, Wausau, WI 54403

Recorder: Clairellyn Sommersmith,
Winnefox Library System

Virtual Link: [[Join the meeting](#)]

1. Welcome & Preliminary Business

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|--|---|
| a. Call to Order | e. Approval of the Agenda |
| b. Quorum Determination | f. Approval of Minutes from
April 30, 2025 (Heser) |
| c. Proxy Announcements | g. Treasurer's Report (Anderson) |
| d. Introductions / Welcome Guests
(Heser) | h. LD&L Report (Gay/Conway) |

2. Discussion Topic

"Discussion topic title"

- a. Brief overview by Chair
- b. Open roundtable discussion

3. New Business

- a.

4. Old Business

- a. Agenda Reorganization
- b. IMLS Campaign Update

6. Partner & Affiliated Organization Reports

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| a. COLAND | d. WILS |
| b. DPI | e. WLA |
| c. Recollection Wisconsin | f. WPLC |

5. Member Engagement

- a. Member Roundtable

7. Closing

- a. Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 28, TBD
- b. Adjournment

Note: All agenda items are considered action items, regardless of action taken.

Recollection Wisconsin Updates for SRLAAW

August 2025

Recollection Wisconsin State Funding Renewed for 2025-2027

Recollection Wisconsin's state funding has been renewed for the next biennium, ensuring continued support for our mission of connecting cultural heritage institutions statewide to preserve, promote, and provide digital access to Wisconsin's rich history through collaboration and shared infrastructure.

This renewed investment affirms Recollection Wisconsin's role as a stable, trusted, and forward-looking partner in the state's digital landscape. With this funding, we will continue to maintain and strengthen our core services, while also expanding our support for content partners, educators, and researchers. It allows us to continue innovative initiatives like the [Recollection Wisconsin Digitization Initiative](#), improve digital access, conduct digital stewardship training, and remain responsive and adaptable to local needs, even as national platforms like the [Digital Public Library of America](#) change and evolve.

Thanks to this support, Recollection Wisconsin will continue to offer high-quality services to libraries and cultural organizations without membership fees or cost barriers, ensuring equitable access across the state.

Recollection Wisconsin Steering Committee

We extend our sincere thanks to Steven Rice and Jodi Kiffmeyer for their years of service to Recollection Wisconsin, both on the Steering Committee and in other advisory capacities.

The call for nominations to fill their seats was open through mid-July, and new Steering Committee members will be announced in the coming weeks and will begin their terms in September 2025.

Historic Newspaper Think Tank

Recollection Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) are co-facilitating a "think tank" on **Tuesday, September 23rd**, to help provide a path for communities to digitize and/or share their local historic newspapers. Together, they will develop a proof of concept and a workgroup proposal for a temporary, centralized hosting and access point. The day will convene multiple stakeholders to discuss possibilities for temporarily centralizing digitized historic newspaper access in Recollection Wisconsin before the Wisconsin Historical Society's digital asset management system is prepared to receive them, which is estimated to be in 3-5 years.

Representatives from WiLS, Recollection Wisconsin, WPLC, Winnefox Library System, Prairie Lakes Library System, Outagamie Waupaca Library System, South Central Library System, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, UW-Milwaukee, UW-Madison, Milwaukee Public Library, and Wisconsin Historical Society will be in attendance. We look forward to sharing more information with SRLAAW as the project develops!

Recollection Wisconsin Digitization Initiative

Summer internships will be wrapping up in mid-August, with collections from [America's Black Holocaust Museum](#), [Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design](#), [Tomah Area Historical Society and Museum](#), and [Racine Public Library](#) making their way to Recollection Wisconsin. Read more about each team and their projects on the [Recollection Wisconsin blog](#).

This concludes the first year of the Recollection Wisconsin Digitization Initiative with great success. By the numbers:

- 11 project teams with 12 host sites served
- 11 students gained practical digital stewardship and professional development skills - one has even been hired by their rural host site!
- 3 conference presentations: [Midwest Archives Conference](#), [Upper Midwest Digital Collections Conference](#), WLA poster/booth highlights (coming in October 2025)
- Over 2,000 new digital items have been brought online through the Recollection Wisconsin Digitization Initiative.

The program is taking a planned hiatus in fall 2025 to integrate what we've learned from the pilot year and dream big as we restart in spring 2026! We'll share information about applying for the next cohorts when it becomes available.

Continued Growth for Recollection Wisconsin

In 2023, the Recollection Wisconsin Governing Board and Steering Committee established a set of strategic initiatives to guide the program's development through 2027, as well as long-term goals through 2033. These initiatives ensure that Recollection Wisconsin remains a dynamic, sustainable, and collaborative statewide effort.

For the 2025–2027 biennium, our priorities are to:

- Seek funding to build digital collections around specific topics, digitizing content from multiple contributors.
- Undertake a user experience study focused on educators and their use of Recollection Wisconsin collections.
- Develop a statewide, shared controlled vocabulary of culturally-relevant subject terms.
- Design and launch a new Recollection Wisconsin website.

We're launching this next phase of work at the Recollection Wisconsin Joint Meeting in Milwaukee on September 22nd, and we look forward to continued collaboration with library systems and partners across the state to bring these initiatives to life.

New in Recollection Wisconsin

This quarter, Recollection Wisconsin welcomed three new content partners and their unique collections to the consortium.

Menomonee Falls Public Library's [digital collection](#), from the Maude Shunk Local History Room Archives located in the library, contains photographs, newspaper clippings, scrapbooks, government documents, and postcards from the 1850s until present day. The collection documents the people, industries, families, schools, churches, and cultural events important to understanding the area's local history.

Hedberg Public Library (Janesville) provides [this collection](#) of oral interviews, and transcripts, with General Motors employees, union members, and others involved in Janesville's manufacturing history, recorded as part of Janesville's Bicentennial Oral History Project in 1976.

This [expanding collection](#) from the Middleton Area Historical Society features historic photographs and postcards of businesses, buildings, people and events in Middleton and the surrounding area.

Share Your Historical Collections with the World Through Recollection, Wisconsin

Do you have a physical or digital collection to share with the world through Recollection Wisconsin and the Digital Public Library of America? We want to grow our collection so that more Wisconsinites can see their stories represented! Reach out to us at info@recollectionwisconsin.org or [register for an upcoming office hours appointment](#). We look forward to working with you!

WiLS Report to SRLAAW

August 2025

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Cooperative purchasing

WiLS Cooperative Purchasing Advisory Committee

In this time of rapid change for our members, it's more important than ever that WiLS Cooperative Purchasing meets the needs of its participants. One of the ways that we ensure this is by relying on a committee of WiLS member representatives. We're currently looking for one or two more people to represent the unique needs of our Public library members. If you're interested in learning more about how your perspective can help shape Cooperative Purchasing, email us at coop@wils.org.

Consulting

Small Library Strategic Planning Cohort

In July, we celebrated the Capstone of the 2024-25 Small Library Strategic Planning Cohort with six of the participating libraries sharing their strategic goals, measurable objectives, and their action plans for the coming years. These libraries are focusing on everything from facilities planning and building upgrades, prioritizing digital and technological literacy programming, and cultivating strong local partnerships and networks. You can [read more about their work in the cohort here](#). For those of you who work with libraries in small communities (about 5,000 people or fewer), registration is open for the 2025-26 cohort. We have space for up to 10 libraries this year. Contact Laura Damon-Moore with questions: laura@wils.org.

Build Your Data Confidence With WiLS Data Classroom

Are you or your library members looking for ways to increase data skills and confidence? Unsure what to do with all that data already collected? Looking for strategies to create compelling data-informed stories for different stakeholders? We are currently enrolling our third cohort of WiLS Data Classroom! For more information, visit our website or reach out to Kim Kiesewetter at kim@wils.org.

For an example of a project completed in the WiLS Data Classroom, check out the [July 2025 @WiLS newsletter](#), featuring inspiring research from Manitowoc Public Library.

Ideas to Action

Ideas to Action received a record-breaking 64 applications this cycle, totaling more than \$265,000 in requests. The I2A review committee will be meeting on August 21st to determine recipients for the 2025 Ideas to Actions grants.

Digital Projects

The Culture Keepers Collective is a Native-led initiative that supports cultural workers in strengthening and advancing community-centered work in tribal libraries, archives, and museums. The collective is proudly administered by WiLS and is grounded in collaboration, cultural sovereignty, and Indigenous knowledge-sharing. **Stay connected and informed about the work of tribal libraries in your area through the Culture Keepers Collective!** [Join the listserv](#) to engage with tribal librarians and cultural workers dedicated to supporting and uplifting Indigenous voices. Be part of a growing community committed to collaboration, resource-sharing, and the cultural stewardship of Native knowledge and libraries. Stay aware of the diverse movements, needs, and innovations happening across Native Nations.

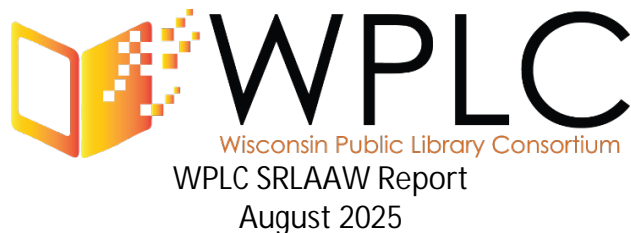
Learning Opportunities

WiLS Partners With iSchool to Provide Free Webinar and Discounted Series to Members

Join experts for a series of insightful and practical webinars designed to help you better advocate for yourself, your colleagues, and patrons alike. Whether you are a staff member who feels change is beyond your control or a manager trying to navigate advocating your team's behalf this series will equip you with practical strategies, new approaches, and actionable tools to drive meaningful change.

The \$200 full series, *Championing Staff and Creating a Welcoming Library Environment*, is available exclusively to WiLS members at a discounted rate of \$150. The first webinar in the series, *Belonging at Work: An Inspiring Environment for Neurodivergent Employees*, on September 25th, is free to all WiLS members who wish to attend.

Read more about the series and how to register [on the WiLS blog](#).



WPLC Strategic Plan

Work on the WPLC's [strategic plan](#) is underway. The Board has formed a WPLC Website workgroup to review and revamp the WPLC web presence. Working with the site host, Winnefox, the workgroup has begun a review of the content and development of the new site.

The WPLC Board is also working on creating a Communications Committee. At the next Board meeting, the group will finalize the committee's charge and membership.

The Board has also been working on developing a core set of institutional values that can help guide the work of the WPLC. The Board will discuss a second draft of the values at their upcoming meeting.

WPLC Delivery Workgroup

The WPLC Delivery Workgroup has approved a budget formula for 2026. This draft formula will go to the Board for their final approval at their next meeting. This draft budget makes no changes to the 2025 formula.

The Workgroup has also scheduled on-site visits to system's delivery operations. The workgroup met at MCFLS headquarters and toured their facilities in August, and will visit and tour Winnifox's operations in October.

WPLC Data Dashboard Access Extended

The Data Dashboard Pilot ended June 30th. The Technology Steering Committee recommended to the Board to use reserve funds to extend access to the WPLC piloted dashboard throughout the rest of the year while the committee determines next steps, funding formulas, and platform. The Board approved this recommendation, and access to the dashboard is now available through the end of 2025.

To access the dashboard, visit the WPLC website at: <https://wplc.info/dashboard>. (Please note this webpage is unlisted on the WPLC website so you will not be able to navigate to it from the main page.) No login credentials are needed!

Digipalooza 2025

The WPLC will be well represented at the 2025 OverDrive User Conference, known as [Digipalooza](#). Members of the WPLC Digital Steering Committee, Selection Committee and Project Managers will be in Cleveland August 12-14 to learn, connect, and advocate.