

**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**AGENDA**

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January 16, 2026  
Via Zoom  
10:00 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda (#)\*
2. Approval of Minutes
  - A. Nov. 7, 2025 – Regular Meeting (#)\*
  - B. Nov. 7, 2025 – Executive Session (#)\* [*Board Members Only*]
  - C. Dec. 16, 2025 – Executive Session (#)\* [*Board Members Only*]
3. Election of 2026 OLC Officers (#)\*
4. Reports for Action
  - A. Financial Report: Month-End – November 2025 (#)\*
  - B. OLC Board Committee Assignments – 2026 (#)\*
  - C. OLC Board Liaison Assignments – 2026 (#)\*
  - D. OLC Operating Budget – 2026 (#)\*
5. Reports for Discussion
  - A. OLC Strategic Planning
  - B. OLC Public Relations Campaign/Polling (#)
  - C. Coalition to Protect Essential Public Services
6. Reports for Information
  - A. ALA Councilor Report (#)
  - B. State Library of Ohio Report (#)
  - C. OPLIN Report (#)
  - D. Executive Director's Report (#)
  - E. Staff Reports
    1. Government and Legal Services Report (#)
    2. Professional Development Report (#)
    3. Communications Report (#)
    4. Membership Services Report (#)
7. Announcements – Next Meeting: Mar. 13 – OLC Office
8. Adjournment

(#) Report included in background packet

\* Action Item

OHIO LIBRARY COUNCIL  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nov. 7, 2025  
10:00 A.M.  
OLC Office

PRESENT	Kathy Bach, Cincinnati Monica Baughman, Worthington Travis Bautz, Middletown (Virtual) Julianne Bedel, Medina Sarah Clevidence, Findlay Kim DeNero-Ackroyd, Cleveland Heights (Virtual) Sandra Hedlund Tunnell, Ashland Mary Ellen Icaza, Canton Robbie Jenkins, Gallipolis (Virtual) Elizabeth Muether, Celina Bernie Rochford, Akron (Virtual) Stacey Russell, Zanesville William Rutger, Sandusky
GUESTS	Mandy Knapp, State Library of Ohio Nick Tepe, ALA Councilor Susan Titkemeier, Marion, Incoming Board Member Don Yarman, OPLIN
STAFF	Michelle Francis, Executive Director Jeanine D'Andrea, Director, Membership Services Angie Jacobsen, Director, Communications Denise Kise, Accounting/Data Services Laurie Miller, Director, Professional Development Jay Smith, Director, Government and Legal Services
CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order by Chair Icaza at 10:07 a.m. Icaza welcomed guest Susan Titkemeier, Marion Public Library as an Incoming Board Member in 2026. Cindy Lombardo, Peninsula Library & Historical Society was also elected to the Board for a three-year term beginning in January 2026.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Icaza noted Item 5.C – Revised 2026 OLC Committee Assignments will be distributed. Also, she noted the Executive Session following the regular meeting.  RUTGER MOVED AND BAUGHMAN SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	HEDLUND TUNNELL MOVED AND CLEVIDENCE SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2025 MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
FINANCIAL REPORT MONTH-END SEPT. 2025	Francis presented the financial report for the month-end September 2025.  <u>Revenue.</u> <u>Dues.</u> Institutional dues are over budget due to Plain City Public Library joining. Individual Memberships are under budget due to decrease in personal memberships.

Continuing Education. The Convention and Expo is over budget due to timing of accrual. Workshops are under budget due to low attendance.

Contract Income. Is over budget due to the one-time Amazon rebate.

Other Income. Interest and Dividends is over budget due to returns on short-term investments. Workers' Compensation is under budget due to timing of payment. Unrealized Gain/(Loss) is over budget due to returns on long-term investments. Jobline is under budget due to decrease in non-member posting. Management and Consulting is under budget due to decrease in background checks.

Expenses.

Salaries and Benefits. Retirement is under budget due to timing of plan contributions. Health Insurance is under budget due to timing of 2025 adjustments. Payroll Taxes are under budget.

Supplies and Resources. Supplies are under budget. Computer Software/Supplies are under budget.

Communications. Under budget due to timing of Convention.

Printing and Design. Printing is under budget due to timing of payments.

Maintenance and Equipment. Equipment rental is over budget due to coding.

Travel and Meals. Board is under budget due to fewer reimbursements. Committees and Divisions are under budget due to reduced request for reimbursement.

Management Expenses. Bank services are over budget. Organization Memberships is under budget. Staff Development and Memberships are under budget due to timing. Catering and Other Meals are under budget due to reduced registrations.

**The net change in assets is under budget by \$263,924**

Francis noted the next major expense will be Convention and Expo. To date, around 850 people have registered.

RUSSELL MOVED AND BAUGHMAN SECONDED TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT: MONTH-END – SEPTEMBER 2025 AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**OLC BOARD MEETING  
DATES**

Dates for the 2026 meetings of OLC Board of Directors are as follows:  
Jan. 16, Mar. 13, May 15, Jul. 17, Sept. 18 and Nov. 13.

BACH MOVED AND MUETHER SECONDED ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2026 OLC BOARD MEETING DATES AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**RATIFICATION OF 2026  
OLC COMMITTEE  
APPOINTMENTS**

Francis thanked the staff for their work on Committee Appointments. These are before the board for ratification. The question was asked if an individual is required to be working in a public library to be a member of a committee. Currently, the only requirement is that an individual be an Individual

Member of OLC. This question has been raised in the past and it is something the board may need to address in the future.

HEDLUND TUNNELL MOVED AND RUTGER SECONDED THE RATIFICATION OF 2026 OLC COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC LIBRARY  
PUBLIC RELATIONS  
CAMPAIGN

Francis noted her goal of utilizing a marketing campaign for consistent messaging. OLC has partnered with another state association to reduce our costs. She thanked Jacobsen for her involvement. The campaign would include statewide polling and working with consultants to create toolkits for libraries to utilize. Rochford asked if this is more for PR or for surveying. It is a combination of both. OLC wants to localize the messaging from the polling. Rutger emphasized the specific deliverables as tools to use and localize.

PROPERTY TAX  
COALITION

Francis noted OLC is part of a coalition regarding the constitutional amendment to eliminate the property tax. The coalition is made up of several statewide associations representing local government entities: OLC, OTA, CCAO, Ohio Parks, Mayors Alliance, Municipal League, Children's Services, DD Boards and others. The coalition is currently interviewing consultants.

2026 PLANNING AND  
LEADERSHIP  
CONFERENCE

OLC is hosting the 2026 Planning and Leadership Conference on Nov. 18. The invitation was sent to 170 volunteers and so far 68 are registered. OLC is charging a small fee to cover our expenses. There will probably be a recommendation to go back to a virtual conference in 2026 based on member feedback and reduction in local library budgets. Special thanks to the OLC staff for their work on the leadership resources.

2025 CONVENTION &  
EXPO

Francis reported that registration closed on Wednesday and 867 people have registered. There will also be on-site registrations. OLC is celebrating our 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Jacobsen has put everything in the app. There is a track for Technical Services. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame reception is Wednesday. Thursday is Game Night at the Library.

STATE OF OLC REPORT

Francis presented an annual report to the board on OLC activities in 2025.

What's Ahead.

Strategic Priorities

PR Campaign

Revisit Lease

Constitutional Amendment

Icaza thanked the staff for their hard work.

2026 BOARD OFFICER  
NOMINATIONS

The Executive Committee of the Board put forth the following recommendations of William Rutger, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; and Travis Bautz, Secretary-Treasurer. Nominations stay open until January.

2026 OLC BOARD  
COMMITTEE  
ASSIGNMENTS

The proposed assignments for the 2026 Committees of the OLC Board of Directors were presented. Board members should notify Francis or Russell by Dec. 31 if they prefer a change. They will be finalized at the January meeting.

ALA COUNCILOR  
REPORT

In addition to his written report Tepe reported on the following:

STATE LIBRARY OF  
OHIO REPORT

Workforce Changes and Staffing Reductions. On Oct. 16, ALA laid off multiple staff, including Deborah Caldwell Stone, the director of the Office of Intellectual Freedom. The reductions in staff followed months of assessment and analysis. Any necessary restructuring will continue to evolve over the next few months. As part of the ongoing assessment, ALA has been proactively reviewing the nearly 1,000 programs that it offers to ensure that resources are focused on initiatives that have the greatest impact.

In addition to her written report Knapp reported on the following:

Federal Government Shutdown. September ended with the country entering into a federal government shutdown. All “non-essential” activities of the federal government, including most operations of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) ceased.

State Librarian’s Listening Tour. Knapp’s listening tour concluded. She will have a report for the State Library Board meeting in December.

Strategic Planning Process. The State Library is currently working on their strategic planning process to determine where to focus their energy.

Cybersecurity Pilot. The SLO with SEO focused on the hardware aspect of their Cybersecurity Pilot with the following five libraries selected Steubenville, Minerva, New Madison, Tuscarawas County, and Hardin-Northern.

Digital Public Library of America. DPLA is going through some structural changes and announced they are spinning off their Heritage piece and Cleveland Public Library will be heading that up.

State Library Facility. The State Library is continuing to look for a new location. They may be moving some parts to SEO where they own that building.

SLO Foundation. The State Library learned that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources has a foundation. They are in the infancy stage of looking at the possibility.

OPLIN REPORT

In addition to his written report Yarman reported on the following:

Cybersecurity Webinar. Dooley gave a webinar for Public Libraries on Starting a Security Plan under ORC 9.64 and it will be posted to OPLIN’s YouTube Channel. She focuses on how to get started and prioritize the plan’s elements, and identifies free resources that will help.

MBC Light. Last year, OPLIN launched Managed Branch Connections (MBC), giving libraries the option of paying OPLIN \$2,000 for fiber internet to their branches with the same support that they provide for the main/central library circuit. Many libraries argue that gig fiber is overkill for very small branch locations. Therefore, OPLIN created MBC Light, where OPLIN can provide high speed data on copper lines for \$750 per year.

Website ADA Compliance. There are upcoming deadlines for website ADA compliance. Municipalities serving over 50,000 people need to be compliant by April 2026, and others by April 2027. Solomon is hosting a session on Friday at the OLC Convention and Expo.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S

In addition to her written report Francis reported on the following:

## REPORT

2026 OLC Budget. Francis discussed the timeline for developing the 2026 OLC Budget. Members of the Finance Committee should plan on a meeting in early January via Zoom to review the budget prior to the January 16 meeting.

ALA Emerging Leaders Program. The American Library Association is pausing the program due to recent changes in staffing.

OLC Board Orientation. Francis met in-person with Susan Titkemeier and Cindy Lombardo on Oct. 30 for Board Orientation.

Ohioans Approved 18 of 20 Public Library Levies. 18 of the 20 library levies passed with an average voter approval rate of 63 percent.

Small Library Director Forums. These forums are designed for directors of small libraries to discuss issues of common interest and to share ideas on how to deal with challenges unique to small libraries. One was held on Sept. 24 in Tiffin and a second was held on Oct. 23 virtually. A third session is scheduled for Dec. 2.

Planning & Leadership Conference. The Planning & Leadership Conference is an annual tradition and opportunity for OLC's Committees and Divisions to come together and begin planning for the following year. This year it is being held on the Tuesday prior to the Convention and Expo.

Staff Anniversaries. Sherry Heffner, 1-year on Oct. 14; Jay Smith, 6 years on Nov. 18.

## GOVERNMENT AND LEGAL SERVICES REPORT

In addition to his written report Smith reported on the following:

PLF Update. The Ohio Department of Taxation posted the Oct. 2025 PLF distribution of \$39,186,903 which is \$1.76 million or -4.32% below ODT's original estimate that was issued in July 2024; and \$1.82 million or -4.44% below their updated estimate issued in December 2024. There will be more extensive analysis in the coming days.

HB 137. Library Access to the Ballot. Opposition testimony was presented by Paula Brehm-Heeger, Cincinnati as well as others. A recording of the hearing is available on the Ohio Channel. It is important to note that we had some legislators change their minds on how they voted based on conversations with their libraries.

HB 186 & HB 335. While neither bill directly impacts public libraries at this moment, they are significant because they illustrate ongoing legislative efforts to amend laws in an attempt to lower property taxes across the state.

HB 309. Deals with County Budget Commissions. Voted out of House and moving to the Senate. Smith noted there are many bills that affect property taxes that OLC is tracking.

Sandra Hedlund Tunnell thanked Smith and Francis for their advocacy information.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

In addition to her written report Miller reported on the following:

Convention & Expo. Miller gave an extensive overview of the Convention & Expo. She noted some changes in C&E registration with the new association management software.

## COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

In addition to her written report Jacobsen reported on the following:

Planning and Leadership Conference. Resources have been updated and posted to the OLC app and Member Info Hub. Division and Committee members can submit their meeting minutes, goals and annual reports electronically through the OLC Website.

Convention & Expo. The mobile app is live and ready to download. The on-site guide is currently being printed. Collateral materials for the OLC Connects area of the exhibit hall are being created for Divisions and Committees. Additional displays will celebrate OLC's 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Advocacy and Communications Strategy. OLC staff is meeting with public relations firms to explore the development of an advocacy toolkit that will help our members communicate the value of Ohio's public libraries more effectively.

## MEMBERSHIP SERVICES REPORT

In addition to her written report D'Andrea reported on the following:

2025 Individual Membership. The 2025 Individual Membership year ended on Sept. 30, 2025 with a final individual membership total of 2128 as compared to the 2024 total of 2670.

2026 Individual Membership. The first membership renewal is scheduled to be sent on Dec. 8.

New Member Referral Program. The program began on Nov. 1 and will run through Feb. 1, 2026. The winner of the program will receive \$50.00 in credit toward OLC Professional Development to be used within the 2026 calendar year.

SCALA Webinar. D'Andrea was a speaker on the KSU Student Chapter of ALA Webinar on Oct. 29. Discussion involved programs, events, resources and opportunities for MLIS students to get involved in OLC and ALA.

Leadership Tracking. Changes to Division Action Councils and Committee members will be added to Basecamp and the OLC Website will be updated in early January.

## RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING BOARD

Icaza and Francis presented gifts to Robbie Jenkins and Sarah Clevidence as outgoing Board members. Clevidence noted it has been an honor to serve.

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the OLC Board of Directors is scheduled for Jan. 16, 2026.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

RUSSELL MOVED AND BAUGHMAN SECONDED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 12:21 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION CONCLUDED 1:54 P.M.

## ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:54 P.M.

**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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ITEM NO.: 3

MEETING DATE: Jan. 16, 2026

SUBJECT: Election of 2026 OLC Officers SUBMITTED BY: Executive Committee

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**REPORT FOR ACTION**

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For 2026, the OLC Board of Directors will need to elect its Vice Chair of the Board/Chair-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer. The OLC Executive Committee submits the following nominations for the officers of the 2026 OLC Board of Directors:

Vice Chair of the Board/Chair-Elect: **William Rutger**, Executive Director  
Sandusky Library

Secretary-Treasurer: **Travis Bautz**, Executive Director  
MidPointe Library System

These individuals accepted their nomination. As of Jan. 12, no other nominations have been received. The nominations will remain open through the election on Jan. 16, 2026.



**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **4.A**

MEETING DATE: **Jan. 16, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Financial Report: Nov. 2025**

SUBMITTED BY: **Michelle Francis**

**REPORT FOR ACTION**

**REVENUE**

<b>Cost Center</b>	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Dues	\$ 1,241,735	\$ 1,250,165	\$ (8,431)
Publications	265	500	(235)
Continuing Education	427,177	449,925	(22,748)
Contract Income	121,967	5,000	116,967
Other Income	158,522	62,670	95,852
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,949,666</b>	<b>\$ 1,768,260</b>	<b>\$ 181,406</b>

Dues Income (- \$8,431)

- Institutional Membership: over budget due to Plain City PL joining (+ \$26,161).
- Other Institutions: under budget (- \$2,000).
- Individual Memberships: under budget due to decrease in personal memberships (- \$32,017).
- Friends: under budget due to decrease in Friends membership (- \$575).

Publications (- \$235)

- Sales: under budget due to decrease in requests for hard copies (- \$235).

Continuing Education (- \$22,748)

- Legislative Day: over budget due to increased attendance (+ \$2,730).
- Convention & Expo: over budget due to timing of accrual (+ \$34,170).
- Leadership: under budget due to low attendance (- \$4,510).
- Workshops: under budget due to low attendance (- \$55,138).

Contract Income (+ \$116,967)

- Sourcing Office: over budget due to one-time Amazon rebate (+ \$116,967).

Other Income (+ \$95,852)

- Interest and Dividends: over budget due to returns on short-term investments (+ \$11,000).
- Workers' Compensation: under budget due to timing of payment (- \$1,086).
- Unrealized Gain/(Loss): over budget due to returns on long-term investments (+ \$87,039).
- JobLine: under budget due to decrease in non-member posting (- \$920).
- Management & Consulting Revenue: under budget due to decrease in background checks (- \$180).

## EXPENSES

Cost Center	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 887,400	\$ 897,686	\$ (10,286)
Consultants and Contractors	206,624	203,632	2,992
Supplies and Resources	58,858	60,165	(1,307)
Communications	15,116	20,778	(5,662)
Printing/Design	6,802	14,804	(8,002)
Maintenance and Equipment	65,238	60,911	4,327
Space Rental	152,951	162,260	(9,309)
Travel	29,001	49,266	(20,265)
Management Expenses	231,330	181,161	50,170
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,653,320</b>	<b>\$ 1,650,662</b>	<b>\$ 2,658</b>

### Salaries and Benefits (- \$10,286)

- Staff Salaries: slightly under budget due to timing of 2025 adjustments (- \$857).
- Accrued Vacation: reflects accrued vacation (+ \$8,906).
- Retirement: under budget due to timing of plan contributions (- \$10,514).
- Health Insurance: under budget due to timing of 2025 adjustments (- \$6,039).
- Worker's Compensation: slightly under budget due to BWC rebates (- \$124).
- Payroll Taxes: under budget (- \$1,715).
- LTD & Life Insurance: on budget (+ \$57).

### Consultants and Contractors (+ \$2,992)

- Auditor: slightly over budget (+ \$250).
- Speaker Honoraria: under budget due to timing of payments (- \$1,300).
- Legal Services: under budget due to delayed invoicing (- \$13,427).
- Expo Contractors: over budget due to timing of payments (+ \$16,344).
- Consultants/Contractors: slightly over budget due to timing of payments (+ \$1,124).

### Supplies and Resources (- \$1,307)

- Supplies: on budget (+ \$355).
- Subscription/Resource Materials: on budget (+ \$44).
- Computer Software/Supplies: under budget (- \$1,706).

### Communications (- \$5,662)

- Telephone: Local/Mobile: under budget (- \$397).
- Postage/Mailing/Courier Service: under budget (- \$5,303).
- Internet: slightly over budget (+ \$37).

### Printing and Design (- \$8,002)

- Printing: under budget due to timing of payments (- \$6,710).
- Desing: on budget (- \$290).
- Copying: under budget (- \$1,002).

Maintenance and Equipment (+ \$4,327)

- Equipment Rental: over budget due to coding (+ \$4,793).
- Equipment Maintenance: under budget (- \$536).
- Software Support: on budget (+ \$71).

Space Rental (- \$9,309)

- Office Space: on budget (- \$62).
- Convention & Expo: under budget due to timing of payments (- \$8,400).
- Workshops / Meetings: under budget (- \$847).

Travel (- \$20,265)

- Board: under budget due to reimbursements (- \$3,829).
- Staff: under budget due to timing of reimbursements (- \$4,956).
- Committees and Divisions: under budget due to reduced requests for reimbursement (- \$3,124).
- Presenters: under budget due to timing of reimbursements (- \$8,356).

Management Expenses (+ \$50,170)

- Bank Services: over budget (+ \$7,895).
- Investment Fees: over budget (+ \$555).
- Depreciation Replacement: on budget (+ \$762).
- Employee Hiring: under budget for library background checks (- \$158).
- Insurance: slightly over budget (+ \$223).
- Organization Memberships: under budget (- \$851).
- Staff Development and Memberships: under budget due to timing (- \$2,151).
- Catering and Other Meals: over initial budget due to RRHOF Reception (+ \$43,896).

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Variance</b>
<b>Net Change in Assets</b>	\$ 296,346	\$ 117,598	\$ 178,748

**Ohio Library Council**  
**Income Statement**  
**For the 11 Months Ending Sunday, November 30, 2025**

	<b>November</b>			<b>Year to Date</b>		
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Variance</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>						
<b>Dues</b>						
Institutional	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,032,851.00	\$1,006,690.00	\$26,161.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,875.00	8,875.00	(2,000.00)
Personal	230.00	0.00	230.00	199,983.50	232,000.00	(32,016.50)
Friends	25.00	0.00	25.00	2,025.00	2,600.00	(575.00)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$255.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$255.00</b>	<b>\$1,241,734.50</b>	<b>\$1,250,165.00</b>	<b>(\$8,430.50)</b>
<b>Publications</b>						
Sales	35.00	0.00	35.00	265.00	500.00	(235.00)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>	<b>\$265.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>(\$235.00)</b>
<b>Continuing Education</b>						
Legislative Day	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,605.00	17,875.00	2,730.00
Convention & Expo	15,895.00	23,372.00	(7,477.00)	303,995.00	269,825.00	34,170.00
Leadership	770.00	1,650.00	(880.00)	3,740.00	8,250.00	(4,510.00)
Workshops	2,615.00	3,500.00	(885.00)	98,837.00	153,975.00	(55,138.00)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$19,280.00</b>	<b>\$28,522.00</b>	<b>(\$9,242.00)</b>	<b>\$427,177.00</b>	<b>\$449,925.00</b>	<b>(\$22,748.00)</b>
<b>Contract Income</b>						
Shared Revenue	1,408.25	1,250.00	158.25	121,966.94	5,000.00	116,966.94
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,408.25</b>	<b>\$1,250.00</b>	<b>\$158.25</b>	<b>\$121,966.94</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$116,966.94</b>
<b>Other Income</b>						
Interest & Dividends	3,278.09	2,500.00	778.09	38,499.57	27,500.00	10,999.57
Workers Compensation	0.00	0.00	0.00	31,413.75	32,500.00	(1,086.25)
Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	6,876.04	0.00	6,876.04	87,038.96	0.00	87,038.96
Jobline	0.00	160.00	(160.00)	920.00	1,840.00	(920.00)
Mgmt & Consulting Revenue	65.00	45.00	20.00	650.00	830.00	(180.00)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$10,219.13</b>	<b>\$2,705.00</b>	<b>\$7,514.13</b>	<b>\$158,522.28</b>	<b>\$62,670.00</b>	<b>\$95,852.28</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$31,197.38</b>	<b>\$32,477.00</b>	<b>(\$1,279.62)</b>	<b>\$1,949,665.72</b>	<b>\$1,768,260.00</b>	<b>\$181,405.72</b>

**Ohio Library Council**  
**Income Statement**  
**For the 11 Months Ending Sunday, November 30, 2025**

	November			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
<b>Salary &amp; Benefits</b>						
Staff Salaries	\$57,465.45	\$57,095.00	\$370.45	\$678,568.59	\$679,426.00	(\$857.41)
Accrued Vacation	9,504.83	0.00	9,504.83	8,906.23	0.00	8,906.23
Retirement Contribution	5,709.52	6,378.00	(668.48)	58,444.38	68,958.00	(10,513.62)
Health Insurance	7,241.90	8,178.00	(936.10)	86,451.25	92,490.00	(6,038.75)
Workers' Compensation	0.00	50.00	(50.00)	176.87	301.00	(124.13)
Payroll Taxes	4,237.95	3,985.00	252.95	50,930.08	52,645.00	(1,714.92)
LTD & Life Insurance	377.88	325.00	52.88	3,922.92	3,866.00	56.92
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$84,537.53</b>	<b>\$76,011.00</b>	<b>\$8,526.53</b>	<b>\$887,400.32</b>	<b>\$897,686.00</b>	<b>(\$10,285.68)</b>
<b>Consultants &amp; Contractors</b>						
Auditor	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,250.00	8,000.00	250.00
Speaker Honoraria	15,400.00	0.00	15,400.00	24,900.00	26,200.00	(1,300.00)
Legal Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,823.00	26,250.00	(13,427.00)
Expo Contractors	66,495.26	46,950.00	19,545.26	72,294.26	55,950.00	16,344.26
Consult / Contractors	7,874.26	7,209.00	665.26	88,356.33	87,232.00	1,124.33
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$89,769.52</b>	<b>\$54,159.00</b>	<b>\$35,610.52</b>	<b>\$206,623.59</b>	<b>\$203,632.00</b>	<b>\$2,991.59</b>
<b>Supplies &amp; Resources</b>						
Supplies	7,172.14	1,907.00	5,265.14	26,995.12	26,640.00	355.12
Subscriptions / Res Mat	509.87	537.00	(27.13)	5,906.53	5,863.00	43.53
Computer Sftwr / Supplies	2,154.06	2,435.00	(280.94)	25,956.03	27,662.00	(1,705.97)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$9,836.07</b>	<b>\$4,879.00</b>	<b>\$4,957.07</b>	<b>\$58,857.68</b>	<b>\$60,165.00</b>	<b>(\$1,307.32)</b>
<b>Communications</b>						
Telephone - Local	190.72	289.00	(98.28)	2,779.48	3,176.00	(396.52)
Postage	31.47	763.00	(731.53)	1,730.16	6,642.00	(4,911.84)
Mailing Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	(300.00)
Courier / Special	0.00	9.00	(9.00)	0.00	91.00	(91.00)
Internet	943.00	961.00	(18.00)	10,606.42	10,569.00	37.42
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,165.19</b>	<b>\$2,022.00</b>	<b>(\$856.81)</b>	<b>\$15,116.06</b>	<b>\$20,778.00</b>	<b>(\$5,661.94)</b>
<b>Printing &amp; Typesetting</b>						
Printing	2,343.62	2,882.00	(538.38)	2,863.37	9,573.00	(6,709.63)
Typesetting	2,510.00	2,800.00	(290.00)	2,510.00	2,800.00	(290.00)
Copying	62.95	444.00	(381.05)	1,428.72	2,431.00	(1,002.28)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$4,916.57</b>	<b>\$6,126.00</b>	<b>(\$1,209.43)</b>	<b>\$6,802.09</b>	<b>\$14,804.00</b>	<b>(\$8,001.91)</b>

**Ohio Library Council**  
**Income Statement**  
**For the 11 Months Ending Sunday, November 30, 2025**

	<b>November</b>			<b>Year to Date</b>		
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Variance</b>
<b>Maintenance &amp; Equip</b>						
Equipment Rental	\$40,916.14	\$41,025.00	(\$108.86)	\$63,564.57	\$58,772.00	\$4,792.57
Equipment Maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00	764.06	1,300.00	(535.94)
Software Support	83.90	77.00	6.90	909.57	839.00	70.57
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$41,000.04</b>	<b>\$41,102.00</b>	<b>(\$101.96)</b>	<b>\$65,238.20</b>	<b>\$60,911.00</b>	<b>\$4,327.20</b>
<b>Space Rental</b>						
Office Space	9,911.84	10,113.00	(201.16)	111,174.76	111,237.00	(62.24)
Convention / Expo	29,100.00	37,500.00	(8,400.00)	29,100.00	37,500.00	(8,400.00)
Workshops / Meetings	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,675.79	13,523.00	(847.21)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$39,011.84</b>	<b>\$47,613.00</b>	<b>(\$8,601.16)</b>	<b>\$152,950.55</b>	<b>\$162,260.00</b>	<b>(\$9,309.45)</b>
<b>Travel</b>						
Board	0.00	1,750.00	(1,750.00)	3,671.15	7,500.00	(3,828.85)
Staff Travel	10,268.79	13,450.00	(3,181.21)	23,594.35	28,550.00	(4,955.65)
Committees	0.00	302.00	(302.00)	91.77	1,298.00	(1,206.23)
Divisions	0.00	182.00	(182.00)	0.00	1,918.00	(1,918.00)
Presenters	1,644.12	10,000.00	(8,355.88)	1,644.12	10,000.00	(8,355.88)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$11,912.91</b>	<b>\$25,684.00</b>	<b>(\$13,771.09)</b>	<b>\$29,001.39</b>	<b>\$49,266.00</b>	<b>(\$20,264.61)</b>
<b>Management Expenses</b>						
Bank Services	1,363.23	582.00	781.23	14,292.73	6,398.00	7,894.73
Investment Fees	581.63	520.00	61.63	6,274.82	5,720.00	554.82
Depreciation	1,073.12	968.00	105.12	11,488.75	10,727.00	761.75
Employee Hiring	45.00	67.00	(22.00)	575.00	733.00	(158.00)
Insurance	693.50	693.00	0.50	7,851.83	7,629.00	222.83
Organizational Mbrshps	0.00	0.00	0.00	349.00	1,200.00	(851.00)
Staff Devel & Mbrshps	59.00	0.00	59.00	2,849.00	5,000.00	(2,151.00)
Catering & Other Meals	135,981.71	65,940.00	70,041.71	187,648.56	143,753.00	43,895.56
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$139,797.19</b>	<b>\$68,770.00</b>	<b>\$71,027.19</b>	<b>\$231,329.69</b>	<b>\$181,160.00</b>	<b>\$50,169.69</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$421,946.86</b>	<b>\$326,366.00</b>	<b>\$95,580.86</b>	<b>\$1,653,319.57</b>	<b>\$1,650,662.00</b>	<b>\$2,657.57</b>
<b>Net Change in Assets</b>	<b><u>(\$390,749.48)</u></b>	<b><u>(\$293,889.00)</u></b>	<b><u>(\$96,860.48)</u></b>	<b><u>\$296,346.15</u></b>	<b><u>\$117,598.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$178,748.15</u></b>

**Ohio Library Council**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**As of Sunday, November 30, 2025**

**ASSETS**

**Cash and Short Term Investments**

Commerce Nat'l Bank - Checking	\$160,351.20
Commerce Nat'l Bank- Money Market	274,912.55
Investments - Money Market	3,646.54
Investments - TRAK Account	658,701.91
Investments - Mutual Funds	838,414.08
<b>Total Cash and Short Term Investments</b>	<b>\$1,936,026.28</b>

**Other Current Assets**

Accounts Receivable	4,038.16
Office Equipment (net of Accum Depr)	52,503.19
Prepaid Postage	63.20
Prepayments	66,985.65
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>\$123,590.20</b>

<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$2,059,616.48</u></b>
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**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

**Liabilities**

Accounts Payable	\$126,436.85
Advances	8,764.86
Accrued Salaries	28,918.07
Accrued Vacation	53,472.76
Accrued Insurance	1,039.28
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$218,631.82</b>

**Net Assets**

Unappropriated Fund Balance	1,544,638.51
YTD Change in Net Assets	296,346.15
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$1,840,984.66</b>

<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b><u>\$2,059,616.48</u></b>
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**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **4.B**

MEETING DATE: **Jan. 16, 2026**

SUBJECT: **OLC Board Committee  
Assignments – 2026**

SUBMITTED BY: **Michelle Francis**

**REPORT FOR ACTION**

Below are the proposed assignments for the 2026 Committees of the OLC Board of Directors. No changes have been requested since the assignments were originally proposed at the November 2025 Board Meeting.

Executive Committee

Stacey Russell, Chair of the Board  
TBD, Vice Chair of the Board/Chair-Elect (William Rutger\*)  
TBD, Secretary-Treasurer (Travis Bautz\*)  
Mary Ellen Icaza, Immediate Past Chair

Appointments Committee

Kathy Bach, Chair  
Kim DeNero-Ackroyd  
Stacey Russell, Ex-Officio

Finance Committee

TBD, Chair (Travis Bautz\*)  
Monica Baughman  
Sandra Hedlund Tunnell  
Cindy Lombardo  
Stacey Russell, Ex-Officio

Nominating Committee

Mary Ellen Icaza, Chair  
Susan Titkemeier  
Tara Sidwell (2026)  
Ryan McDonnell (2027)  
TBD (2028) *[at-large member from OLC membership]*  
Stacey Russell, Ex-Officio

Personnel Committee

TBD, Chair (William Rutger\*)  
Julianne Bedel  
Liz Muether  
Bernie Rochford  
Stacey Russell, Ex-Officio

*\*Pending outcome of OLC Officer elections on Jan. 16, 2026*



**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **4.C**

MEETING DATE: **Jan. 16, 2026**

SUBJECT: **OLC Board Liaison  
Assignments – 2026**

SUBMITTED BY: **Michelle Francis**

**REPORT FOR ACTION**

OLC Board members who work in libraries are responsible for serving as Board Liaisons to OLC Committees and Divisions. The Board Liaisons maintain contact with the Committee and Division chairs, and either attend the meetings of the Committees and Division Action Councils or establish a mechanism for follow-up to stay up-to-date on unit activities.

Below are the proposed Board Liaison assignments for 2026:

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Liaison Assignments</b>
<b>Kathy Bach</b>	Customer Service and Support Staff Division Outreach and Special Services Division Technical Services Division
<b>Monica Baughman</b>	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee Digital and Media Services Division Special Collections Division
<b>Travis Bautz</b>	Professional Development Committee Teen Services Division
<b>Julianne Bedel</b>	Intellectual Freedom Committee Children's Services Division
<b>Kim DeNero-Ackroyd</b>	Adult and Reference Services Division Information Technology Division Management and Administration Division
<b>Mary Ellen Icaza</b>	Membership Committee Human Resources Division
<b>Liz Muether</b>	Awards and Honors Committee Library Accounting Division
<b>William Rutger</b>	Convention & Expo Committee Government Relations Committee
<b>Susan Titkemeier</b>	Marketing and Public Relations Division Small Libraries Division

**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **4.D**

MEETING DATE: **Jan. 16, 2026**

SUBJECT: **OLC Operating Budget – 2026**

SUBMITTED BY: **Michelle Francis**

**REPORT FOR ACTION**

The OLC Finance Committee members met via Zoom on Jan. 12 to review in detail the proposed operating budget for 2026. The Committee is recommending the following budget.

**REVENUE**

Dues: \$1,263,238

- Institutional: \$1,054,438 – based on the current dues formula of 0.27% of 2025 PLF plus 0.055% of 2025 property tax receipts; assumes retention of all 249 Institutional-Member libraries from 2025; calculation based upon county auditor reports received to date that show an average increase in PLF funding in 2025 of about 2.09% as compared to 2024; local property tax revenue projected to be relatively the same as 2024. This includes the formula cap of \$18,000.
- Other Institutions: \$7,000 – includes membership dues for Associate Members and Other Institutions; assumes no increase in \$450 Associate Membership dues (increased by \$50 in 2022); assumes no increase in \$275 Other Institutional dues category (increased by \$25 in 2022).
- Personal: \$199,800 – based on individual membership revenue in 2025. Individual/personal membership dues are based on salary and self-reported. The salary range bands and amounts have not been updated since 2010.
- Friends: \$2,000 – projections based upon past retention and membership trends.

Publications: \$250

- Sales: \$250 – projections based on sale of hard-copy publications in 2025 (e.g., *Trustees Handbook*, *Library Accounting Handbook*, etc.). Free electronic copies are available on the Member Info Hub to OLC to members.

Continuing Education: \$493,825

- Legislative Day: \$15,000 – projections based on a registration fee of \$75 per person for 200 attendees to cover cost of breakfast, space rental, AV equipment, etc.
- Convention and Expo: \$330,075 – projects attendance based on past events and is based on signed contracts with Kalahari in Sandusky; proposes \$25 increase in registration fee across the board; \$200 increase in exhibit booth rental to align with other state associations and \$15 increase for luncheons to cover substantial increase in costs as compared to previous years. Rates are still comparable/lower than other state association conferences.
- Planning & Leadership Conference: \$0 – assumes a virtual event free to OLC volunteers based on feedback and financial constraints.
- Professional Development: \$148,750 – includes a small increase in registration fees to cover the increase in costs to OLC. No increase in certification fees (increased by \$15 in 2025 to cover costs for materials and postage). Includes revenue for hybrid events (Library Trustees, New Directors, Ballot Issues Workshops, Library Fiscal Officer 102, Outreach Retreat); in-person events (CPIM, Trustee Dinners/Lunch); includes revenue for one stand-alone subject-specific conference and maintains discounted registration for event planning committee

members and library speakers at events. Proposes suspending Individual Membership requirement for discount membership rate for stand-alone conference on PL Safety & Security.

**Contract Income: \$6,000**

- Sourcing Office/Equalis Group: \$6,000 – projects revenues totals based upon past performance and increasing use of services. Does not include Amazon Business Rebate.

**Other Income: \$68,200**

- Interest on Short-Term Investments: \$35,000 – projects revenues totals based upon past performance.
- Workers' Comp Group Rating: \$31,500 – projects revenue based upon past performance and premium changes.
- Unrealized Gain/Loss on Long-Term Investments: \$0 – difficult to project based upon market volatility; conservative estimate on performance of long-term investments.
- Management/Consulting Services: \$700 – includes fees charged to libraries for employee background checks.
- Jobline: \$1,000 – revenue projection based upon anticipated number of job openings/postings by non-member libraries (no charge for member-library postings).

**TOTAL PROJECTED REVENUE: \$1,831,513**

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**EXPENSES**

**Salary and Benefits: \$1,040,864**

- Staff Salaries: \$779,726 – includes an average increase of approximately 3.5% in staff compensation as compared to 2025 (effective March 2026); includes increase in Executive Director's compensation as approved by the Board in December 2025. Includes bonus pool equal to 1.5% of salary line-item.
- Retirement Contribution: \$77,973 – maintains OLC's contribution to employees' 401(k) plan at 10% of salary for all qualifying employees.
- Health Insurance: \$119,134 – includes health, dental, and vision insurance for qualifying employees and dependents; assumes retention of the OLC's high-deductible health insurance plan and health savings account for employees; includes the possibility of 20% increase in health insurance premiums for 2026; and no increase in dental or vision premiums. Also includes the \$1,000 HSA contribution for each participating employee. At this time, four employees utilize OLC's health insurance, and five employees utilize dental and vision insurance.
- Payroll Taxes (FICA, FUTA, Workers' Compensation, Unemployment): \$59,571 – reflects amount based on staff compensation totals.
- LTD and Life Insurance: \$4,461 – anticipates no increase in premiums for 2026 for all qualifying full-time employees.

**Consultants/Contractors: \$333,925**

- Auditor: \$8,250 – assumes small increase in audit fees from 2025.
- Speaker Honoraria: \$32,000 – includes anticipated costs for “non-library” speakers at Convention and Expo.
- Legal Services: \$50,000 – based upon actual expenses in 2025 and projected utilization in 2026 on sample policies.

- Convention and Expo Contractors: \$55,950 – reflects projected cost of Convention and Expo pipe and drape (may vary depending upon number of exhibitors) and security; and Experient contract.
- Consultants/Contractors: \$187,725 – includes administrative costs for payroll and 401(k) plan; Expedient Technology Solutions data backup; strategic planning consultant; public relations campaign consultant and polling; Northway Advisors consulting; and library funding/tax revenue analytics with Howard Fleeter and Associates.

Supplies and Resource Materials: \$84,459

- Supplies: \$22,875 – includes supplies for Legislative Day, awards, membership services librarian and staff certifications, publications, committees, divisions, and general overhead.
- Subscriptions and Resource Materials: \$6,550 – includes subscriptions to publications; fees for news clipping services and Ohio newspaper subscriptions; includes the Hannah Report and Complete Statehouse subscription.
- Computer Software/Supplies: \$55,034 – includes fees for broadcast e-mail (Constant Contact), webinar software (Zoom), survey software (Alchemer/Survey Gizmo), OLC app (Results at Hand), MS Office/Teams, Creative Cloud/Adobe, Basecamp, election software (Election Runner), association management software and new learning management software (GrowthZone), new firewall, new printers; and new accounting software/migration.

Communications: \$19,106

- Telephone – Local/LD/Mobile: \$3,490 – costs for local/long distance service and staff mobile device charges.
- Postage: \$4,250 – includes costs for mailings to members, C&E postcard mailing, certifications, hard copy publications, general business postage, etc.
- Mailing Service: \$0 – bulk mailing for C&E postcard is no longer needed.
- Courier Service: \$50 – includes general business expenses for UPS, FedEx, etc.; based on utilization in 2025.
- Internet: \$11,316 – includes broadband service for the office (Spectrum) and hot spots (T-Mobile).

Printing and Design: \$12,515

- Printing: \$7,100 – includes cost of regular printed materials (e.g., stationery, envelopes, etc.) and promotional materials, nominations, C&E postcard, C&E on-site guide, etc.
- Design: \$2,600 – includes design costs for C&E on-site guide.
- Copying: \$2,815 – reflects costs for materials produced in-house.

Maintenance and Equipment: \$63,760

- Equipment Rental: \$62,460 – includes office copier and postage machine; AV for C&E, stand-alone conference, Legislative Day, Trustee Dinners and other professional development off-site.
- Equipment Maintenance: \$1,300 – includes service on postage machine and office telecom equipment (Garber).
- Software Support: \$0 – shift to new accounting software eliminates need for outside support and licensure expenses for accounting software.

Space Rental: \$141,869

- Office Space: \$129,219 – includes per-square-foot rental fees for office and meeting room space at 495 Metro Place South.
- Convention and Expo: \$5,000 – expresses rental fees for Kalahari in Sandusky. Rental is comp with 650 or more overnight rooms.
- Workshops/Meetings: \$7,650 – includes space rental fees for CPIM conference, Legislative Day, stand-alone conference and other professional development events.

Travel: \$41,150

- Board: \$5,000 – includes possible mileage reimbursement for attendees at OLC Board meetings, expenses for ALA Councilor to register/attend Annual Conference (Chicago).
- Staff: \$28,650 – includes staff reimbursement for mileage, hotel and meals for business-related travel, including local and out-of-town meetings, attendance at professional development events, etc.; reflects increase in IRS allowable reimbursement to \$0.725 per mile for use of personal cars for business travel. Includes travel for C&E at Kalahari and ALA Annual.
- Committees and Divisions: \$0 – maintains the option of one in-person meeting for OLC Committees and Division Action Councils, but eliminates travel reimbursement for volunteers attending in-person meetings based on previous use and is consistent with other state associations. Recognizes OLC's use and cost savings with virtual meetings.
- Presenters: \$7,500 – includes travel and accommodations for C&E presenters, etc.; maintains current mileage reimbursement at \$0.345 per mile for library presenters.

Management Expenses: \$192,097

- Bank Services and Investment Fees: \$22,600 – includes fees for commercial banking, credit card services, and long-term investment management; based upon actual costs in 2025.
- Depreciation Replacement: \$14,878 – reflects depreciation on value of current and new capital assets (laptops and conference room equipment).
- Employee Hiring: \$800 – costs for background checks for libraries that are recouped through chargebacks.
- Insurance: \$8,599 – premiums for ERISA bond, directors and officer's insurance, and property and casualty insurance.
- Organizational Memberships: \$10,895 – includes OLC's organizational memberships in ALA, United for Libraries, Freedom to Read Foundation, Buckeye Book Award, and coalition to protect essential public services, etc.
- Staff Development and Memberships: \$2,325 – includes fee for employees' memberships in ALA, PLA, ASAE, OSAE, and OLA; registration fees for meetings of OLA, ALA and OSAE.
- Catering and Other Meals: \$128,300 – includes charges for food and beverages for OLC Board meetings, unit meetings (one in-person meeting unless otherwise approved), professional development events, Leg Day, C&E; approximately 85% of expense is recouped through event registration fees or other revenue.
- Advertising: \$3,700 – includes social media ad buy for public relations campaign.

**TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES: \$1,929,745**

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**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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ITEM NO.: **5B**

MEETING DATE: **Jan. 16, 2026**

SUBJECT: **OLC Public Relations Campaign**

SUBMITTED BY: **Angie Jacobsen**

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**REPORT FOR DISCUSSION**

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Background

OLC has contracted with Lesic & Camper Communications to develop an advocacy and communications strategy to support Ohio's public libraries. To maximize efficiency and reduce costs, this work is being conducted in conjunction with the Ohio Township Association. The project will begin with a statewide public opinion poll conducted by Neil Newhouse, partner and co-founder of Public Opinion Strategies, a national political and public affairs research firm. The poll will assess voter attitudes, perceptions, and messaging opportunities related to public libraries and library funding.

The insights gained from this research will be used to create a toolkit for Ohio's public libraries. The toolkit will help members communicate the value of public libraries more effectively and clearly demonstrate how libraries save Ohioans money and strengthen their communities.

Lesic & Camper Communications brings extensive experience in strategic communications, public affairs, and media relations. Their expertise will support the creation of clear, consistent messaging that educates voters and elected officials about why continued investment in public libraries is essential, particularly as Ohio faces increasing efforts to reduce or eliminate property taxes.

**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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ITEM NO.: **6.A**

MEETING DATE: **Jan. 16, 2026**

SUBJECT: **ALA Councilor Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Nick Tepe**

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**REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

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Council Winter Virtual Meetings

While both Midwinter Conference and LibLearnX are no more, Council will still hold our regular January meetings virtually, and activity is starting to pick up ahead of those meetings. As of now I am not anticipating anything out of the ordinary at these sessions. I expect that there will be ongoing discussion of ALA's financial situation and the steps being taken under the "ALA Forward" initiative ([link here](#), ALA members only) as we continue to work towards streamlining the organization and working within our means. As Treasurer Larry Neal said in his [annual report to the membership](#), "the Association cannot be all things to all people, and activities and programs that do not translate into member value or interest... must come to an end." However, I agree with Larry that this is not a hopeless situation, and that we have an opportunity in this process for transformation and renewal, and I will continue to work to support those efforts and represent the interests of OLC as those changes move forward.

Two initiatives that I helped with will be coming to Council for a vote during these sessions, and I expect that there will be lively debate about both. First, following the recommendations of the ad-hoc committee that reviewed eligibility for and election of the Executive Board, the Executive Board has put forward proposals to make changes to this process that would allow anyone who has served on Council or in Division or Round Table leadership in the last five years to run for Executive Board. As a member of the ad-hoc committee I am in support of this change, and I believe it is important as the size of Council shrinks and the needs of the organization for expert member-leaders grows. The committee's and the Executive Board's proposal have recommended leaving the election of Executive Board members to Council, in order to maintain the connection between Council as the policy-making body of ALA and the Executive Board. This proposal also includes the dissolution of the Committee on Committees, with the nomination of Executive Board nominees moving to the Nominating Committee, and advising the president-elect on committee appointments moving to the president-elect's advisory committee. This will require formalizing the role of the president-elect's advisory committee, however since a committee has been formed to support incoming presidents-elect for some time it will still result in a reduction in the number of committees the Association has to support.

Second, the Committee on Organization will be presenting our final recommendations from the "COO Review" which started a couple years ago. The Committee's proposal is for a net reduction of 8 committees of the Association through merging with other committees, or sunseting and redistributing the work. COO has already started answering concerns about these changes, but we are focused on ensuring that the committees of the Association make the best use of limited staff and other resources in carrying out the volunteer work of the Association. We are planning on encouraging discussion on the Council's Connect page ahead of the sessions to try to answer as many questions and concerns ahead of time as we can, and hopefully see this proposal pass once it comes to the floor.

**6.A: ALA Councilor Report**

In addition to the items I was directly involved with, we will also be taking action on proposals from the Policy Monitoring Committee and Bylaws Committee as they continue their work to clean up and streamline those documents following the reorganization passed by the membership in 2023. We will also be approving the interpretations of the Equity and Public Good core values, which were extended from Annual in 2025.

### Federal Court Decisions

The end of the year brought a mixed bag in the ongoing court cases related to libraries and intellectual freedom. In more positive news, on [November 21<sup>st</sup>](#) the U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island struck down the Administration's attempts to dismantle the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). This was followed on [December 3<sup>rd</sup>](#) by a statement from IMLS that all the agency's grants had been reinstated. While the future funding of IMLS continues to hang in the balance as the Federal budget process remains stalled, this was at least some good news in the short term. ALA continues to be involved in [legal actions](#) in support of IMLS and continues to [lobby for support](#) of IMLS and LSTA in the FY 2026 budget.

On the other side, on December 8<sup>th</sup> the Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal in *Little v. Llano County*. This lets stand the Fifth Circuit's decision allowing the removal of books, including ones dealing with themes of race and LGBT identity, from the Llano County public library system. This means that the decision stands in the Fifth Circuit's territory of Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi, and in those states library governing bodies may remove books from the library's collection regardless of the professional judgement of librarians or the interests of community members. In October, the ALA, Freedom to Read Foundation, and Texas Library Association submitted an amicus brief urging the Supreme Court to reaffirm public libraries as beacons of democracy and to safeguard library professionals' standards requiring them to curate collections to meet their communities' informational needs regardless of party, subject, or viewpoint. ALA's official response to the Supreme Court's refusal to hear the appeal can be found [here](#).



## Message from the State Librarian

As 2025 draws to a close, it is a good time to reflect on the year we've had. My overwhelming feeling is pride. I am so proud of our Ohio libraries. I am especially proud of our staff at the State Library, in the work they have done under tremendous uncertainty and of tumultuous times. I am so proud of our library workers, who go to work every day to make a difference in their communities, never knowing what the day will bring. I am so proud of our grantees, who hung in there with us as we navigated new and uncertain waters. I am so proud of our State Library Board Members, who never wavered in their support of the State Library and the work we



*Ohioana Director Kim Kiehl, Artist and Illustrator Joseph Sutphin, and State Librarian Mandy Knapp*

do. I am proud to be your State Librarian and humbled by the trust you place in me. Thank you. Let's hope for a less exciting year in 2026.



## Highlights

- Highlights and Key Takeaways from the State Librarian's Listening Tour can be found [on the State Library's website](#).
- State Librarian Mandy Knapp interviewed artist Joseph Sutphin as part of a joint Ohioana & State Library Winter Open House.
- The State Library of Ohio Foundation Board met and set bylaws.
- Mandy and Director of Library Operations Ryan Burley presented to the America 250 - Ohio Commission December 12.
- The State Library Board approved twelve LSTA Competitive Grants at the December meeting.

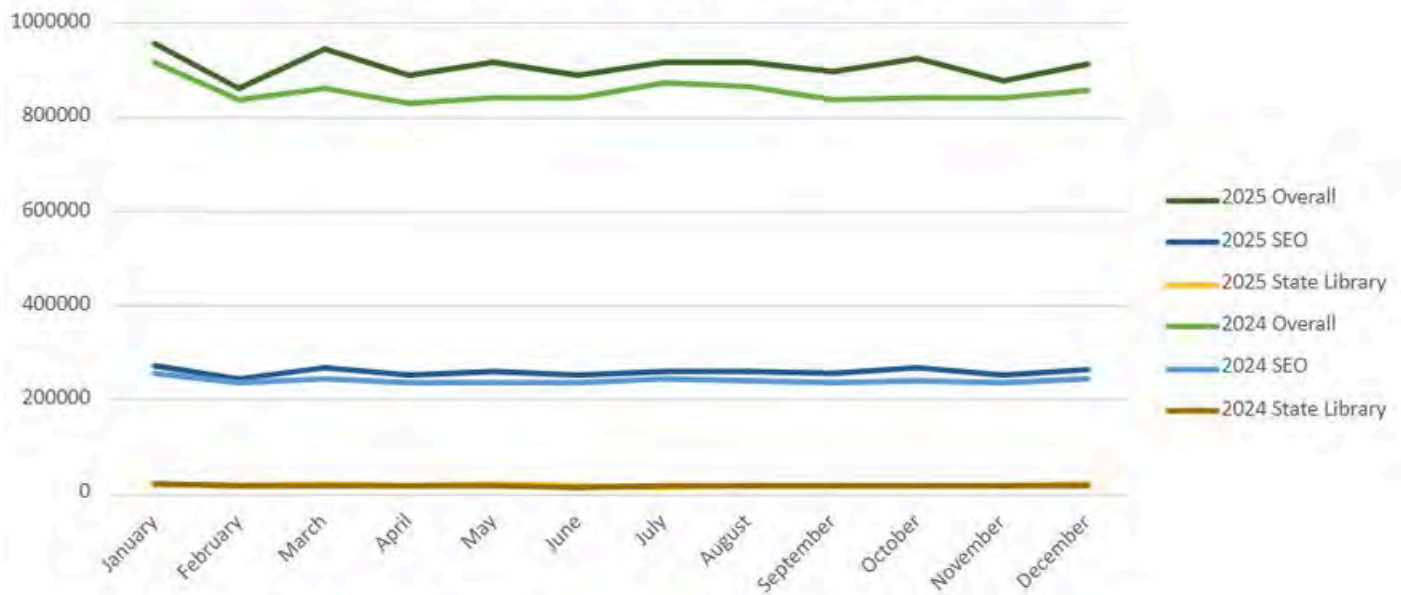
"Thanks for sending this out to participants. Such an open, enlightening feedback. I look forward to great success for SLO & Ohio's libraries as a result."

--Stephanie Bange, Choose to Read Ohio Advisory Committee Member

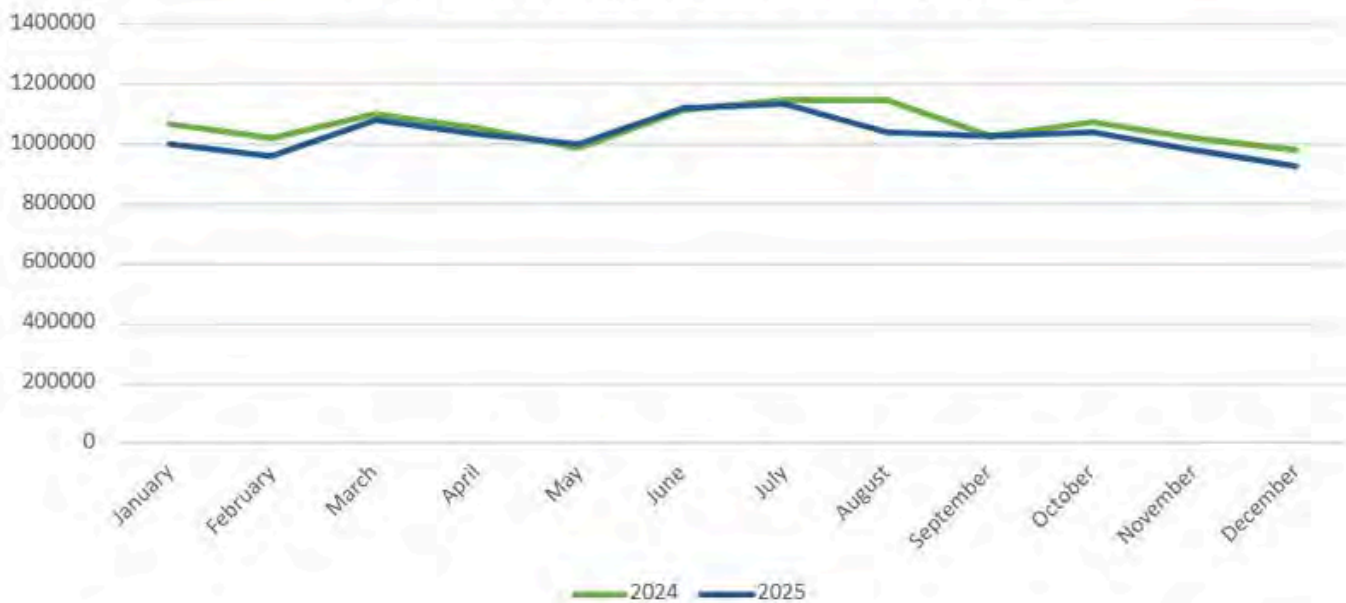
"We are very excited to move forward with the grant. Now that it is official, our staff is eager to begin using the Charlie Cart, and new ideas are already taking shape."

--Travis McAfee, Way Public library

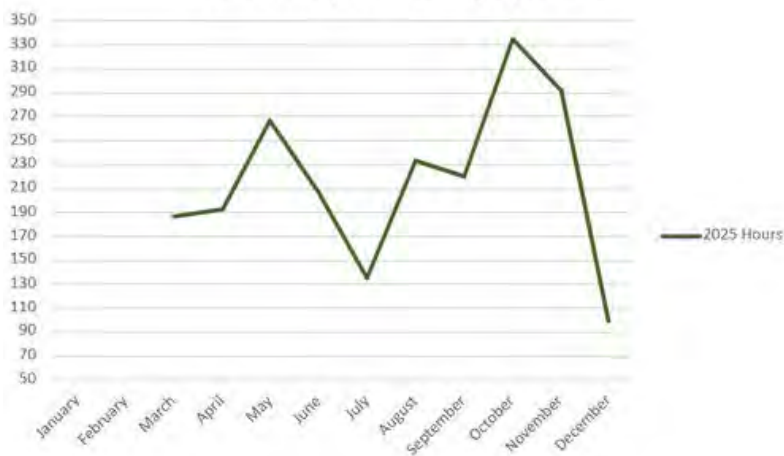
### Ohio Digital Library Circulation by Month



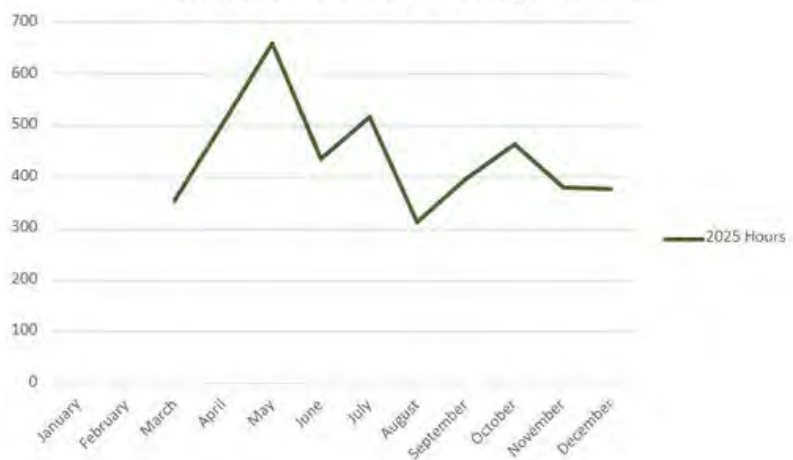
### SEO Consortium Physical Circulation by Month



### State Library Staff Training by Month



### Cooperative Partnership Meetings by Month



## Library Services—December 2025

### America 250-Ohio Commission Meeting

On December 12, we hosted the America 250 - Ohio Commission meeting at the State Library of Ohio. Director of Library Operations Ryan Burley shared some of our rare documents relating to the Revolutionary War with the group which included Nancy Putnam Hollister, former Governor and Lieutenant Governor of Ohio; Ted Strickland, former Governor of Ohio; Chief Justice Sharon L. Kennedy, Supreme Court of Ohio; Michael B. Coleman, former Mayor of Columbus; State Senator Susan Manchester; State Representative Adam Holmes; and many other influential Ohioans. After our presentation we received positive feedback from multiple commission members on our presentation, including from co-Chair Doug Preisse.

**“From the coordination of the materials, to the incredible rare documents, to the tour, we thoroughly enjoyed the day. I had multiple people from the team approach me about how much they learned...”** --Chief Policy Officer DODD Steve Beha



*Director of Library Operations Ryan Burley presenting to the America 250 - Ohio commission*

### DODD Department visit

On December 19, we did a presentation for the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities Policy Department and their Chief Policy Officer Steve Beha. We spoke about the State Library of Ohio, showed off some rare books and documents, and gave a tour to their 40 staff members. Librarian Stephanie Michaels also pulled state documents related to the DODD from our collection so the department could review their history.



*Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities Policy Department visiting the State Library*



## Library Programs & Development—December 2025



*Library consultant Katy Hite (center, background) leads a group of Worthington Libraries staff members through a summer reading-focused workshop.*

### Building Community-Based Summers

Library consultants **Katy Hite** and **Janet Ingraham Dwyer** facilitated a mini-workshop for the Worthington Libraries Summer Reading planning team on December 2, with a focus on identifying the “why” of summer reading and on connecting with community, two core topics of Building Community-Based Summers (BCBS), a professional development opportunity that empowers library staff to develop summer services with community at the center.

Katy and Janet also completed facilitation of the online learning sessions for the first tri-state cohort of BCBS with teams from Ashland Public Library, Chillicothe & Ross County Public Library, Dayton Metro Library, two Indiana libraries, and five Michigan libraries. Katy will be one of three facilitators for a national BCBS cohort sponsored by the Collaborative Summer Library Program in spring 2026.



### Summer Library Program Grant

On Wednesday, January 7, the application window opened for the LSTA Summer Library Program (SLP) grant. The SLP grant program invites Ohio libraries to apply for funds to support and empower libraries to enhance their 2026 summer programs with library-led

activities that spark creativity and learning, engage individuals of all ages, and benefit their communities.

Libraries may apply for up to \$2,000 in federal LSTA funds to support summer programs for children, teens, and/or adults; a local cash match of 25% is required.

### ODL By the Numbers

The Ohio Digital Library (ODL) celebrated another **record-breaking** year in 2025!

**Total checkouts:** 10.92 million  
(6% increase over 2024)

Ebooks remain a slightly-more popular format over audiobooks: 5.08 million vs. 4.6 million checkouts, respectively.

**Average daily checkouts:**  
29,918

**Date with highest overall checkouts:** December 2  
(36,166)

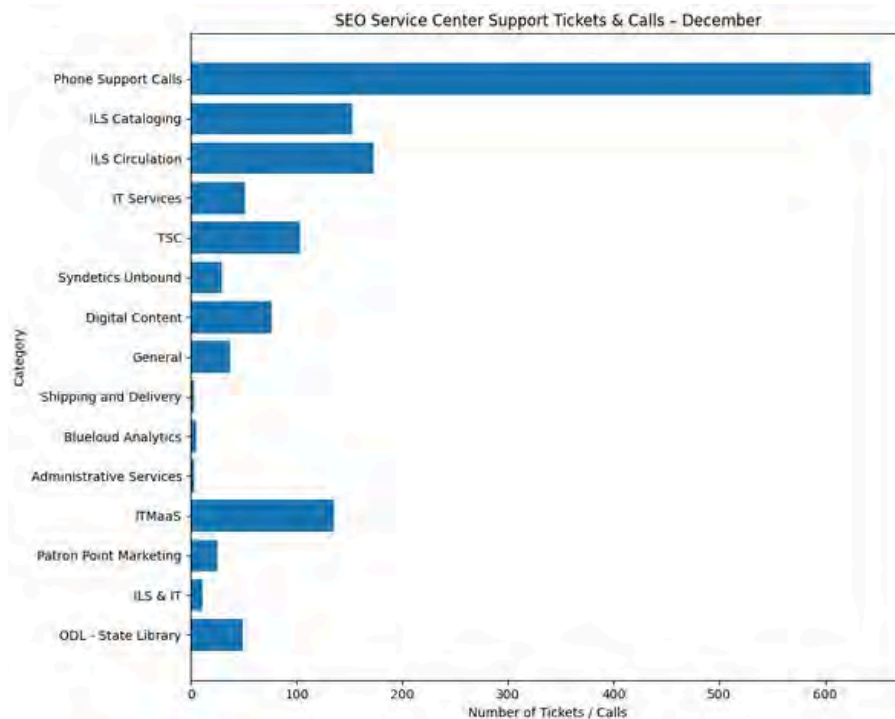
**Most popular book title:**  
The Women by Kristin Hannah, both in ebook (11,536 checkouts) and audiobook (12,726) formats

**Most popular magazine title:**  
The New Yorker (80,061 checkouts)

Grant funds may be used to purchase program materials, supplies, and/or contractual services for presenters and programs offered to the community during the 2026 summer.

Applications for the SLP grant will be open through February 22, 2026. For more information, [click here](#).

## SEO Service Center—December 2025



### Quick Takeaways:

- Phone Support Calls (643) dominate overall volume
- ILS work (Circulation + Cataloging) represents a major share of operational demand
- ITMaaS (135) and TSC (103) continue to be significant service drivers

### Key service highlights include:

- **Projects** for IT Managed Services (ITMaaS) progressed forward with plans to move from pilot to new service offering.
- **Hosted** several meetings around the new service offering for IT Managed Services for onboarding new customers in January 2026.

### For the past 30 days, the Consortium experienced significant activity:

- Over **928,619** items were circulated.
- **162,355** holds were created, and **175,488** holds were filled.
- **4,602** new users created
- **496** interlibrary loan requests were initiated.
- **854** support tickets were created, with **2** relayed to the software vendor.



Mobile App Stats	2024	2025	% Change
New Devices	2,480	<b>2,073</b>	<b>-16%</b>
Holds Placed	24,837	<b>27,382</b>	<b>10%</b>
App Launched	70,256	<b>82,000</b>	<b>17%</b>
Searches	79,006	<b>74,968</b>	<b>-5%</b>



- Serving Every Ohioan Staff Tutorials views - 899
- Online Catalog Patron Tutorial views - 519
- Staff Technical Services Committee - 37
- Patron ASL Storytime views - 15



- Heavy use in Announcement and Newsletters being sent (389,698 emails)
- Medium use in Birthday/Anniversary campaigns (2,933 emails)
- Light use of Winback (238 emails) and Coming of Age (17 emails) campaigns



### **20 Books Selected for the 2026 Choose to Read Ohio Booklist**

December 1, 2025: The State Library of Ohio and the Ohioana Library Association, with the Ohio Center for the Book and the Choose to Read Ohio Advisory Council, are pleased to announce the 2026 Choose to Read Ohio (CTRO) booklist.

CTRO spotlights books by exciting, talented creators who, collectively, write across genres, explore a wide array of topics, and appeal to all age groups.

### **Libraries Invited to Apply for Collection Development Grant**

December 5, 2025: The State Library of Ohio invites libraries to apply for a Celebrating Ohio Book Awards & Authors (COBAA) LSTA grant to support collection development and collection-related program initiatives for their communities. The COBAA grant enables libraries to purchase books by Ohio authors and books recognized by Ohio-based book award programs, as indicated within the grant's Book Selection Tool. This unique initiative allows libraries to expand collections and support literacy by connecting Ohio readers to Ohio authors and Ohio book award winners.



**CONTINUING EDUCATION  
OPPORTUNITY**

### **15 Selected for 2026 Cohort to Earn Digital Curation Certificate**

December 15, 2025: The State Library of Ohio is pleased to announce the 2026 cohort selected to complete course work to earn a Digital Curation Certificate from Library Juice Academy. Through a competitive application process, a State Library review committee selected 15 participants and will manage their enrollment in the six-course series.



### **State Library Board Awards over \$265,000 in Federal Funding as Ohio LSTA Competitive Grants**

December 15, 2025: The State Library of Ohio is pleased to announce the 2026 cohort selected to complete course work to earn a Digital Curation Certificate from Library Juice Academy. Through a competitive application process, a State Library review committee selected 15 participants and will manage their enrollment in the six-course series.

**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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ITEM NO.: **6.C**

MEETING DATE: **Jan. 16, 2026**

SUBJECT: **OPLIN Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Don Yarman**

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**REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

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E-Rate Tidbits

- The Form 471 application window for funding year 2026 opens Wednesday, Jan. 21, and will close on Wednesday, Apr. 1. Currently, the administrative window for you to update entity profiles (new buildings, closed buildings square footage changes) will close on Friday, Jan. 16.
- Due to the late elimination of hotspot and school bus Wi-Fi services, followed by the federal government shutdown, the final [Eligible Services List](#) wasn't released until December. There were some welcome changes which clarified the difference between "basic maintenance of internal connections" and "managed internal broadband services." These are covered in our "E-Rate Form 470 for Category 2" webinar held January 8, and available soon from our [YouTube Channel](#).

Web Accessibility Webinar

A recording of Laura Solomon's webinar [Opening Doors Online: The basics of web accessibility](#) is currently available. Laura discussed the core guidelines used to evaluate web accessibility in the United States and offered practical first actions libraries can take right away: common pitfalls to avoid, the limits of commercial accessibility overlays, and how to approach PDFs responsibly and effectively.

H.B. 583

Representatives Ritter and Newman introduced a bill to add language requiring school districts, public libraries, and state agencies to block access to inappropriate materials (such as sexual content and content promoting the use of drugs, alcohol, and gambling) from digital or online library database resources to students in grades K-12. Violations of these requirements may result in penalization, such as price reduction for these services and termination of contract. Mandy and I both provided answers to the Legislative Budget Office concerning how common it is for libraries to offer these resources, to what extent libraries filter out obscene materials, and what standards and methods libraries used for filtering.

Gongwer Content Change

The Gongwer News Service has migrated to a new platform which requires individual subscriber logins. We're working with Gongwer staff to keep our current listserv distribution model of the Ohio Report in place.

**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **6.D**

MEETING DATE: **Jan. 16, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Executive Director's Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Michelle Francis**

**REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

Institutional Membership Dues Billing

Following the December 2025 PLF distribution, forms were sent to all 88 county auditors requesting information for each library's 2025 PLF and local property tax receipts (if applicable). To date, responses have been received from 64 county auditors. All libraries should receive their initial invoice for 2026 dues by the end of the month.

Institutional Membership Survey

The Institutional Membership Satisfaction Survey was completed on Jan. 12. It was distributed to library directors and fiscal officers at OLC Institutional Member library systems. A copy of the results will be distributed to the board, and they will be utilized for purposes of OLC's strategic planning in 2026.

2025 OLC Convention & Expo

I just wanted to take a moment to thank the OLC Board of Directors for their support before, during and after the 2025 OLC Convention and Expo in Cleveland. We celebrated OLC's 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary and had one of the, if not the most, successful C&E's in OLC history with more than 960 attendees.

OLC Strategic Planning

OLC staff has been working with Vista Cova on a proposal for strategic planning services in 2026. More information will be provided to the board for discussion under agenda item 5.A.

America 250 – Ohio Commission Meeting

OLC was asked to present at the America 250 – Ohio Commission meeting in December. We highlighted events and programs happening in Ohio's public libraries across the state in relation to the nation's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday. It was a great opportunity to tell our story and lead the discussion on the real work happening in our public libraries. Everything from the America 250 grants and Carnegie grants related to the semiquincentennial to libraries applying for the Community Reading Program Grants for special book clubs! We want to recognize all of these programs/events and more in 2026.

America 250 – Ohio Kickoff

OLC staff attended the America 250-Ohio 2026 Kick-Off Celebration at the Ohio Statehouse on Jan. 7. It was a special luncheon to celebrate the start of the U.S. 250th anniversary! More information will be shared at the Board meeting.

Coalition to Protect Essential Public Services

OLC has been working with our local government coalition partners in response to the proposed constitutional amendment. More information will be provided to the board for discussion under agenda item 5.C.



## OLC Staff Notes

Jeanine D'Andrea's 33rd Anniversary on the OLC staff was on Jan. 11.

### Activities

Activities since the Nov. 7 Board meeting include:

Nov. 10	OLC Staff Meeting on C&E
Nov. 11	ICLAE Meeting w/other State EDs
Nov. 12	House Rules Comm. C&E Panel Prep Meeting Property Tax Coalition Meeting Senate Local Gov. Comm. Meeting
Nov. 13	A&H Prep Meeting House General Gov. Comm. Meeting House Local Gov. Comm. Meeting Meeting w/Midwest Tape/Hoopla
Nov. 14	Fern Pick-up for C&E
Nov. 17	C&E Walk Through w/Convention Center OLC Staff Onsite C&E Meeting
Nov. 18	C&E Onsite Pre-Con Meeting w/Center, AV & Catering OLC Planning & Leadership Conference
Nov. 19	Convention & Expo – Cleveland Media Interview w/Spectrum Awards & Honors Luncheon Exhibit Hall Grand Opening C&E Reception – Rock and Roll Hall of Fame
Nov. 20	Convention & Expo – Cleveland Taste the Music Luncheon Library Reception – Cleveland Public Library
Nov. 21	Convention & Expo – Cleveland
Nov. 24	Meeting w/OTA PR Campaign & Polling Meeting w/Lesic & Camper Meeting w/Steve Potash (OverDrive) OLC Staff Meeting
Dec. 1	Meeting w/Jason Elvers & Jon Iten (Vorys)
Dec. 2	Meeting w/Adult Services DAC OLC ED Evaluation Meeting w/OTA
Dec. 3	OLC Staff Debrief Meeting on C&E

### **6.D: Executive Director's Report**

	OLC Staff Meeting Meeting w/Metro Library Directors
Dec. 4	Meeting w/Amazon Business GZ LMS Webinar OLC LAD CPIM Conference Planning Meeting
Dec. 8	OLC Staff Meeting Meeting w/Fleeter & Assoc. Meeting w/Hallie Rich (LJ)
Dec. 9	Meeting w/Dolly Parton Imagination Library of Ohio OLC HR DAC Planning Meeting on HR Hybrid Workshops ICLAE Meeting w/other State EDs
Dec. 10	Coalition RFP Review Comm. Meeting C&E Chair Debrief Meeting Polling Meeting w/Lesic & Camper Meeting w/France & Assoc. Property Tax Coalition Meeting
Dec. 11	State Library Board Meeting OLC ED Evaluation
Dec. 12	America 250 – Ohio Commission Meeting & Presentation
Dec. 15	Polling Meeting w/Lesic & Camper/Consultants OLC Staff Meeting Polling Meeting w/Lesic & Camper/Consultants GZ AMS Meeting w/Maryland & Pennsylvania ALA Virtual Membership Meeting
Dec. 16	OLC Board of Directors Executive Session OLC Fall Legislative Update Webinar Coalition RFP Review Comm. Meeting
Dec. 17	OLC ED Evaluation Property Tax Coalition Meeting w/Chamber & Metro Chambers CCAO Retirement Celebration Media Interview w/Cleveland.com
Dec. 18	Meeting w/School Principals Assoc. Coalition RFP Review Comm. Meeting Meeting w/Amazon Business OLC Budget Meetings w/Staff
Dec. 19	OLC Budget Meetings w/Staff Coalition RFP Review Comm. Meeting OLC Staff Team Building
Dec. 23	Polling Meeting w/OTA

#### **6.D: Executive Director's Report**

Dec. 30	Strategic Planning Meeting w/Lowell (Vista Cova) Polling Meeting w/OTA Coalition RFP Review Comm. Meeting
Jan. 2	Polling Meeting w/Lesic & Camper/Consultants
Jan. 5	OLC Staff Meeting
Jan. 7	Meeting w/Wes on OLC Health Insurance Coalition RFP Review Comm. Meeting America 250 – Ohio Kickoff Luncheon Meeting w/Metro Library Directors Meeting w/School Superintendents Property Tax Coalition Meeting
Jan. 8	Meeting w/North Hill Consulting
Jan. 9	Meeting w/EBSCO Meeting w/STRS SLO Open House/Celebration of Life for Beverly Cain
Jan. 12	OLC Staff Meeting OLC BoD Finance Comm Meeting

**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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ITEM NO.: **6.E.1**

MEETING DATE: **Jan. 16, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Government and Legal  
Services Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Jay Smith**

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**REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

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ODT Posts January 2026 PLF Distribution

The Ohio Department of Taxation (ODT) posted the January 2026 Public Library Fund (PLF) distribution of \$39,186,904 – which is \$839,123 (or -2.10%) below ODT's original estimate that was issued in July 2025 and ODT's updated estimate issued in December 2025 that went unchanged.

According to the Office of Budget and Management (OBM), total General Revenue Fund (GRF) tax receipts are \$518.2 million (+ 3.5%) above estimate for the first six months of Fiscal Year 2026.

A look at the PLF distribution for the past three years and a link to an Excel spreadsheet listing each county's distribution total for January 2026 can be found on the [OLC website](#).

Sales Tax Holiday Reminder

As a reminder, the PLF is now a line-item appropriation and is no longer calculated as a percentage of the state's GRF. As a result, public libraries are no longer impacted by the Sales Tax Holiday. With changes enacted in HB 96 effective July 1, the August Sales Tax Holiday does not affect the PLF, and therefore no reimbursement was issued in December 2025 because there is no associated loss.

Ohio House and Senate Schedule for First Half of 2026

The House and Senate released first-half schedules for 2026. The House schedule begins with their first session on Wed., Feb. 18 and a final one on Wed., Jun. 10, although if-needed sessions are on the calendar for later in June. April and the first week of May are set aside for a pre-primary election spring break. The Senate will be back sooner, with a session planned for Wed., Jan. 28, and proposes to wrap up the same week as the House. The Senate also plans a shorter spring break than the House.

Gubernatorial Campaign Update

Both Republican Vivek Ramaswamy and Democrat Amy Acton announced their selection for lieutenant governor running mates. Vivek Ramaswamy selected Senate President Rob McColley (R-Napoleon) while Amy Acton selected former Democratic Party Chair David Pepper.

Constitutional Amendment to Eliminate Property Taxes

In response to the Citizens for Property Tax Reform initiative, OLC and other local governments have been meeting to organize opposition against the amendment should it make it to the ballot. More information will be discussed at the Board Meeting.

### Property Tax Legislation (HB 186, HB 335, HB 309)

In November the legislature completed its work on HB 186 (Hoops, and D. Thomas) and HB 335 (D. Thomas). HB 186 establishes an Inflation Cap Credit to limit the growth of unvoted school-district millage (20 mill floor) to the rate of inflation which is designed to protect homeowners from sudden or significant tax increases. The bill also expands the Owner Occupancy Credit over the next four years while gradually eliminating the Non-Business Credit on all non-agricultural properties. This change is designed to create more savings for homeowners' primary residences and away from for-profit properties.

HB 335 imposes an inflation cap on "inside millage", or unvoted millage, in which most public libraries in Ohio do not receive.

While neither bill directly impacts public libraries, they are significant because they illustrate ongoing legislative efforts to amend laws in an attempt to lower property taxes across the state.

In addition to the bills mentioned above, HB 309 was touted as a vehicle for delivering property tax relief and creating improved transparency in Ohio's tax system. HB 309 strengthens the authority of county budget commissions (CBCs) to modify or reduce levies if they deem local government collections to be "unnecessary or excessive."

As passed by the legislature, the bill provides a one-year safe harbor for all new levies. That means the CBC is required to approve all new levies without modifications for the first year unless the levy is a renewal levy.

"Unnecessary collections" are defined as those beyond the reasonably anticipated financial needs of the taxing authority for the specific purpose of the tax after accounting for current fund balances, projected expenditures, and other available funding sources.

"Excessive collections" are defined as those in an amount or at a rate that exceeds what is required to provide services at a level that is consistent with the taxing authority's statutory obligations.

All three bills were signed by Governor DeWine on Dec. 19 and become effective on Mar. 18, 2026.

### OLC Library Legislative Day (March 18)

Planning for Library Legislative Day is underway for Wed., Mar. 18 at the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel. In addition, a preparation webinar has been scheduled for Tues., Mar. 3 at 2pm. More details will be discussed at the Board meeting.

**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **6.E.2**

MEETING DATE: **Jan. 16, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Professional Development  
Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Laurie Miller**

**REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

2025 OLC Convention and Expo – Foundation to Future

- More than 960 attendees, 64 booth spaces filled, and more than 60 breakout Sessions.
- All of the General Session speakers received outstanding comments, each had a unique perspective and interesting, but relatable stories.
- Extremely successful reception at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Meetings Participation

- CPIM Conference Planning – Dec. 4
- PDC Liaison Selections – Dec. 9
- Youth Services is For Everyone Webinar – Dec. 10
- OLC C&E Chairs Debrief – Dec. 10
- GrowthZone Chat – Dec. 15

<b>2025 Events</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
Teen Services Talk	Feb. 10	Virtual
Outreach Coffee Chat	Feb. TBD	Virtual
Preparing for Legislative Day Webinar	Mar. 3	Virtual
IT Division “Rack’side Chat”	Mar. 6	Virtual
Library Trustee Workshop	Mar. 7	OLC/Virtual
Library Legislative Day	Mar. 18	Renaissance Columbus Downtown
Library Trustees Dinner (East)	Mar. TBD	Guernsey County Library, Cambridge
CPIM – Public Library Fiscal Officer Conf.	Mar. 26-27	Embassy Suites Dublin
Library Trustees Dinner (NW)	Apr. TBD	TBD
Library Trustees Lunch (SW)	Apr. TBD	TBD
Programs Across Cultures Webinar	Apr. 22	Virtual
HR Hybrid Workshop 101	Apr. 28	OLC/Virtual
Library Trustees Dinner (NE)	May TBD	TBD
Virtual Mentorship Series #1	May 13	Virtual
Teen Services Talk	May 14	Virtual
New Directors Workshop Series 1 of 4	May TBD	OLC/Virtual

**6.E.2: Professional Development Report**

IT Division "Rack'side Chat"	Jun. 5	Virtual
Outreach Coffee Chat	Jun. TBD	Virtual
Ballot Issues Workshop #1	Jun. TBD	OLC/Virtual
New Directors Workshop Series 2 of 4	Jun. TBD	OLC/Virtual
Virtual Mentorship Series #2	Jul. 15	Virtual
New Directors Workshop Series 3 of 4	Jul. TBD	OLC/Virtual
HR Hybrid Workshop 102	Aug. 4	OLC/Virtual
Teen Services Talk	Aug. 12	Virtual
New Directors Workshop Series 4 of 4	Aug. TBD	OLC/Virtual
Outreach and Special Services Retreat	Aug. TBD	OLC/Virtual
Library Fiscal Officer 102	Aug. TBD	OLC/Virtual
IT Division "Rack'side Chat"	Sept. 4	Virtual
Virtual Mentorship Series #3	Sept. 16	Virtual
Safety & Security Conference	Sept. TBD	TBD
Outreach Coffee Chat	Oct. TBD	Virtual
2026 Convention & Expo	Oct. 21-23	Kalahari, Sandusky
Ballot Issues Workshop #2	Nov. TBD	OLC/Virtual
Virtual Mentorship Series #3	Nov. 11	Virtual
Teen Services Talk	Nov. 16	Virtual
Planning & Leadership Conference	Nov. TBD	Virtual
IT Division "Rack'side Chat"	Dec. 4	Virtual

**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **6.E.3**

MEETING DATE: **Jan. 16, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Communications Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Angie Jacobsen**

**REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

Planning and Leadership Conference

The Planning and Leadership Conference was held the day prior to the Convention and Expo. Leadership resources were updated and posted to the OLC website and Member Info Hub. Division and Committee members are now submitting meeting minutes, goals and objectives, and annual reports through the online forms.

2025 Convention and Expo

The 2025 Convention and Expo was successfully held in November. In addition to the printed postcard, the Convention and Expo was promoted via Access, the OLC website, and social media. Collateral materials for the OLC Connects area were developed and printed for participating Divisions and Committees. A booth display highlighted OLC's 130th anniversary and promoted the 2026 Convention and Expo in Sandusky. The on-site program booklet was produced, and the 2025 Convention and Expo mobile app was implemented. We continue to see growth in the number of active app users (see table below). Evaluation results have been compiled through the app and will be shared with the Program Committee. Highlights from the event were shared in the Nov. 26, 2025 issue of Access and on the [OLC website](#).

2025 Convention and Expo App Stats:

App Users	2025	2023	2022
Attendees	642	515	468
Speakers	112	109	93
Exhibitors	56	45	44
Sponsors	13	15	7
Total App Users	823	684	612
Total C&E Attendance:	961	788	628

App Version    Percent of users

iOS            57%

Android      33%

Web browser 10%

Evaluation forms completed during the event: 85%

Evaluation forms completed after the event: 15%



### 2026 Convention and Expo

The Call for Programs for the 2026 Convention and Expo opened on Dec. 16, 2025. The online program submission form is available on the OLC website. Information about the event is available at [olc.org/2026-convention-and-expo](http://olc.org/2026-convention-and-expo). A call for committee members for the Program, Expo, and Local Arrangements committees ran in Access.

### Awards and Honors

The 2026 Awards and Honors program officially launched on Jan. 7, 2026. Online nomination forms were created for each award category. The nomination process will continue to be promoted in Access, the OLC website and social media. The nomination period runs through April 30, 2026.

### Division/Committee Projects

- A member satisfaction survey was created and distributed to all Institutional Member Libraries on Dec. 8, 2025.
- Articles on the OLC New Member Referral Program and Individual membership renewal were included in Access and the OLC website.
- A Member Spotlight article for the Membership Committee ran in the Dec. 17, 2025 issue of Access and the [OLC website](#).
- The Ballot Issues Handbook was updated and posted on the Member Info Hub.
- The Adult and Reference Services Division e-newsletter was sent on Nov. 18, 2025.
- The Trustee e-newsletter was sent on Dec. 4, 2025
- The Technical Services Division e-newsletter was sent on Jan. 8, 2026.

**Ohio Library Council  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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ITEM NO.: **6.E.4**

MEETING DATE: **Jan. 16, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Membership Services Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Jeanine D'Andrea**

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**REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

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2026 Membership

2026 Individual Membership renewals are coming in steadily. Many libraries who pay dues for staff approve of this at their January Board meetings. To date, we have 505 renewals and 127 new members.

The first membership renewal was sent electronically on Dec. 12, 2025. A second renewal reminder is scheduled to be sent electronically on Jan. 26.

Promotional articles on individual membership are being scheduled as well as Member Spotlight articles. The Membership Committee reached out to the Division Action Councils and asked them to participate in filling out spotlight articles in the hope of encouraging other members to do so.

D'Andrea and Ward met with new Student Representative Jess Brenneman on Dec. 17. They are eager to begin promoting OLC to students through their personal and professional contacts. The Membership Committee is scheduled to meet via Zoom on Jan. 29 at 2:00 p.m.

Governance

Staff continue to update the website, and revisions continue to be made to reflect the Divisions and Committee Action Councils, 2026 Goals and Objectives, and 2025 Annual reports. A follow-up email will be sent to those who have not responded by mid-January. As new terms begin for our Division Action Councils, updates are being made to each Division and Committee Basecamp to reflect their 2026 members. Board liaisons will be updated after the Jan. 16 Board meeting.

Awards and Honors

The Awards and Honors program opened on Jan. 7, 2026 with an article in *Access by Chair*, Jennifer Welsh. Other promotional articles are being scheduled. The Awards and Honors Committee is scheduled to meet via Zoom on Feb. 25 at 2:00 p.m.