

# Mukwonago Community Library Library Board Bylaws

## Article I Identification

This organization is the Board of Trustees of the Mukwonago Community Library, a municipal public library located in Mukwonago, Wisconsin, established by the Wisconsin county of Waukesha, according to the provisions of Chapter 43 of the Wisconsin Statutes, and exercising the powers and assuming the duties granted to it under said statute.

## Article II Membership

**Section 1. Appointments and Terms of Office.** The Mukwonago Community Library Board shall consist of eleven members, constituted as follows as per Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 43.54 (1) (a):

One member shall be a Village of Mukwonago Trustee liaison, appointed by the Village of Mukwonago President and approved by the Village Board.

Five members shall be appointed by the Village of Mukwonago President and approved by the Village Board.

One member shall be a Mukwonago Area School District liaison, approved by the Village Board.

Four members shall be appointed by the Waukesha County Executive and approved by the Waukesha County Board of Supervisors.\*

\* The number of library board members appointed by the county is in proportion to the county's share of the annual library budget pursuant to Chapter 43.60 (3) (a) and may change if funding percentages change.

Members shall be appointed for a three-year term unless otherwise designated by the appointing authority. Three-year Board appointments run through June with new terms starting on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Library Board membership and terms of office shall be posted on the Library website.

**Section 2. Meeting Attendance.** Members shall be expected to attend all meetings, except as they are prevented by valid reasons.

**Section 3. Removal of Board Members.**

A Library Board member who misses three (3) Board meetings within a period of one year without notifying the Board President or Library Director shall be subject to removal.

A Library Board member may be removed for cause at any time, by the appointing authority. Cause includes any behavior that interferes with the proper discharge of the member's duties as a member of the board including misconduct, incapacity, neglect of duty or refusal to carry into effect the library's mission.

In the event of a circumstance as detailed above, the Board Member may be recommended for removal by a vote of not less than a majority vote of the entire board. Upon such a vote to remove, the recommendation shall be forwarded to the appropriate appointing body for final action.

**Article III  
Officers**

**Section 1.** The officers shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, and a treasurer, elected from among the appointed trustees at the July annual meeting of the Board. No member shall hold more than one office at a time. Vacancies in office shall be filled by vote at the next regular meeting of the Board after the vacancy occurs.

**Section 2.** The Library Board shall serve as a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of nominating a slate of officers. The Nominating Committee of the Whole shall meet prior to the July annual meeting-and shall present a slate of officers at the July annual meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at that time.

**Section 3.** Officers shall serve a term of two years from the July annual meeting at which they are elected and until their successors are duly elected.

**Section 4.** The president shall preside at meetings of the Board, authorize calls for special meetings, appoint all committees, execute all documents authorized by the Board, serve as an ex-officio voting member of all committees except the nominating committee, co-sign all checks drawn on funds held in custody of the library, and generally perform all duties associated with the office of the president.

**Section 5.** The vice-president will assume the role and duties of the president in the event of the absence or disability of the president, or a vacancy in that office.

**Section 6.** The secretary shall keep true and accurate minutes of all meetings of the Board and shall perform such other duties as are generally associated with the office of secretary. If no Board member accepts election/appointment to the Secretary position, the Library Director may appoint, with the approval of the Board, a Library staff member to take minutes of Board meetings until a Board member assumes the position of Secretary.

**Section 7.** The treasurer shall co-sign all checks drawn on funds held by the library, sign all vouchers for disbursements from the library fund, and perform such duties as generally devolve upon the office. The treasurer shall be bonded in an amount as may be required by a resolution of the Board, and not less than the value of any property held by him or her.

## **Article IV Meetings**

**Section 1. Regular Meetings.** The regular meetings shall be held on the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Library. An annual meeting at which Board officers shall be elected shall be held in July.

**Section 2. Agendas and Notices.** Meeting agendas and notices shall indicate the time, date, and place of the meeting and indicate all subject matters intended for consideration at the meeting. Meeting agendas and notices shall be posted at the main entrance of the Library, fully visible from the entrance exterior. Meeting agendas and notices shall also be sent to the Village for public posting consistent with the posting of other public notices, to the Library web site and to any other locations and media as required by law and the Board.

- a. A consent agenda may be used. Items of business that are expected to be so routine as to not require discussion may be placed on this agenda by the chairperson of a committee, the board president, or the library director. Items may be removed from the consent agenda by the request of any board member. The board will vote on the consent agenda in its entirety without discussion.

**Section 3. Minutes.** Minutes of all meetings shall, at a minimum, indicate board members present, all items of business, all motions (except those that were withdrawn), and the results of all votes taken. Current draft Board minutes shall be distributed to all Board members upon completion and submission by the Board secretary. All approved Board minutes shall be posted on a bulletin board in the Library, to the Library web site and to any other locations and media as required by law.

- a. The Library Director shall be the designated custodian of the approved Library Board minutes and shall retain a complete file of the minutes in perpetuity.
- b. Library Board meetings may be recorded and the recordings retained for up to 6 months or a period designated by the Library Board.

**Section 4. Special Meetings.** Special meetings may be called at the direction of the president or at the written request of five members, for the transaction of business as stated in the call for the meeting. Except in the cases of emergency, at least 24 hours' notice shall be given. In no case may less than two hours' notice be given.

**Section 5. Quorum.**

- a. A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting shall consist of 51% of the members of the Board present in person or via videoconference or teleconference.
- b. In the event that a quorum is not present as specified in item a, in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 43.54 (e), three (3) members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the sole purpose of approving bills.

**Section 6. Open Meetings Law Compliance.** All board meetings and all committee meetings shall be held in compliance with Wisconsin’s open meetings law (Wisconsin Statutes Chapters 19.81 to 19.98).

**Section 7. Parliamentary Authority.** The rules contained in Robert’s Rules of Order, latest revised edition, shall govern the parliamentary procedure of the meetings, in all cases in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any statutes applicable to this Board.

## **Article V Committees**

**Section 1. Standing Committees.** The following committees or persons shall be appointed by the president promptly after the July meeting and shall make recommendations to the Board as pertinent to Board meeting agenda items: Personnel, Buildings and Grounds, Policy and Finance & Budget.

**Section 2. Nominating Committee.** (See Article III, Section 2.)

**Section 3. Policy Committee.** The Policy Committee shall facilitate the creation of any new policies felt necessary by the Library Director and/or Library Board. The Committee shall examine all existing policies on a regular basis for relevance and currency and to reflect any changes required by legislation, or proposed by Board or staff. The Committee shall, after review, route any requests to examine, revise or update the policies to the appropriate Board Committee or to the Library Director.

**Section 4. Ad Hoc Committees.** Ad hoc committees for the study of special problems shall be appointed by the president, with the approval of the Board, to serve until the final report of the work for which they were appointed has been filed. These committees may also include staff and public representatives, as well as outside experts.

**Section 5.** No committee shall have other than advisory powers.

## **Article VI Duties of the Board of Trustees**

**Section 1.** Legal responsibility for the operation of the Mukwonago Community Library is vested in the Board of Trustees. Subject to state and federal law, the Board has the power and duty to determine rules and regulations governing operations and services.

**Section 2.** The Board shall select, appoint and supervise a properly certified and competent Library Director, who shall be evaluated on an annual basis. The Library Director shall determine the duties and compensation of all library employees for the Board to approve.

**Section 3.** The Board shall approve the budget and make sure that adequate funds are provided to finance the approved budget.

**Section 4.** The Board shall have exclusive control of the expenditure of all moneys collected, donated or appropriated for the library fund and shall audit and approve all library expenditures.

**Section 5.** The Board shall supervise and oversee buildings and grounds, as well as regularly review various physical and building needs to see that they meet the requirements of the total library program.

**Section 6.** The Board shall study and support legislation that will bring about the greatest good to the greatest number of library users.

**Section 7.** The Board shall cooperate with other public officials and boards and maintain vital public relations.

## **Article VII Library Director**

**Section 1.** The Library Director shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees and shall be responsible to the Board. The Library Director shall be considered the executive officer of the library under the direction and review of the Board, and subject to the policies established by the Board. The Director shall act as technical advisor to the Board. The Director shall be invited to attend all Board meetings (but may be excused from closed sessions) and shall not have a vote.

**Section 2.** The Library Director shall issue notice of all regular and special meetings.

**Section 3.** The Library Director shall make monthly reports to the Board showing in detail the amount and investment of, and income and disbursements from, the funds in his or her charge.

**Section 4.** The Library Director, with Board approval, shall submit the required annual report to the Division for Libraries, Technology and Community Learning, and the village board.

## **Article VIII Conflict of Interest**

**Section 1.** Board members may not in their private capacity negotiate, bid for, or enter into a contract with the Mukwonago Community Library in which they have a direct or indirect financial interest.

**Section 2.** A board member shall withdraw from Board discussion, deliberation, and vote on any matter in which the Board member, an immediate family member, or an organization with which the Board member is associated has a substantial financial interest.

**Section 3.** A board member may not receive anything of value that could reasonably be expected to influence his or her vote or other official action.

### **Article IX General**

**Section 1.** An affirmative vote of the majority of all members of the Board present at the time shall be necessary to approve any action before the Board. The president may vote upon and may move or second a proposal before the Board.

**Section 2.** Any rule or resolution of the Board, whether contained in the these bylaws or otherwise, may be suspended temporarily in connection with business at hand, but such suspension, to be valid, may be taken only at a meeting at which two-thirds of the members of the Board are present and two-thirds of those present so approve.

**Section 3.** These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Board by majority vote of all members of the Board, provided written notice of the proposed amendment shall have been mailed to all members at least ten days prior to the meeting at which such action is proposed to be taken.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Mukwonago Community Library on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018.

Howard Pringle  
President

Nick Reichhoff  
Secretary

### **Revision History**

**21 July 2016:** Revised Article I to show library type as specified by Statute  
Revised Article II, Section 1 to delineate Board appointments and terms of office  
Revised Article III, Section 6 to permit Director to appoint a staff member to take minutes in absence of Secretary

Revised Article IV, Section 1 to list meeting Board schedule and to list purpose of Annual Meeting

Revised Article IV, Section 2 to clarify and expand agenda posting requirements

Revised Article IV, Section 3 to clarify and expand minutes posting requirements

Added Article V, Section 3 to delineate responsibilities of Policy Committee

Revised and Expanded Article VII by moving references to Library Director responsibilities from previous locations in Article III, Section 6, Article III, Section 7, and Article VI, Section 8.

Added Section markers to Article VII.

Revised adoption date and signatory Board officers

**15 September 2016:** Revised Article II, Section 1 to specify approval of Board Village and School appointments by Village Board.

**19 January 2017:** Revised Article IV, Section 1 to change Board meeting time from 7 p.m. to 6 p.m.

**18 May 2017:** Revised Article IV, Section 3 to clarify draft and approved minutes distribution, specify that the Library Director is custodian of records, and that Board meetings may be recorded and retention of those recordings.

**17 August 2017:** Revised Article II, Membership. Added Section 3 - Removal of Board Members.

Revised Article III, Officers. Modified Section 2 to have eliminate the use of a nominating committee and have the Board meet as a Committee of the Whole to nominate Board officers.

**18 January 2018:** Revised Article IV, Meetings, Section 5 adding Paragraph b to provide for a 3 person quorum to permit only for the paying of bills in the event of a lack of full meeting quorum.

**15 March 2018:** Revised Article II, Membership. Modified Section 3. Added paragraph on removal of Board Member for cause.

Revised Article IV. Meetings, Section 5 to add that a quorum may consist of Board Members attending via videoconference or teleconference.

**21 June 2018:** Revised Article IV. Meetings, Section 2 to include usage of a consent agenda.

**20 June 2019:** Revised Article II, Section 1 to include “Three-year Board appointments run through June with new terms starting on July 1<sup>st</sup>”

**20 June 2019:**

Revised Article IV, Section 1 to revise the section indicated that Board meetings have now moved to the second Thursday of each month