

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

AGENDA

Sept. 25, 2026
Via Zoom
9:00 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda (#)*
2. Approval of Minutes
 - A. July 17, 2026 – Regular Meeting (#)*
 - B. July 17, 2026 – Executive Session (#)* [**Board Members Only**]
3. Reports for Action
 - A. Financial Report: Month-End – July 2026 (#)*
 - B. OLC Strategic Planning Mission and Vision Statements (#)*
4. Reports for Discussion
 - A. OLC Office Lease
 - B. 2026 OLC Convention & Expo Update
 - C. OLC Committee Appointments – 2027
5. Reports for Information
 - A. 2026 OLC Elections Report (#)
 - B. OLC Board Meeting Dates – 2027 (#)
 - C. ALA Councilor Report (#)
 - D. State Library of Ohio Report (#)
 - E. OPLIN Report (#)
 - F. Executive Director's Report (#)
 - G. Staff Reports
 1. Government and Legal Services Report (#)
 2. Professional Development Report (#)
 3. Communications Report (#)
 4. Membership Services Report (#)
6. Announcements

Next Meetings: Nov. 13 – OLC Office
7. Adjournment

(#) Report included in background packet

* Action Item

OHIO LIBRARY COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Via Zoom
July 17, 2026
10:00 A.M.

PRESENT	Kathy Bach, Cincinnati Monica Baughman, Worthington Travis Bautz, Middletown Julianne Bedel, Medina Kim DeNero-Ackroyd, Cleveland Heights Mary Ellen Icaza, Canton Cindy Lombardo, Peninsula Elizabeth Muether, Celina Bernie Rochford, Akron Stacey Russell, Zanesville William Rutger, Sandusky Susan Titkemeier, Marion
ABSENT	Sandra Hedlund Tunnell, Ashland
GUESTS	Mandy Knapp, State Library of Ohio Christine Morris, OPLIN Nick Tepe, ALA Councilor
STAFF	Michelle Francis, Executive Director Jeanine D'Andrea, Director, Membership Services Laurie Miller, Director, Professional Development Jay Smith, Director, Government and Legal Services
CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order by Chair Russell at 10:01 a.m. She noted Christine Morris would be attending on behalf of OPLIN.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Russell noted the Board will meet in Executive Session at the end of the regular meeting. Also, she noted the four agenda items sent to Board members only. BAUGHMAN MOVED AND ICAZA SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	TITKEMEIER MOVED AND DeNERO-ACKROYD SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE MAY 15, 2026 MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
FINANCIAL REPORT MONTH-END May 2026	Francis presented the financial report for the month-end May 2026. <u>Revenue.</u> <u>Dues.</u> Institutional Dues income is slightly under budget due to delayed payments. Individual Memberships are under budget due to decrease in personal membership. Friends are under budget due to delayed invoicing. <u>Continuing Education.</u> Convention and Expo is under budget due to timing of accrual. Workshops are under budget due to decrease in registration and timing of events.

Contract Income. Sourcing office is slightly over budget due to increase in library purchases.

Other Income. Interest and Dividends are over budget due to returns on short-term investments. Unrealized Gain/(Loss) is over budget due to returns on long-term investments. Workers' Comp is over budget due to timing of payments. JobLine is under budget due to decrease in non-member postings.

Expenses.

Salaries and Benefits. Salaries are under budget due to timing of 2026 adjustments. Accrued vacation reflects accrued vacation. Retirement is under budget due to timing of plan contributions. Health Insurance and payroll taxes are slightly under budget.

Consultants and Contractors. Speaker Honoraria is under budget due to timing of payment. Legal Services are under budget due to timing of invoices. Expo Contractors are under budget due to timing of payments.

Supplies and Resources. Supplies are over budget due to timing of purchasing. Subscription/Resource Materials are under budget.

Communications. Postage/Courier Service is under budget.

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

Maintenance and Equipment. Rental equipment is slightly over budget. Software support is slightly over budget due to timing of payments.

Travel and Meals. Board Travel is slightly over budget due to strategic planning. Staff Travel is under budget due to timing.

Management Expenses. Bank services is under budget. Investment fees are slightly over budget. Organization Memberships are under budget due to timing of payments. Staff Development and Memberships are over budget due to timing. Advertising is under budget due to timing of purchases. Catering and Other meals is over budget due to timing of payments.

The net change in assets is under budget by (\$4,352).

MUETHER MOVED AND BAUTZ SECONDED TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT: MONTH END MAY 2026 AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

RATIFICATION OF ACTION
WITHOUT A MEETING

LOMBARDO MOVED AND BAUGHMAN SECONDED ACCEPTANCE OF THE RATIFICATION OF ACTION WITHOUT A MEETING: TO REPLACE AMY YOUNG ON THE SLATE AS A CANDIDATE IN THE AT-LARGE POSITION WITH BETH STEINER, DIRECTOR OF THE AUGLAIZE COUNTY PUBLIC DISTRICT LIBRARY. MOTION PASSED WITH 10 AYE VOTES AND 2 ABSTENTIONS (Bautz, Russell).

STRATEGIC PLANNING

The OLC Strategic Planning Retreat report was distributed to members of the OLC Board of Directors for review. Francis noted pages 8-11 of the report discuss the next steps in the process. The group decided to refer the report to the Executive Committee for further discussion. The Executive Committee will

have further discussion and come back to the full Board with recommendations on the vision and mission in September. Feedback from certain Board members was that they were impressed with the process and facilitation.

OHIOANS TO PROTECT PUBLIC SERVICES

Francis noted a June 2026 Progress Report from Ohioans to Protect Public Services was included in the background packet for members of the Board. The Steering Committee will continue to have monthly meetings.

ALA COUNCILOR REPORT

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

ALA Council Actions at ALA Annual Conference. Council held three very productive sessions. Council passed the resolutions brought by the Policy Monitoring Committee and the Committee on Organization that continue the necessary reorganizing work that has come from ongoing efforts to streamline the Association. Council reviewed Treasurer Larry Neal's report, including the five-year plan to close the Association's multi-million-dollar structural deficit. Finally, Council passed a resolution recognizing the ALA staff for their work and dedication in honor of the Association's 150th anniversary.

Also, Council adopted a new resource to help libraries develop thoughtful policies for the use of artificial intelligence (AI). It was developed by ALA's AI Policy Working Group. ALA plans to offer learning opportunities to help library staff understand and implement the recommendations.

STATE LIBRARY REPORT

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

Office Relocation. The State Library of Ohio has moved and is settling in at 35 East Chestnut Street, Columbus. The collection of state and federal government documents, rare books and other items were moved to the new book depository in Gahanna.

Strategic Planning. Work continues on the State Library Strategic Plan, which may be approved next week.

LSTA Grants. The State Library awarded a combined total of \$2,137,403 in federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grants for the Libraries Connect Ohio core set of databases known as Ohio Web Library, eighteen public libraries to hire Guiding Ohio Online technology trainers, and Ohio Library for the Blind and Print Disabled to supplement state funding. The House Appropriations Committee recommended flat funding for LSTA.

Serving Every Ohioan. The SEO membership has given a final recommendation to the Advisory Committee on securing a Library Services Platform for the Serving Every Ohioan (SEO) Consortium.

OPLIN REPORT

In addition to the written report, Morris reported on the following:

Competitive Bidding Portal. The Government Accountability Office has praised the E-Rate program for its low error rate and for the fiscal controls that thwart waste, fraud and abuse. In April the FCC ordered the creation of a portal that all applicants must use to receive proposals for all 470s issued after July 1, 2027. SHLB and ALA are working to help ensure the new requirement does not create unnecessary burdens for libraries and schools.

Existential Threat to E-Rate. The FCC voted to advance proposals that target a variety of elements in the E-Rate program. The FCC is questioning whether the

program should be limited or sunset, whether limiting children's screen time should be a condition of funding, whether CIPA requirements should be expanded, and how consultants might be regulated. OPLIN is particularly concerned about a proposal that will require each member of a consortium to individually file their CIPA compliance within the E-Rate portal. Currently, OPLIN streamlines this process for libraries.

Francis noted that SHLB has been extremely active on E-rate and has an upcoming webinar. SHLB is the Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband Coalition and is a nonprofit, advocacy organization that supports open, affordable, high-quality broadband connections for anchor institutions and their surrounding communities.

OPLIN Core Network Maintenance. OPLIN and OIT completed extensive maintenance activities for OPLIN's network core. The core router had been online without interruption for nearly seven years. Completion of this maintenance ensures that OPLIN's core router components are fully upgraded and supported. It also positions OPLIN to upgrade our library internet paths to OARnet from 20G and 10G to 100G over the next year.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

IRS Form 990. The OLC auditors prepared the IRS Form 990, the informational tax return that 501(c)(6) organizations are required to file under the IRS tax code. Per OLC policy, the form was reviewed by the Finance Committee and filed.

ALA Annual Conference. Francis attended the Chapter Leaders Forum. Not every state has full-time paid staff like Ohio. The registration count for the full conference was close to 9,000 paid attendees. Francis, Michelle Alleman, Akron; and Michael Penrod, Wood County Public Library met with Amazon.

OLC Elections. The final day to vote in the OLC elections is July 30. Staff will meet with Mary Ellen Icaza to review and certify the results on August 5.

Special Meeting for Association Libraries. A special meeting for Association Libraries is scheduled for August 6 to address legal and legislative issues impacting them.

OLC Staff Anniversaries. Denise Kise is celebrating 13 years with OLC.

Office Lease. Francis met with Ken Isenberger to look at commercial office space as our office lease is up next summer. Isenberger will put together a list for review.

Kent State University Advisory Board. Francis has agreed to serve on the KSU Advisory Board. Knapp was also asked to join.

GOVERNMENT AND LEGAL SERVICES REPORT

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

Public Library Fund Update. According to the Office of Budget and Management (OBM), state tax receipts for the month of June came in at \$306.5 million (or +11.3%) above estimate. Preliminary data shows that overall state revenues for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 were \$1.8 billion (or +6.1%) over estimates.

The Ohio Department of Taxation (ODT) posted the first Public Library Fund (PLF) monthly distribution for FY 2027. The July 2026 PLF distribution is

\$40,251,502 – consistent with ODT’s original estimate issued in July 2025 and ODT’s updated estimate issued in December 2025. The PLF Calendar Year (CY) 2026 year-to-date total is \$280,303,983.

ODT Posts Final CY 2026 PLF Certification Update. ODT issued their final estimates for the Public Library Fund (PLF) distributions for each county for Calendar Year 2026 (CY 2026). Overall, ODT is now estimating the total CY 2026 PLF distribution will be \$484,704,271, which is consistent with the original ODT certification issued in July 2025.

FY 2027 Cash Transfers from PLF.

OPLIN: \$3,689,788
Library for the Blind: \$1,274,194
Ohioana Library Association: \$310,516
Regional Library Systems: \$494,000
State Library of Ohio: \$4,527,474

OBM recently shared an updated [schedule](#) of the cash transfers for FY 2027. These deductions and [transfers](#) from the PLF are made prior to the PLF distributions to public libraries. After the cash transfers are deducted, the actual PLF amount distributed to public libraries will be \$489,704,028.

Statehouse Update Webinar: Mid-Year Legislative Review and Outlook.

OLC hosted a Statehouse Update Webinar on Tuesday, July 14 at 10 a.m. The session provided an overview of legislative activity during the first half of the year and offered insight into issues expected to shape the remainder of the 136th Ohio General Assembly.

OLC Library Legislative Day 2027. Next year’s Library Legislative Day will take place on Wednesday, May 19, 2027.

PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT REPORT

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

2026 Convention & Expo. Currently have 30 Exhibitors and 10 Sponsors. The online registration is open and available until October 7. All other information is linked on the C&E Event page.

Mentorship Series. The Mentorship series was great with good conversations. Miller extended her thanks to Nick Tepe.

COMMUNICATIONS
REPORT

In addition to the written report, Francis reported on the following as Jacobsen was ill:

Francis thanked Russell for her Op-ed published in the *Columbus Dispatch* highlighting the critical role Ohio’s public libraries play in supporting summer learning and serving as trusted community resources. It reinforced key advocacy messages about the value of public libraries and provided an opportunity to elevate the visibility of libraries statewide.

Summer Reading. OLC developed and distributed a Summer Reading PR Toolkit through the Member Info Hub.

Convention and Expo. A promotional save-the-date postcard was mailed at the end of June. Registration details are now open on the OLC Website.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

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

REPORT

2026 Individual Membership. The June 30 Individual Membership Statistics show 2,113 Individual members as compared to 2,066 on June 30, 2025. Proration of dues for **new** members opened on July 1 and goes through Sept. 30.

Nominations and Elections. The 2026 Elections opened on June 30. A reminder email will be sent next week and voting closes on July 30. Staff will review the results with the chair of the Nominating Committee and then results will be shared with all candidates prior to posting to the website.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the OLC Board of Directors is September 18 at the OLC Office.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

BACH MOVED AND RUTGER SECONDED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE AT 11:11 A.M. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 11:34 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

BAUTZ MOVED AND RUTGER SECONDED THE MEETING ADJOURN. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Meeting adjourned at 11:34 am.

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **3.A**

MEETING DATE: **Sept. 25, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Financial Report: July 2026**

SUBMITTED BY: **Michelle Francis**

REPORT FOR ACTION

REVENUE

Cost Center	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Dues	\$ 1,247,696	\$ 1,258,001	\$ (10,306)
Publications	20	215	(195)
Continuing Education	207,870	251,486	(43,616)
Contract Income	2,346	3,000	(654)
Other Income	115,437	21,420	94,017
TOTAL	\$ 1,573,368	\$ 1,534,122	\$ 39,246

Dues Income (- \$10,306)

- Institutional Membership: slightly under budget (- \$1,044).
- Other Institutions: under budget (- \$2,475).
- Individual Memberships: under budget due to decrease in personal membership (- \$5,850).
- Friends: under budget due (- \$937).

Publications (- \$195)

- Sales: under budget due to decrease in demand for physical copies (- \$195).

Continuing Education (- \$43,616)

- Legislative Day: slightly under budget (- \$1,200).
- Convention & Expo: over budget due to timing of accrual (+ \$12,701).
- Workshops: under budget due to decrease in registration and timing of other events (- \$55,117).

Contract Income (- \$654)

- Sourcing Office: slightly under budget (- \$654).

Other Income (+ \$94,017)

- Interest and Dividends: over budget due to returns on short-term investments (+ \$3,605).
- Unrealized Gain/(Loss): over budget due to returns on long-term investments (+ \$64,764).
- Workers Comp: over budget due to timing of payments (+ \$26,264).
- JobLine: under budget due to decrease in non-member postings (- \$440).
- Management & Consulting: under budget due to decrease in background check requests (- \$175).

EXPENSES

Cost Center	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 609,119	\$ 603,944	\$ 5,175
Consultants and Contractors	125,660	192,649	(66,989)
Supplies and Resources	53,968	50,248	3,720
Communications	10,671	10,791	(120)
Printing/Design	3,531	3,764	(233)
Maintenance and Equipment	15,858	19,437	(3,579)
Space Rental	82,121	83,026	(905)
Travel	12,986	15,865	(2,879)
Management Expenses	87,072	97,713	(10,641)
TOTAL	\$ 1,000,986	\$ 1,077,437	\$ (76,451)

Salaries and Benefits (+ \$5,175)

- Staff Salaries: under budget due to timing of 2026 adjustments (- \$6,207).
- Accrued Vacation: reflects accrued vacation (+ \$19,151).
- Retirement: slightly under budget due to timing of plan contributions (- \$1,169).
- Health Insurance: under budget (- \$5,520).
- Worker's Compensation: on budget (+ \$5).
- Payroll Taxes: under budget (- \$1,126).
- LTD & Life Insurance: on budget (+ \$41).

Consultants and Contractors (- \$66,989)

- Auditor: slightly over budget (+ \$500).
- Speaker Honoraria: under budget due to timing of payment (- \$4,850).
- Legal Services: under budget due to timing of invoices (- \$20,690).
- Expo Contractors: under budget due to timing of payments (- \$2,503).
- Consultants/Contractors: under budget due to timing of payments (- \$39,447).

Supplies and Resources (+ \$3,720)

- Supplies: over budget due to timing of purchasing (+ \$4,896).
- Subscription/Resource Materials: under budget (- \$451).
- Computer Software/Supplies: under budget (- \$725).

Communications (- \$120)

- Telephone: Local/Mobile/Conf. Calls: on budget (+ \$2).
- Postage/Courier Service: under budget (- \$128).
- Internet: on budget (+ \$6).

Printing and Design (- \$233)

- Printing: under budget due to timing of payments (- \$205).
- Copying: on budget (- \$28).

Maintenance and Equipment (- \$3,579)

- Equipment Rental: under budget (- \$3,329).
- Equipment Maintenance: under budget (- \$529).
- Software Support: slightly over budget due to timing of payments (+ \$280).

Space Rental (- \$905)

- Office Space: slightly over budget due to CAM (+ \$941).
- Workshops/Meetings: under budget (- \$1,846).

Travel and Meals (- \$2,879)

- Board: slightly over budget due to strategic planning (+ \$1,434).
- Staff: under budget due to timing (- \$4,314).

Management Expenses (- \$10,641)

- Bank Services: under budget (- \$5,397).
- Investment Fees: slightly over budget (+ \$739).
- Depreciation Replacement: slightly under budget (- \$748).
- Employee Hiring: under budget for library background checks (- \$295).
- Insurance: on budget (+ \$2).
- Organization Memberships: under budget due to timing of payments (- \$189).
- Staff Development and Memberships: over budget due to timing (+ \$1,341).
- Advertising: under budget due to timing of purchases (- \$3,700).
- Catering and Other Meals: under budget due to timing of payments (- \$2,394).

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Net Change in Assets	\$ 572,383	\$ 456,685	\$ 115,698

Ohio Library Council
Income Statement
For the 7 Months Ending Friday, July 31, 2026

	July			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance
REVENUE						
Dues						
Institutional	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,053,394.00	\$1,054,438.00	(\$1,044.00)
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,525.00	7,000.00	(2,475.00)
Personal	2,328.50	1,797.00	531.50	188,751.50	194,601.00	(5,849.50)
Friends	25.00	0.00	25.00	1,025.00	1,962.00	(937.00)
Subtotal	\$2,353.50	\$1,797.00	\$556.50	\$1,247,695.50	\$1,258,001.00	(\$10,305.50)
Publications						
Sales	0.00	15.00	(15.00)	20.00	215.00	(195.00)
Subtotal	\$0.00	\$15.00	(\$15.00)	\$20.00	\$215.00	(\$195.00)
Continuing Education						
Legislative Day	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,800.00	15,000.00	(1,200.00)
Convention & Expo	63,440.00	10,435.00	53,005.00	108,580.46	95,879.00	12,701.46
Workshops	16,835.00	6,861.00	9,974.00	85,490.00	140,607.00	(55,117.00)
Subtotal	\$80,275.00	\$17,296.00	\$62,979.00	\$207,870.46	\$251,486.00	(\$43,615.54)
Contract Income						
Shared Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,345.55	3,000.00	(654.45)
Subtotal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,345.55	\$3,000.00	(\$654.45)
Other Income						
Interest & Dividends	3,309.96	2,917.00	392.96	24,024.59	20,420.00	3,604.59
Workers Compensation	23,923.13	0.00	23,923.13	26,263.51	0.00	26,263.51
Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	(3,524.67)	0.00	(3,524.67)	64,763.87	0.00	64,763.87
Jobline	0.00	80.00	(80.00)	160.00	600.00	(440.00)
Mgmt & Consulting Revenue	45.00	40.00	5.00	225.00	400.00	(175.00)
Subtotal	\$23,753.42	\$3,037.00	\$20,716.42	\$115,436.97	\$21,420.00	\$94,016.97
Total Revenue	\$106,381.92	\$22,145.00	\$84,236.92	\$1,573,368.48	\$1,534,122.00	\$39,246.48

Ohio Library Council
Income Statement
For the 7 Months Ending Friday, July 31, 2026

	July			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance
EXPENSES						
Salary & Benefits						
Staff Salaries	\$67,957.23	\$65,294.00	\$2,663.23	\$447,046.64	\$453,254.00	(\$6,207.36)
Accrued Vacation	(6,390.53)	0.00	(6,390.53)	19,150.51	0.00	19,150.51
Retirement Contribution	5,909.32	6,529.00	(619.68)	44,153.90	45,323.00	(1,169.10)
Health Insurance	8,929.43	10,199.00	(1,269.57)	62,617.29	68,137.00	(5,519.71)
Workers' Compensation	0.00	18.00	(18.00)	125.18	120.00	5.18
Payroll Taxes	4,375.54	4,970.00	(594.46)	33,380.25	34,506.00	(1,125.75)
LTD & Life Insurance	167.87	372.00	(204.13)	2,645.16	2,604.00	41.16
Subtotal	\$80,948.86	\$87,382.00	(\$6,433.14)	\$609,118.93	\$603,944.00	\$5,174.93
Consultants & Contractors						
Auditor	8,750.00	0.00	8,750.00	8,750.00	8,250.00	500.00
Speaker Honoraria	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,750.00	9,600.00	(4,850.00)
Legal Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,310.50	25,000.00	(20,689.50)
Expo Contractors	0.00	0.00	0.00	996.69	3,500.00	(2,503.31)
Consult / Contractors	8,906.38	29,782.00	(20,875.62)	106,852.40	146,299.00	(39,446.60)
Subtotal	\$17,656.38	\$29,782.00	(\$12,125.62)	\$125,659.59	\$192,649.00	(\$66,989.41)
Supplies & Resources						
Supplies	2,057.86	968.00	1,089.86	12,066.82	7,171.00	4,895.82
Subscriptions / Res Mat	705.86	531.00	174.86	3,440.15	3,891.00	(450.85)
Computer Sftwr / Supplies	3,693.55	3,170.00	523.55	38,461.45	39,186.00	(724.55)
Subtotal	\$6,457.27	\$4,669.00	\$1,788.27	\$53,968.42	\$50,248.00	\$3,720.42
Communications						
Telephone - Local	290.99	291.00	(0.01)	2,036.93	2,035.00	1.93
Postage	89.67	211.00	(121.33)	2,027.34	2,155.00	(127.66)
Internet	944.50	943.00	1.50	6,607.00	6,601.00	6.00
Subtotal	\$1,325.16	\$1,445.00	(\$119.84)	\$10,671.27	\$10,791.00	(\$119.73)
Printing & Typesetting						
Printing	0.00	580.00	(580.00)	2,267.05	2,472.00	(204.95)
Copying	153.98	93.00	60.98	1,263.76	1,292.00	(28.24)
Subtotal	\$153.98	\$673.00	(\$519.02)	\$3,530.81	\$3,764.00	(\$233.19)

Ohio Library Council
Income Statement
For the 7 Months Ending Friday, July 31, 2026

	July			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance
Maintenance & Equip						
Equipment Rental	\$964.81	\$1,387.00	(\$422.19)	\$15,351.57	\$18,681.00	(\$3,329.43)
Equipment Maintenance	0.00	108.00	(108.00)	227.05	756.00	(528.95)
Software Support	0.00	0.00	0.00	279.71	0.00	279.71
Subtotal	\$964.81	\$1,495.00	(\$530.19)	\$15,858.33	\$19,437.00	(\$3,578.67)
Space Rental						
Office Space	10,968.91	10,768.00	200.91	76,316.77	75,376.00	940.77
Workshops / Meetings	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,804.05	7,650.00	(1,845.95)
Subtotal	\$10,968.91	\$10,768.00	\$200.91	\$82,120.82	\$83,026.00	(\$905.18)
Travel						
Board	0.00	2,500.00	(2,500.00)	6,434.48	5,000.00	1,434.48
Staff Travel	1,761.57	1,700.00	61.57	6,551.18	10,865.00	(4,313.82)
Subtotal	\$1,761.57	\$4,200.00	(\$2,438.43)	\$12,985.66	\$15,865.00	(\$2,879.34)
Management Expenses						
Bank Services	942.30	353.86	588.44	8,030.91	13,428.18	(5,397.27)
Investment Fees	786.19	520.00	266.19	4,379.26	3,640.00	739.26
Depreciation	1,193.94	1,250.63	(56.69)	7,911.99	8,659.64	(747.65)
Employee Hiring	0.00	67.00	(67.00)	170.00	465.00	(295.00)
Insurance	716.58	717.00	(0.42)	5,016.10	5,014.00	2.10
Organizational Mbrshps	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,705.95	10,895.00	(189.05)
Staff Devel & Mbrshps	32.40	0.00	32.40	3,567.11	2,226.00	1,341.11
Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,700.00	(3,700.00)
Catering & Other Meals	0.00	2,325.00	(2,325.00)	47,290.58	49,685.00	(2,394.42)
Subtotal	\$3,671.41	\$5,233.49	(\$1,562.08)	\$87,071.90	\$97,712.82	(\$10,640.92)
Total Expenses	\$123,908.35	\$145,647.49	(\$21,739.14)	\$1,000,985.73	\$1,077,436.82	(\$76,451.09)
Net Change in Assets	<u>(\$17,526.43)</u>	<u>(\$123,502.49)</u>	<u>\$105,976.06</u>	<u>\$572,382.75</u>	<u>\$456,685.18</u>	<u>\$115,697.57</u>

**Ohio Library Council
Balance Sheet
As of Friday, July 31, 2026**

ASSETS

Cash and Short Term Investments

Commerce Nat'l Bank - Checking	\$79,869.39
Commerce Nat'l Bank- Money Market	487,021.65
Investments - Money Market	3,542.25
Investments - TRAK Account	696,827.28
Investments - Mutual Funds	890,128.52
Total Cash and Short Term Investments	<u>\$2,157,389.09</u>

Other Current Assets

Accounts Receivable	47,139.00
Office Equipment (net of Accum Depr)	53,877.34
Prepaid Postage	92.88
Operating Lease ROU Assets	71,310.17
Prepayments	69,303.24
Total Other Current Assets	<u>\$241,722.63</u>

Total Assets	<u><u>\$2,399,111.72</u></u>
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LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$3,634.26
Advances	1,112.46
Accrued Salaries	14,773.31
Accrued Vacation	66,620.54
Operating Lease Liability	79,495.20
Accrued Insurance	(1,705.28)
Total Liabilities	<u>\$163,930.49</u>

Net Assets

Unappropriated Fund Balance	1,662,798.48
YTD Change in Net Assets	572,382.75
Total Net Assets	<u>\$2,235,181.23</u>

Total Liabilities & Net Assets	<u><u>\$2,399,111.72</u></u>
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**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **3.B**

MEETING DATE: **Sept. 25, 2026**

SUBJECT: **OLC Strategic Planning
Vision & Mission Statements**

SUBMITTED BY: **Exec. Committee**

REPORT FOR ACTION

The OLC Executive Committee of the Board met via Zoom on Aug. 28. Prior to the meeting, the OLC Executive Director provided an agenda and Vista Cova's OLC Strategic Planning Retreat summary document.

Members of the Executive Committee include Stacey Russell, Chair; Mary Ellen Icaza, Past Chair; William Rutger, Chair-Elect; and Travis Bautz, Secretary-Treasurer. OLC Executive Director Michelle Francis also participated in the meeting.

The group discussed the three-year vision and goal areas as presented in the OLC Strategic Planning Retreat summary. The group discussed multiple options before settling on the following recommendations for vision and mission statements.

Vision: Thriving public libraries. Stronger Ohio communities.

Mission: Unite Ohio's public libraries through collaboration, education, and advocacy.

Goal Areas:

- * Communicating the Value of Public Libraries
- * Enhancing Member Education
- * Building Collaborative Communities
- * Thriving Organization

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **5.A**

MEETING DATE: **Sept. 25, 2026**

SUBJECT: **2026 OLC Elections Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Michelle Francis**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

Following is a list of individuals elected to leadership positions in the 2026 OLC elections.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
(Terms begin January 1, 2027)

MLIS DIRECTOR

Ben Heckman, Bexley Public Library

LIBRARY TRUSTEE DIRECTOR

Sandra Hedlund Tunnell, Ashland Public Library

AT-LARGE DIRECTOR

Stacey Russell, Muskingum County Library System

AT-LARGE DIRECTOR

Beth Steiner, Auglaize County Public District Library

DIVISION ACTION COUNCILS
(Terms begins January 1, 2027)

ADULT & REFERENCE SERVICES DIVISION

- Taryn Filer, Greene County Public Library
- Kristy Szkudlarek, Findlay-Hancock County Public Library

CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIVISION

- Ann Hayes, Toledo-Lucas County Public Library
- Elizabeth Stefanov, Akron-Summit County Public Library

CUSTOMER SERVICE & SUPPORT STAFF DIVISION

- Holly Perry, MidPointe Library System
- Mary Schreiber, Cuyahoga County Public Library

DIGITAL & MEDIA SERVICES DIVISION

- Mary Rose Bihler, Rodman Public Library
- Amanda Toth, Lane Libraries

HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION

- Dorinda Ellinger, Pickerington Public Library
- Kayla Moles, North Canton Public Library

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

- No Ballot

LIBRARY ACCOUNTING DIVISION

- Peter McCaughley, Bexley Public Library

MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

- Carrie Tilley, Elyria Public Library System
- Melanie Torok, Clark County Public Library

MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION

- Andrea Brofft, Clermont County Public Library
- Angela Hursh, Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library

OUTREACH AND SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION

- Faida McCain, Pickerington Public Library
- Loni Smith, Williams County Public Library

SMALL LIBRARIES DIVISION

- Kathy Bennett, Columbiana Public Library
- Laura Riley, Licking County Library

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DIVISION

- Rachael Bussert, Dayton Metro Library
- Michael Sherfy, Public Library of Mount Vernon & Knox County

TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

- Alisha Runnels, Pemberville Public Library
- Amanda Walter, Medina County District Library

TEEN SERVICES DIVISION

- Madi Leidel-Choi, Grandview Heights Public Library
- Karla Moeller, Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **5.B**

MEETING DATE: **Sept. 25, 2026**

SUBJECT: **OLC Board Meeting Dates - 2027**

SUBMITTED BY: **Michelle Francis**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

Following are the proposed dates for the 2027 meetings of the OLC Board of Directors. Board members are encouraged to check their calendars and report any major conflicts. Final approval of the schedule will take place at the Nov. 13 meeting.

- Jan. 15
- March 12
- May 14
- July 16
- Sept. 10
- Nov. 12

All meetings will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the OLC Office in Dublin or via Zoom.

Other dates to note:

ALA National Library Legislative Day – Feb. 24-25

OLC Library Fiscal Officer CPIM Conference – April 8-9

OLC Legislative Day – May 19

ALA Annual (New Orleans) – June 24-28

OLC Convention & Expo (Sharonville) – Oct. 27-29

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **5.C**

MEETING DATE: **Sept. 25, 2026**

SUBJECT: **ALA Councilor Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Nick Tepe**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

ALSC and YALSA reunification

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) and Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) divisions officially reunited on September 1. This process has been underway for more than a year, guided by input and collaboration from ALSC and YALSA members, boards, committees, and staff.

Beginning September 1, all YALSA memberships will transition to ALSC memberships, giving members access to the resources and benefits of the reunified division. Members who currently belong to both ALSC and YALSA will likewise be part of the combined membership.

The division will continue operating under the ALSC name during the initial transition period while a comprehensive rebranding process takes place. The 2026–2027 ALSC Board of Directors will work with a consultant to develop the division’s new vision, mission, and strategic plan in alignment with the ALA Strategic Plan, while gathering input from members to help inform the division’s future identity and name.

The reunification will also bring together committee structures and volunteer opportunities. YALSA standing committees and task forces will conclude their work as currently structured on September 1, with award committees transitioning to operate within ALSC. Existing ALSC committees have been reorganized and expanded to reflect the reunified division’s broader focus on library services for children and teens. The structure is intentionally flexible during the inaugural year, allowing committees, charges, and rosters to evolve as members and leaders assess workload, capacity, and emerging needs.

Incidents Against Immigrants in Libraries Reporting Form

The Services to Refugees, Immigrants, and Displaced Persons Sub-Committee of the Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services Advisory Committee has launched the ["Incidents Against Immigrants in Libraries"](#) reporting form.

Modeled in part on the American Library Association Office for Intellectual Freedom’s censorship reporting system, this new tool provides a confidential way to document anti-immigrant incidents occurring in libraries, archives, and other information institutions. Reports may involve individuals from any immigrant community, including refugees,

international students, undocumented immigrants, people with temporary immigration status, permanent residents, and others.

Reporting these incidents is essential to helping the library and information professions better understand, address, and prevent the challenges affecting the immigrant communities we serve in the current moment. Reports may be submitted anonymously. All information will be kept confidential, and incidents will be reported only in aggregate. The information collected will help the American Library Association and SRIDP identify patterns, assess emerging concerns, and develop resources that support immigrant communities and the institutions that serve them.

This project is in partnership with ALA's Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services and the LINA Project.

If you'd like to learn more about the form and how it works, please watch the committee's introduction that provides an overview of the subcommittee and the form.

- [Introductory Video: SRIDP's New "Incidents Against Immigrants in Libraries" Reporting Form](#)

For more information, please visit the following resources.

- [Introducing SRIDP's "Incidents Against Immigrants in Libraries" Reporting Form | ALA](#)
- [Libraries Respond: Immigrants, Refugees, and Asylum Seekers | ALA](#)
- [Services to Refugees, Immigrants, and Displaced Persons \(SRIDP\) Sub-Committee | ALA](#)

Message from the State Librarian

In August, the State Library truly began to settle in to its new homes in Columbus. This includes small items like arranging furnishing, hanging photos, repainting walls scuffed by the move, as well as larger plans like making plans for new workflows, discussing the future of services, and working towards our future.

I am also pleased to share with you the [State Library's Annual Report for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year](#). This report highlights a year of growth, innovation, and expanded support for communities across Ohio. It details key initiatives such as improved digital services, strengthened partnerships, and efforts to increase accessibility to statewide resources. I am very proud of everything our staff has done to achieve these goals.

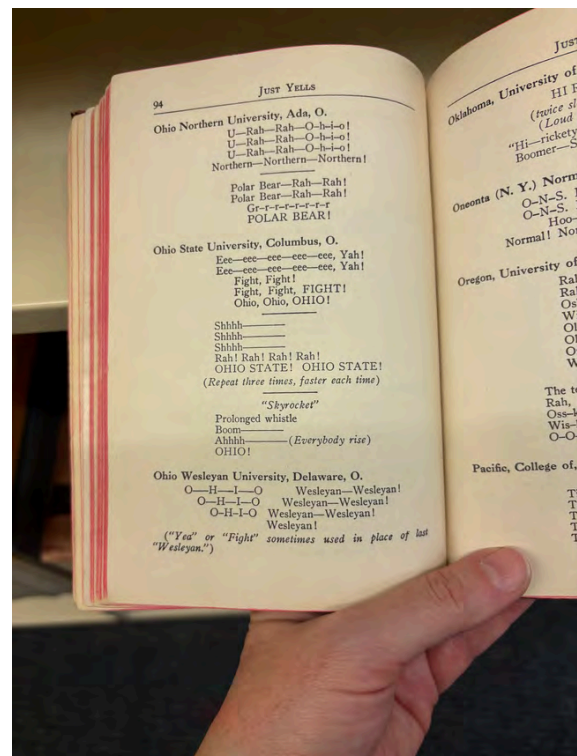


Highlights

- After a thorough search and assessment, the Serving Every Ohioan Consortium has chosen Polaris as its next integrated library system (ILS). The projected start date is fall 2027.
- The Research Library's restart of service was mapped out and work has begun. New library card applications have started and RapidILL requests are set to previous parameters. Look for more updates soon!
- Progress was made on the evaluation of the current Library Services Technology Act (LSTA) Five-Year Plan.

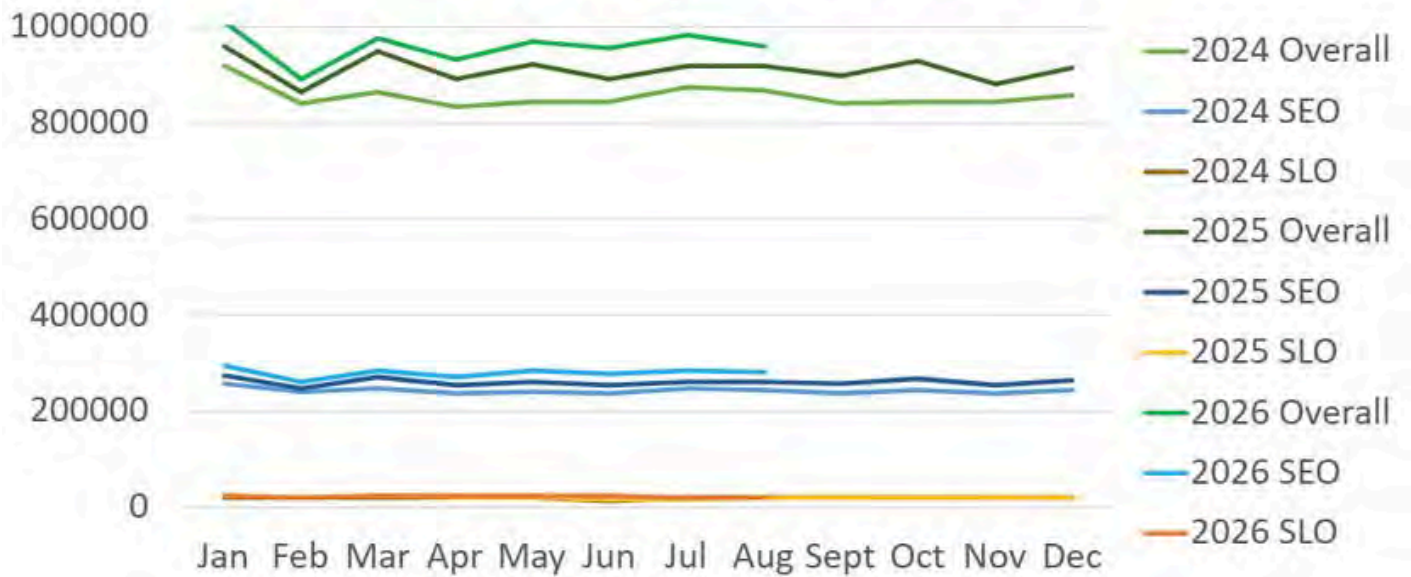


State Library's Reading Room at 35 E. Chestnut begins to take shape.

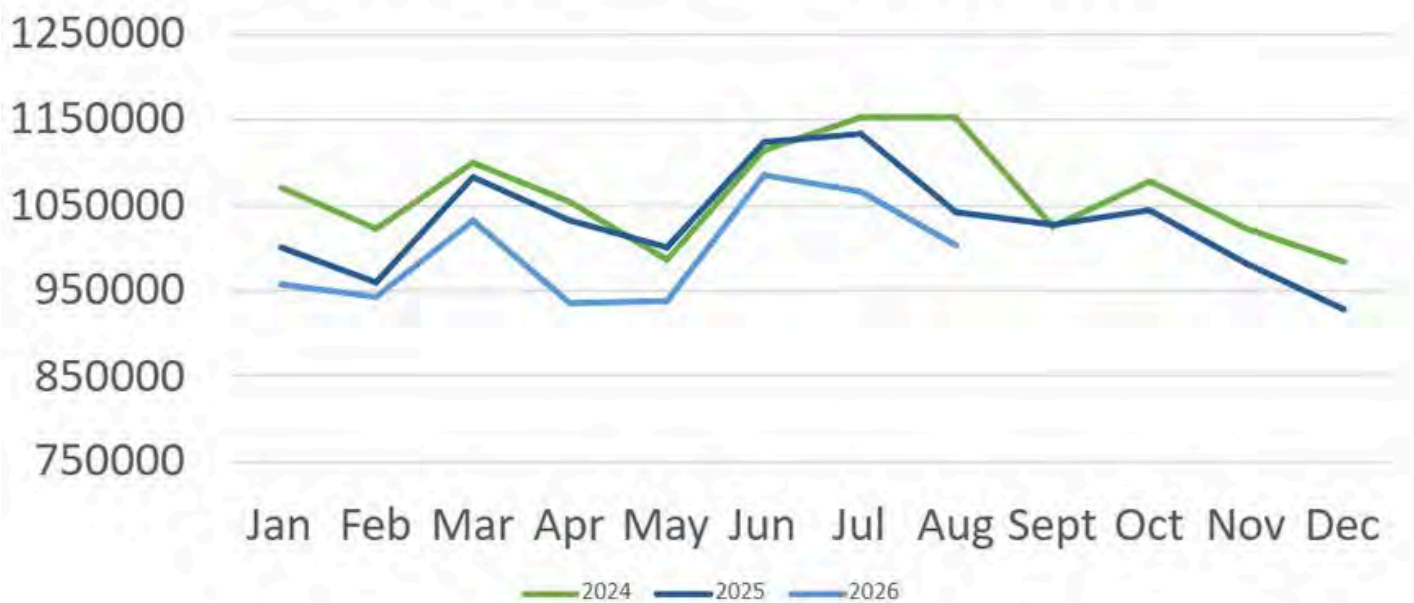


***From the Research Library's collection:
"Just Yells: A Guide for Cheerleaders" (1927)
instructs cheerleaders on school-specific chants***

Ohio Digital Library Circulation by Month



SEO Consortium Physical Circulation by Month



Staff Training by Month



Cooperative Partnership Meetings by Month



Library Services—August 2026

Presentation to Veterans' Group Board

This month we had the opportunity to present to the Board of **Vietnam Veterans of America: Buckeye State Council**. We spoke with them about the varied work that the State Library of Ohio does to support state agencies, Ohio libraries, and Ohio residents. We also spoke about our federal and state document depositories and shared some of the rare documents from the St. Clair papers and shared our upcoming grant work which will involve digitizing this rare collection of manuscripts.



State Librarian Mandy Knapp and Director of Library Operations Ryan Burley presenting to the Board of Vietnam Veterans of America: Buckeye State Council



State Library of Ohio Display at Ohio Veterans Convention

Ohio Veterans Convention

On August 8, Talking Book Supervisor Angelyn Hellman promoted the Talking Book program at the **Ohio Veterans Convention** at Ohio Union at The Ohio State University. This event brought together veterans, families, advocates, and partners for a daylong celebration of service and resources. Angelyn spoke with 93 attendees about the State Library of Ohio and the Talking Book program and promoted our services.

Library Programs & Development—August 2026



Library Consultants Jeff Laser and Erin Kelsey (pictured left; l to r) facilitate a strategic planning activity at Louisville Public Library. Library Consultant Katy Hite attended the Delaware County District Library's America250 program, "A Fair to Remember: The 1893 Chicago World's Fair" where artifacts were on display, including a ticket from the fair, still in excellent condition (pictured right).

Library Consultants on the Road

As part of their strategic planning services, Library Consultants Katy Hite, Erin Kelsey, and Jeff Laser visited the Louisville Public Library (facilitating three interactive workshops for staff, leadership team, and Board) as well as the Grove City branch of the Southwest Public Libraries (orientation meeting with director, Meredith Wickham).

Library Consultant Jeff Regensburger presented a session at the Ohio Library Employees Institute (OLEI) about having

difficult conversations, and provided some tips and best practices for managing potential fallout. OLEI was facilitated by OhioNet, and is a reboot of the long-running Ohio Library Support Staff Institute (OLSSI).

Library Consultant Penelope Shumaker visited The Ohio State University's Knowlton School of Architecture Archive, as selections from this archive will soon be contributed to the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) via the State Library's Ohio Digital Network.

Though it feels like summer 2026 just wrapped up, the 2027 [Collaborative Summer Library Program](#) manual access code will be distributed in October. The 2027 CSLP theme is Mystery with the slogan *Mysteries Await at Your Library / Misterios te esperan en tu biblioteca* and artwork by [Laurie A. Conley](#) featuring 2027 CSLP

program mascot Inspector Whiskers (pictured, right). See the [Ohio Summer Library Program website](#) for resources to support summer planning year-round, and contact Youth Services Consultant [Janet Ingraham Dwyer](#) or Adult Services Consultant [Katy Hite](#) with any questions.

ODL By the Numbers

Let's take a deeper dive into the Ohio Digital Library (ODL) for the month of August:

Total checkouts:

958,409 (7,666,291 YTD)

Format preference:

Slightly more audiobooks (roughly 438K) than ebooks (408K) circulated in August. Magazines clocked in with 111K.

Support:

81 support tickets were submitted and answered in August.

Most popular book title:

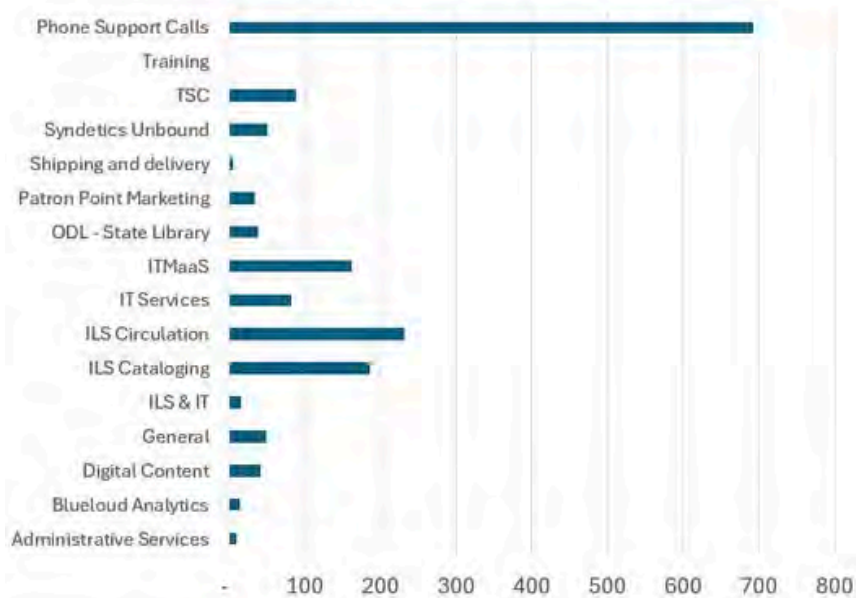
The Calamity Club, by Kathryn Stockett (audiobook)

Curious about what's being checked out? Take a look at the [real-time checkouts and holds](#).



SEO Service Center—August 2026

SEO Service Center Support Tickets and Calls for August 2026



Quick Takeaways:

- Phone support calls (693) dominated overall volume.
- ILS work (Circulation + Cataloging 417) represented a major share of operational demand.
- IT Services + ITMaaS (244) and TSC (88) continue to be significant service drivers.

Key service highlights include:

- **Four library visits** – Brown Memorial Public Library, Kaubisch Memorial Public Library, Germantown Public Library, and Gratis Public Library

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

- Over **1,002,857** items were circulated.
- **192,680** holds were created, and **185,443** holds were filled.
- **10,476** new users were created.
- **570** interlibrary loan requests were initiated.
- **1,009** support tickets were created, with **9** relayed to the software vendor.



Mobile App Stats	2025	2026	% Change
New Devices	2172	2147	-1%
Holds Placed	33,460	34,435	3%
App Launched	90,312	102,983	14%
Searches	89,585	91,541	2%



- Serving Every Ohioan Staff Tutorial views: **1257**
- Online Catalog Patron Tutorial views: **500**



- Heavy use in Announcements and Newsletters being sent (**360,718 emails**)
- Medium use in Birthday/Anniversary campaigns (**3,397 emails**)
- Light use of Winback (**505 emails**) and Coming of Age (**1,544 emails**) campaigns



LSTA Competitive Grant Application Now Open

August 18, 2026: The State Library of Ohio is proud to support Ohio's libraries in developing programs and services that address the needs of their respective communities while remaining steadfast in their commitment to the values and principles of library service.



Janet Ingraham Dwyer to Receive the 2026 Ohio Library Council Hall of Fame Librarian Award

August 24, 2026: The State Library of Ohio is proud to announce that Janet Ingraham Dwyer has been selected as the 2026 recipient of the Ohio Library Council (OLC) Hall of Fame Librarian Award. The OLC Hall of Fame Librarian Award recognizes library professionals whose careers have made an enduring impact on Ohio libraries and the communities they serve. This prestigious honor recognizes Janet's exemplary career of service, leadership, collaboration, mentorship, and dedication to Ohio's libraries.



State Library Awards \$25,437 in 2026 LSTA Open Grants

August 18, 2026: The State Library of Ohio is proud to support Ohio's libraries in developing programs and services that address the needs of their respective communities while remaining steadfast in their commitment to the values and principles of library service.

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **5.E**

MEETING DATE: **Sept. 25, 2026**

SUBJECT: **OPLIN Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Don Yarman**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

OPLIN Board comments to the FCC regarding proposed E-Rate Rules

The comment letter to the FCC regarding proposed E-Rate rules highlights the importance of E-Rate to OPLIN's mission, noting that a loss of funding cannot be "made up" through other means, and would result in a direct, significant impact to all public libraries in Ohio. We mentioned how we used E-rate to help deliver fiber access to communities like Chesterhill (population 276) and Powhatan Point (population 1461). In particular, the letter voices concerns we have with the proposal that each library in a consortium must directly submit their own form 479 (CIPA certification) in the E-Rate portal. That is wildly inefficient, and frankly, most libraries in Ohio just won't do it. OPLIN supports allowing consortia to continue to act as the administrative agents for their members, and be required to produce certifications as part of the 471 process or upon request of reviewers.

(And speaking of those certifications, you can complete that paperwork now at oplin.org/erate.)

New Sanborn Maps interface debuting at OLC Convention

OPLIN's interface to the Ohio Sanborn Maps collection required necessary work to bring it up to accessibility standards. In the process, we have enriched the low-resolution, black and white collection by referencing newer, better scans provided by the Library of Congress, and we are implementing the International Image Operability Framework to facilitate API integration. The new interface will have significantly better search capability to expose more of the valuable historical content that the maps contain.

I also hope to have the "Statewide Database Booster Program" site launched shortly before the convention. Libraries will be invited to pledge their financial support for sharing the cost with OPLIN to "boost" select, locally purchased resources to statewide access for all. Our pilot database for the program will be *Gale LegalForms*, a valuable resource that many libraries subscribe to, but which is out of reach for smaller libraries to afford. OhioLINK has a long record of success with this type of shared funding model, which they liken to NPR or PBS: some people pay, but everyone gets it. Public libraries are, of course, very different than university libraries, and OPLIN has failed to make this work in the past, but I'm reasonably optimistic that with the right subscriptions and better tools, we might use this version of crowdfunding to expand equity of access.

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **5.F**

MEETING DATE: **Sept. 25, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Executive Director's Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Michelle Francis**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

OLC Board Elections

OLC Elections ended on July 30. The results were reviewed with Mary Ellen Icaza, Chair of the OLC Board of Directors Nominating Committee on Aug. 5. The return rate for the Board was 16%. Board candidates were notified by phone, and all candidates for Division Action Councils were notified by letter. A full report of the results was published in *Access Weekly*.

OLC Workers Comp Program

More than 190 public library systems will be participating in OLC's 2027 Group Rating and Group Retrospective Rating Program. The total estimated savings for the participating OLC Institutional Members is \$366,192.

Amazon Business Prime

There are currently 226 public library systems participating in OLC's Amazon Business Prime Program. Participating OLC Institutional Member library systems have saved \$510,984 on purchases and shipping over the past year. Additional information will be shared at the board meeting.

OLC Office Lease

OLC's current office lease at 495 Metro Place South expires in Summer 2027. We are working with our commercial real estate consultant at Newmark to review possible options. We toured eight possible locations on Aug. 24 based on our square footage needs. We are following up with an RFP for three of those locations in addition to our current space. Additional information will be shared at the board meeting.

Library Card Sign-up Month

September is Library Card Sign-up Month, a time when OLC and libraries nationwide join with the ALA to remind parents, caregivers, and students that signing up for a library card is the first step towards academic achievement and lifelong learning.

Special Meeting for Association Libraries

Based on requests and feedback, the OLC scheduled a special meeting for the 19 Institutional Member Association Libraries to address legal and legislative issues impacting them. The meeting was held on Aug. 6 at the OLC Office.

OLC 2027 Planning & Leadership Conference

This is an opportunity for OLC Committees and Division Action Councils to meet and plan for 2027. This event will be virtual on Thursday, Dec. 3. Formal invitations will be distributed, and registration will be required.

Activities

Activities from the last Board meeting on July 18 include:

July 20	OLC Staff Meeting eBook meeting w/Amazon
July 31	GZ Learn Meeting
Aug. 3	OLC GRC Meeting
Aug. 4	OLC HR 102 Hybrid Workshop OPPS Coalition Steering Committee Meeting
Aug. 5	OLC Staff Meeting Meeting w/Dr. Howard Fleeter Meeting w/Metro Library Directors Meeting w/Nominating Committee Chair
Aug. 6	Special OLC Meeting for Association Libraries
Aug. 10	OLC Staff Meeting
Aug. 11	ICLAE Meeting
Aug. 12	Interview w/Cleveland.com
Aug. 13	Meeting w/Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease (OLC Legal Counsel)
Aug. 14	OPLIN Board Meeting Meeting w/Northway Advisors
Aug. 17	OLC Staff Meeting Controlling Board Meeting Meeting w/Midwest Tape/hoopla Meeting w/Northway Advisors
Aug. 18	Meeting w/AOS
Aug. 19	Meeting w/School Principals Assoc.
Aug. 20	Meeting w/Amazon Business
Aug. 21	OLC Library Fiscal Officer 102 Workshop
Aug. 24	OLC Staff Meeting OLC Office Space Tour
Aug. 26	OLC New Directors Workshop #4
Aug. 28	OLC Board of Directors Executive Committee Meeting

Aug. 31	OLC Staff Meeting Meeting w/Dr. Howard Fleeter Meeting w/ARSL on GZ
Sept. 1	State Employees Relations Board Conference OPPS Coalition Steering Committee Meeting
Sept. 2	Meeting on Sustainable Libraries Initiative Meeting w/Metro Library Directors
Sept. 8	OLC Staff Meeting ICLAE Meeting
Sept. 11	OLC Safety & Security Conference
Sept. 14	OLC Staff Meeting
Sept. 15	Meeting w/Northway Advisors
Sept. 16	Meeting w/Speaker Huffman PLA Webinar on News Access & Media Literacy

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **5.G.1**

MEETING DATE: **Sept. 25, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Government and Legal
Services Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Jay Smith**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

PLF Update

State tax collections continue to outperform revenue estimates. The Ohio Office of Budget and Management (OBM) recently updated their revenue forecasts for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 as FY 2026 revenues far exceeded estimates. According to OBM, the state collected nearly \$2.68 billion in General Revenue Fund (GRF) tax dollars in August and overall state tax receipts for the month came in \$29.2 million (or + 1.1%) above their recently revised estimates.

The Ohio Department of Taxation (ODT) recently posted the September 2026 Public Library Fund (PLF) distribution of \$41,253,002 — which is about \$393,681 (or + 0.96%) above ODT's original estimate that was issued in July 2025. This brings the statewide PLF Calendar Year (CY) 2026 year-to-date total to \$362,177,789.

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 September 2026 can be found on the [OLC website](#).

ODT Issues Initial CY 27 PLF Certification

At the end of July, the Ohio Department of Taxation (ODT) posted its initial county-by-county certifications for the Public Library Fund (PLF) for calendar year (CY) 2027.

- [PDF of Each County's Total Estimated Entitlement](#)
- [Excel Spreadsheet with the Monthly Estimates for Each County](#)

Please read the entitlement letter for your county carefully. The CY 2027 entitlement estimates are based on the PLF funded through an appropriation for the state fiscal year 2026-2027 biennium. Your county's share was determined pursuant to the formula contained in ORC 5747.46 and 5747.47. Additionally, the displayed amounts are net of transfers to the Library for the Blind, the Ohio Public Library Information Network (OPLIN), the State Library, the Ohioana Library Association, and the Regional Library Systems.

Please note that these estimates only reflect your county's funding through June 2027. Because this is an appropriation provided in HB 96 of the 136th General Assembly, ODT did not include estimates for July through December 2027. This is a change from when the PLF was a percentage of the GRF, and all twelve months were included.

As required by law, ODT's estimates will be updated again in December 2026.

5.G.1: Government and Legal Services Report

Because the PLF is a line-item appropriation, we understand that many libraries have questions about next year's budgeting, especially those participating in County Budget Commission meetings or submitting their Calendar Year 2027 budgets. At this time, OLC has reached out to the Ohio Department of Taxation, the County Auditors Association of Ohio, and the Auditor of State. Based on the feedback we have received so far, the certifications from the Department of Taxation will not impact the Ohio Compliance Supplement from the Auditor of State's Office. However, they are aware of the situation and plan to issue internal communications and updates to their Independent Public Accountants who may audit public libraries. They recognize that libraries will most likely have to complete updated or amended budgets once the state biennial budget legislation passes in June of 2027.

Road Ahead Tour Begins in October

Conversations about Ohio's next state budget are already underway, even though the proposed Fiscal Year 2028–29 budget won't be formally introduced until March of 2027. The work to protect and strengthen library funding starts now.

During these meetings, participants will:

- Receive an update on OLC's advocacy priorities and legislative strategy.
- Learn what to expect during the state budget process.
- Get an overview of OLC's advocacy tools and where to find them on the OLC website.
- Discuss how Ohio's public libraries can work together to present a unified, statewide message in support of the Public Library Fund.

All library directors are encouraged to attend one of the meetings on the [OLC Event Calendar](#). Trustees and Fiscal Officers are also welcome to attend.

Your participation is important. These meetings ensure Ohio libraries are informed, prepared, and speaking with one strong voice. Thank you to the members of the OLC Legislative Network for helping coordinate this year's Road Ahead Tour.

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **5.G.2**

MEETING DATE: **Sept. 25, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Professional Development
Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Laurie Miller**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

2026 OLC Convention and Expo – Search. Create. Inspire – October 21-23, 2026

- We currently have 74 exhibitors and 15 sponsors. Only 4 booths left in the hall!
- Online registration closes Oct. 7. Currently we have 504 registered (includes exhibitors).
- Overnight hotel reservation cutoff is Sept. 28.
- Keynote Speakers:
 - o Wednesday – Media Panel w/Tom Suddes, Jo Ingles and Noah Blundo
 - o Thursday – Beth Z, Your Nerdy Best Friend
 - o Friday – Anthony W. Scott, Esq.
- Special Events
 - o Wednesday – Awards & Honors Luncheon, New Member Meet & Greet, Grand Opening in the Exhibit Hall, Opening Night at Kalahari (Battledecks, Hootenanny and Tattoo Contest)
 - o Thursday – PDC Lunch & Learn and Night on the Town in Sandusky
 - o Friday – Exhibit Hall Prize Drawings

Meetings Participation

- GZ Learn Meeting – July 21
- Technical Services Division Meeting – July 28
- Digital and Media Services Division Meeting – June 10
- GZ Learn Meeting – July 31
- GZ Learn Meeting – Aug. 7
- C&E Local Arrangements Committee Meeting – Aug.10
- Technical Services Division Meeting – Aug. 13
- C&E Program Committee Meeting – Aug. 17
- C&E Expo Committee Meeting – Aug. 18
- Adult & Reference Services Division Meeting – Sept. 10
- Digital and Media Services Division Meeting – Sept. 2
- Where Mission and Margin Meet: Insights on Learning Strategy Webinar – Sept. 2
- Professional Development Committee Meeting – Sept. 10
- C&E LA/Expo Committee Meeting – Sept. 14

2026 Events	Date	Location	Attendance
Special Virtual Meeting for Directors & FOs	Jan. 28	Virtual	284
Membership Meet-up	Feb. 9	Virtual	42
Teen Services Talk	Feb. 10	Virtual	31
Outreach Coffee Chat	Feb. 27	Virtual	30
Preparing for Legislative Day Webinar	Mar. 3	Virtual	183
IT Division "Rack'side Chat"	Mar. 6	Virtual	24
Library Trustee Workshop	Mar. 7	OLC/Virtual	59
Library Legislative Day	Mar. 18	Renaissance Columbus	191
CPIM – Public Library Fiscal Officer Conf.	Mar. 26-27	Embassy Suites Dublin	132
Membership Meet-up	Apr. 6	Virtual	24
Library Trustees Lunch (SW)	Apr. 9	MidPointe Library, West Chester	26
Amazon Business for Libraries	Apr. 13	Virtual	149
Special Virtual Meeting for Directors & FOs	Apr. 16	Virtual	246
Library Trustees Dinner (NW)	Apr. 16	Stone Ridge Golf Club, Bowling Green	43
Library Trustees Dinner (East)	Apr. 30	Guernsey County Library, Cambridge	19
Library Trustees Dinner (NE)	May 7	Embassy Suites Independence	91
Virtual Mentorship Series #1	May 13	Virtual	27
Teen Services Talk	May 14	Virtual	17
Equalis Group Webinar: Joint Purchasing	May 18	Virtual	53
New Directors Workshop Series 1 of 4	May 19	OLC/Virtual	19
IT Division "Rack'side Chat"	Jun. 5	Virtual	15
Outreach Coffee Chat	Jun. 12	Virtual	16
HR Hybrid Workshop 101	Jun. 16	OLC/Virtual	91
New Directors Workshop Series 2 of 4	Jun. 23	OLC/Virtual	18
Ballot Issues Workshop #1	Jul. 9	Virtual	29
Statehouse Update Webinar	Jul. 14	Virtual	175
Virtual Mentorship Series #2	Jul. 15	Virtual	26
New Directors Workshop Series 3 of 4	Jul. 22	OLC/Virtual	18
Tech Services Summer Webinar	Jul. 28	Virtual	59
Voter Registration Responsibilities Webinar	Jul. 30	Virtual	225
HR Hybrid Workshop 201	Aug. 4	OLC/Virtual	67
Teen Services Talk	Aug. 12	Virtual	26
Marketing Meet-Up	Aug. 12	Virtual	44
Outreach and Special Services Retreat	Aug. 14	Virtual	21

5.G.2: Professional Development Report

Library Fiscal Officer 102	Aug. 21	OLC/Virtual	57
New Directors Workshop Series 4 of 4	Aug. 26	OLC/Virtual	22
IT Division "Rack'side Chat"	Sept. 4	Virtual	49
Safety & Security Conference	Sept. 11	OC LC Conference Center	55
Virtual Mentorship Series #3	Sept. 16	Virtual	21
Outreach Coffee Chat	Sept. 25	Virtual	11
OLC Road Ahead Tour – Lorain	Oct. 6	Lorain Public Library	11
OLC Road Ahead Tour – Chillicothe & Ross County	Oct. 7	Chillicothe & Ross Co. Public Library Annex	16
OLC Road Ahead Tour – Puskarich	Oct. 13	Puskarich Public Library	7
OLC Road Ahead Tour – Mansfield/Richland County	Oct. 14	Mansfield/Richland County Public Library	8
OLC Road Ahead Tour – Coshocton County	Oct. 15	Coshocton County District Library	10
2026 Convention & Expo	Oct. 21-23	Kalahari, Sandusky	504
OLC Road Ahead Tour – Warren-Trumbull County	Oct. 27	Warren-Trumbull County Public Library	14
OLC Road Ahead Tour – Washington-Centerville	Oct. 28	Washington-Centerville Public Library	12
OLC Road Ahead Tour – Stark County	Oct. 29	Stark County District Library	5
OLC Road Ahead Tour – Mercer County	Oct. 30	Mercer County District Library	7
OLC Road Ahead Tour – Marion	Nov. 3	Marion Public Library	8
OLC Road Ahead Tour - OLC	Nov. 4	OLC Office	6
OLC Road Ahead Tour – Wood County	Nov. 6	Wood County District Public Library	22
OLC Road Ahead Tour – Euclid	Nov. 11	Euclid Public Library	8
Virtual Mentorship Series #4	Nov. 11	Virtual	9
Teen Services Talk	Nov. 16	Virtual	13
Planning & Leadership Conference	Dec. 3	Virtual	Not Open
IT Division "Rack'side Chat"	Dec. 4	Virtual	3
Ballot Issues Workshop #2	Dec. TBD	OLC/Virtual	Not Open

5.G.2: Professional Development Report

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **5.G.3**

MEETING DATE: **Sept. 25, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Communications Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Angie Jacobsen**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

Library Card Sign-up Month

Promotions for Library Card Sign-Up Month are ongoing throughout September, with a variety of resources available for members via Access, the OLC website and social media pages. On August 31, OLC issued a press release encouraging Ohioans to get a library card and highlighting the many resources and services available through their local libraries.

Media coverage:

[Visit your local library during Library Card Sign-up Month](#)
[Library Council Marks Card Sign-Up Month](#)

A [letter](#) was also sent to legislators highlighting the importance of library cards as a valuable back-to-school resource for families. The letter also included results from the statewide poll.

Awards and Honors Media Coverage

A press release announcing the 2026 award recipients was distributed, and the winners were featured in Access and on the OLC website. The “Awards and Honors Spotlight” series continues to highlight recipients in Access each week.

Media coverage:

[Troyer among state's top library professionals honored by Ohio Library Council](#)
[Troyer earns Ohio library leadership award](#)
[Coolidge Wall Attorney Lu Ann Stanley Named Ohio's 2026 Local Library Champion](#)
[Stanley wins 'Local Library Champion' Ohio Library Council award for service](#)
[Reading Railroad Recognized by OLC for Innovation Award](#)
[What Does It Mean to Be Ohio's Librarian of the Year?](#)
[Janet Ingraham Dwyer to Receive the 2026 Ohio Library Council Hall of Fame Librarian Award](#)
[CCPL Branch Manager Steve Haynie Receives Honor from Ohio Library Council](#)
[SE-L library branch manager receives Service Excellence Award](#)

Convention and Expo

Updates for the 2026 Convention and Expo continue to be added to the OLC website, including sponsors and exhibitors. A promotional postcard was mailed on July 18, and ongoing promotional efforts are being carried out through Access, social media, and the OLC website.

Work has begun on the on-site guide, which will feature maps of the Kalahari Convention Center, session times, room assignments, and full-page ads for the event sponsors.

Development of the Convention and Expo mobile app is also underway. The app will offer detailed session descriptions and speaker information; program ratings; customizable agendas for attendees; upload functionality for speaker handouts; and session evaluations directly through the app.

Planning is also underway for new OLC booth in the Exhibit Hall. To make the most effective use of members' time and professional development dollars, the OLC Connects area has changed to the "Member Info Hub." Rather than hosting individual Division and Committee tables, this year there will be one large, interactive booth in the Exhibit Hall. This new format is designed to increase visibility for all Divisions and Committees without requiring each group to set up or staff its own table.

The booth will be staffed by Division Action Council and Committee members during Exclusive Viewing Times. Members interested in volunteering can sign up for 30-minute shift through an online form. To streamline materials and reduce printing costs, all Division and Committee resources will be available electronically through the Member Info Hub.

Election Results

OLC election information was shared through *This Week*, *Access*, and the OLC website. Official results were announced on Aug. 12 in *Access* and the OLC website.

Division/Committee Projects

- Marketing and PR Division hosted a "Marketing Meet-up" online forum on Aug. 12, with 19 participants.
- Teen Services Division hosted a "Teen Services Talk" on Aug. 12, with 20 participants.
- Children's Services Division sent its quarterly newsletter on Sept. 11.

OLC Website

The top-performing pages on the OLC website over the past 60 days are:

1. Jobs
2. Convention and Expo
3. Calendar
4. Ohio Public Library Directory
5. Library Funding/PLF
6. OLC News
7. Certification
8. Individual Membership
9. Divisions
10. Awards and Honors

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **5.G.4**

MEETING DATE: **Sept. 25, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Membership Services Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Jeanine D'Andrea**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

Individual Membership

As of Sept. 1, 2026, there are 2,167 Individual Members as compared to 2,128 on Sept. 1, 2025. There are currently 1746 renewals; 390 new; and 31 Lifetime. There are currently 42 Friends Groups; 7 Associate Members; 5 Other and 1723 Trustees.

Proration of Individual membership dues for *new* members only, began on July 1 and continues through Sept. 30. To date we have received 15 new members through the proration period. New Members joining after Oct. 1 receive free membership for the remainder of the current year with the payment of full dues for the following year.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee met on June 18. Staff have been in contact with Sheila Ward, Chair and Jennifer Buch, incoming Chair, regarding upcoming meetings, committee appointment recommendations, and Convention. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Oct. 1 at the OLC Office to begin planning for the 2027 Individual Membership program.

Committee Appointments

Committee openings have been identified and shared with staff for fulfillment. A full report of appointments will be shared with the Appointments Committee when completed and presented at the November 2026 Board meeting for action.

Nominations and Elections

The OLC Nominations and Elections process was completed on July 30. Divisions had a return rate between 27% – 49%. All candidates for Division Action Councils were notified by email. A full report of the results was published in Access.

Convention and Expo

OLC is re-imagining and refreshing the “OLC Member Info Hub” formerly known as OLC Connects. There will be one 10 x 20 booth with an interactive game to draw members in where they can learn more about “How to Get Involved,” navigating the OLC Member Info Hub platform, and learning more about the work of OLC Committees and Divisions. OLC Division and Committee volunteers can choose one time slot during exclusive viewing times to be available to assist visitors in the booth. This alleviates the time commitment during Convention programming for volunteers to attend sessions.

Awards and Honors

We have received positive feedback regarding this year's selection of award winners. The publicity coverage has been significant. Details for the Awards Luncheon are moving forward. We encourage Board members to attend the Awards and Honors Luncheon on Oct. 21, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm. Pre-registration is required.

New Member Meet & Greet

We will be hosting a New Member Meet & Greet at the Convention on Oct. 21 from 4:00-4:30 in the Indigo Bay Room. We encourage Board members to attend if possible. New members will be sent an invitation prior to the event.