



Vilas County Board of Supervisors

330 Court Street • Eagle River, WI 54521

715-479-3600 • Fax: 715-479-3605 • www.co.vilas.wi.us

**VILAS COUNTY BOARD
EXECUTIVE & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TIME:

**A Public Hearing will be held at the location listed below beginning
at 9:30 A.M on Monday, April 10, 2017**

PLACE:

**Vilas County Courthouse Conference Rooms #1-2-3
330 Court Street, Eagle River, WI 54521**

PURPOSE:

**Hear and consider all public comment regarding the adoption of
the attached Vilas County Library Service Plan**

Please note: If you have any special needs, or require special accommodations, please call 715-479-3600

NOTICE OF POSTING April 5, 2017

All committee members

All Meeting Notices email distribution list recipients

Committee Members:

Ronald De Bruyne,
Chair

Carolyn Ritter
Vice-Chair

Chuck Hayes

Walt Maciag

Erv Teichmiller

Holly Tomlanovich

Jay Verhulst

Vilas County Library Service Plan, 2017- 2022

1. Mission Statement

The Vilas County Board of Supervisors believes that public libraries are essential to the cultural, economic, educational, and social life of the citizens of the County, and its mission is to:

- Assure that libraries are available to all people of the County.
- Support libraries by advocating for them.
- Provide equitable funding for resources and programs.
- Encourage libraries in their efforts to provide quality library service.

2. Background

a. Statutory requirements for county library planning

Chapter 43 of the Wisconsin Statutes establishes the state's policy regarding public libraries and outlines certain essential responsibilities for every county, including the following:

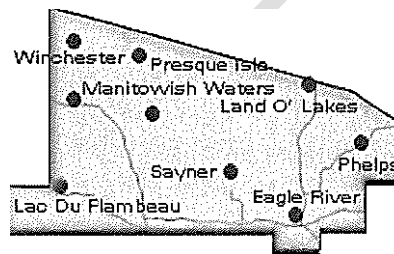
- Provide all Wisconsin residents with free access to knowledge, information, and diversity of ideas;
- Acknowledge the critical role played by public, special, school, and academic libraries in providing that access;
- Promote the major educational, economic, and cultural assets that are represented in the collective knowledge and information resources at the libraries in Wisconsin;
- Recognize the importance of public libraries to the democratic process;
- Support the effective use of Wisconsin's library resources that occurs through interlibrary cooperation, the effective use of technology, and the expertise of a certified librarian

b. History of library development and planning in the county

In 1973, Vilas County became a member of the Northwest Library System (later renamed Northern Waters Library Service). At that time, public libraries existed in Eagle River, Lac du Flambeau, Land O' Lakes, Phelps, and Presque Isle. Since then,

the communities of Boulder Junction (1979), Plum Lake (1981), Manitowish Waters (1986), and Winchester (1986) established public libraries.

The primary level of library service is the municipal public library (or joint municipality library) which is governed by a local library board and is funded by the local municipality for the benefit of the residents of that municipality. As a member of Northern Waters Library Service, Vilas County may appoint two people, as required by 43.19(b), to the system's Board of Trustees to serve three year terms. NWLS provides services not offered by the municipal libraries. The system library is the vehicle by which the state communicates with libraries.



In February, 1990, the Vilas County Library Committee, a committee of the Vilas County Board, appointed a library planning committee and charged it with creating a plan for library services in the county. The resulting plan was approved by the County Board later that year, the first such plan in Vilas County.

In 2001, Wisconsin Act 150 required counties to make payments to libraries for serving residents of municipalities in the county that did not maintain a public library. Wisconsin Act 420 extended the requirements of Act 150 across county lines beginning in 2007.

3. Governance

The public libraries in Vilas County are established under Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 43. There are nine public libraries in the county providing library service to the residents of Vilas County. The libraries are independent of the Library System, have autonomy to carry out their operation, and are the responsibilities of the municipality or municipalities that created them. These libraries are governed by a library board appointed by the Mayor or

Town Chair with concurrence of the governing bodies, whose members may include citizens, a city council or village board member, the school district superintendent or representative, and citizens from other municipalities. The library board has the power and duties in Wisconsin Stat. 43.58.

Eight of the nine libraries are municipal libraries established under Wisconsin Statute s.43.52, operated by the municipality in which they are located, and supported by an appropriation from that municipality. These libraries are located in Boulder Junction, Lac du Flambeau, Land O' Lakes, Manitowish Waters, Phelps, Presque Isle, Sayner and Winchester.

One library is a joint library established under Wisconsin Statutes s. 43.54, operated by representation on the library board from each of the municipalities and supported by appropriations from each of the member municipalities.. The Walter E. Olson Memorial Library in Eagle River is created by a joint library agreement between the municipalities of the City of Eagle River and the Towns of Cloverland, Conover, Lincoln, Saint Germain, and Washington. The joint library agreement contains provisions to establish a library board under s.43.54, to perform the duties under s.43.58, and to own and operate the physical facilities.

One municipality in the county, Arbor Vitae, does not maintain a public library.

A resident may visit any of these public libraries to seek information, materials, and services.

Additional information about each library can be found in the Attachments.

Current library usage statistics for county residents (see Attachment 4)

4. Goals and objectives

Goal 1: Vilas County libraries will provide high-quality, cost-effective service through local, regional, and statewide cooperation.

- Objective: Write joint grant applications to provide cooperative projects.
- Objective: Cooperatively work with academic, school, and public librarians to improve the quality of library services to Vilas County.

- Objective: Participate in cooperative projects of the Northern Waters Library Service (NWLS), such as delivery and the Merlin Consortium.
- Objective: Send staff and trustees to workshops and meetings to help plan cooperative services and to gather and share new ideas for improving library services.

Goal 2: Vilas County libraries will provide equal access to library services to all county residents.

- Objective: Work with community groups to develop outreach programs in order to reach under- served populations.
- Objective: Use web-based resources to make library services available at home, work, or school 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
- Objective: Support the NWLS Mail-A-Book program for those who do not live near a library or who are physically unable to go to a library.
- Objective: Participate in the Merlin Consortium in order to provide county residents with convenient access to a virtual collection of more than 725,000 items.
- Objective: Promote use of interlibrary borrowing as a way for Vilas County residents to gain access to library collections throughout Wisconsin and the nation.

Goal 3: Vilas County libraries will expand public awareness of their services.

- Objective: Use a variety of media to publicize library programs and services.
- Objective: Update and distribute a brochure promoting library services available to county residents.
- Objective: Measure and evaluate the value of library services annually and report the information to community groups, elected officials, and other

interested stakeholders.

Public Library System Redesign

A statewide Public Library System Redesign (PLSR) Project is currently underway and is studying ways library systems in Wisconsin can increase effectiveness and efficiencies. While the outcome of that study is unknown, it is safe to say that resource sharing and collaboration will certainly continue to be key elements of regional library systems now and in the future. If statewide change in library system structure creates larger regionalized service areas, there is a potential that this scenario would result in a reduced ability of the library system to provide services to and for Vilas County libraries. A change of this nature and magnitude could drive the need to create and fund a county library service to provide services that are currently being provided by the existing regional library system. To avoid the need for an additional investment in county library services, it will be important to be engaged in the PLSR process.

Goal 4: Encourage the PLSR project to focus its efforts on making recommendations that result in improvements in library system effectiveness so that Vilas County libraries benefit from increased services and a higher level of support.

- Objective: The regional library system staff will monitor the statewide PLSR project and provide feedback to PLSR expressing the need to provide a high level of county library services to avoid creating a need for an additional organization to handle county library responsibilities in the future.
- Objective: The regional library system staff will engage in the PLSR process to ensure that ideas for improvements are offered throughout the project.
- Objective: The regional library system staff will engage in the PLSR process to ensure that ideas that surface that are anticipated to be detrimental to Vilas County libraries are communicated to stakeholders in a timeframe that offers the possibility for the county, the municipalities, and

the libraries to take action to influence the outcome for the benefit of Vilas County citizens.

- Objective: The regional library system will communicate, or request that member libraries communicate, the viability of Merlin during the PLSR process.
- Objective: Should the PLSR process change the regional library system's ability to provide effective services for the county and libraries, as determined by the library system board or the member libraries, a county library planning committee will be convened to study and plan for county-level services to benefit the county and the libraries.

5. Assessment

Vilas County's public libraries will report annually to the Vilas County Library Committee progress made toward the goals of this plan. The Vilas County Library Committee will annually prepare and distribute a written report to the Vilas County Board of Supervisors.

6. Future County Plan 2023-2028

The plan will be reviewed by the Vilas County Library Committee annually and revised as necessary.

- Goals will be reviewed and progress updated every two years. Plan revisions will be brought to the attention of the County Library Planning Committee.
- Future plans will include actions needed to achieve statutorily required components of the plan.
- Entire plan will be reviewed and updated every five years.

Copies of the plan will be filed with the County Board, the County Library Committee Board, each public library in the county, NWLS, and DLT.

The current plan was approved following a public hearing (see Attachment 6).

Attachment 1 County Agreement between NWLS and Vilas County

Northern Waters Library Service 2017 Vilas County Library Service Agreement

This Agreement is made by and between the Northern Waters Library Service, hereinafter called NWLS, headquartered in Ashland, Wisconsin, and the Vilas County Board of Supervisors, hereinafter called the County Board, located in Eagle River, Wisconsin.

WHEREAS, NWLS has complied with the requirements of Chapter 43 of the WISCONSIN STATUTES to establish and maintain a federated public library system and to provide and coordinate library services for the libraries and residents of Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Sawyer, Vilas, and Washburn counties in Wisconsin;

NOW THEREFORE, the County Board agrees to comply with the requirements of Chapter 43 of the WISCONSIN STATUTES for participation in a federated public library system, which include;

1. To adopt and maintain a county plan for library service, [Wisconsin Statutes s.43.15(4)(b)(1)]
2. To provide for funding of the county plan for library service, [Wisconsin Statute 43.15(4)(b)(2)]
3. To maintain support for library services at a level not lower than the average of the previous three years, [Wisconsin Statute 43.15(2)(b)]
4. To enter into a written agreement with the public library system board to participate in the system and its activities and to furnish library services to residents of those municipalities in the county not maintaining a public library. [Wisconsin Statute 43.15(4)(b)(3)]

NOW FURTHERMORE, NWLS agrees to provide library system services in Vilas County as follows.

1. To provide mail-a-book service on behalf of the County Board from NWLS Headquarters to all residents of Vilas County living 15 miles or more from a public library and to those who are homebound. This service includes access to NWLS staff via a toll-free phone line as well as book return boxes in remote locations.
2. To provide a program of delivery to complement resource sharing among all NWLS counties.
3. To provide access to the NWLS area-wide database via the web to all residents of Vilas County
4. To provide collection development grants for Libraries as reimbursement for circulation to residents living within the NWLS area but outside of the Library's county according to Wisconsin Act 150, and for meeting appropriate state library standards.
5. To plan for the future of library services within the county with the public libraries, county board, special groups and library patrons. To promote library services area-wide and to seek alternative funding for improved library services.

NOW FURTHERMORE, the County Board agrees to participate in the Northern Waters Library Service and pay NWLS a county library service fee of \$18,822 on or before February 28, 2017.

The term of this agreement is one year, beginning January 1, 2017. Not later than 90 days before the expiration of this agreement both parties shall enter into good faith negotiations for its renewal.



President, NWLS Board of Trustees

9/26/16

Date



Chairman, Vilas County Board of Supervisors

10/4/16

Date

Attachment 2 Vilas County Public Library Directory

Boulder Junction Public Library

5392 Park Street
Boulder Junction
715-385-2050

Phelps Public Library

4495 Town Hall Road
Phelps
715-545-2887

Walter E. Olson Memorial Library

203 N Main Street Eagle River
715-479-8070

Presque Isle Community Library

8306 School Loop Road
Presque Isle
715-686-7613

Ben Guthrie - Lac du Flambeau Public Library

622 Peace Pipe Road
Lac du Flambeau
715-588-7001

Plum Lake Public Library

789 Peterson Street
Sayner
715-542-2020

Land O' Lakes Public Library

4242 County Highway B
Land O' Lakes
715-547-6006

Winchester Public Library

2117 Lake Street
Winchester
715-686-2926

Frank B. Koller Memorial Library

Highway 51 S
Manitowish Waters
715-543-2700

Attachment 3 Vilas County Library Funding

Funding	Municipal			County**			State		
	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016
Boulder Junction	48,800	56,800	60,151	2,880	2,847	2,880	1,654	1,496	1,499
Eagle River	154,837	162,010	167,606	25,803	15,400	28,600	1,652	1,496	1,499
Lac du Flambeau	143,980	143,980		2,800	2,800			895	
Land O'Lakes	114,039	117,546	117,731	2,800	2,800	2,800	1,654	1,496	1,499
Manitowish Waters	67,274	70,802	71,652	2,800	2,800	2,800	1,654	1,496	1,499
Phelps	53,126	56,744	56,683	2,800	2,800	2,800	1,654	1,496	1,499
Presque Isle	80,824	86,417	75,664	2,800	2,800	2,800	1,654	1,496	1,499
Sayner	48,459	53,603	57,301	2,800	3,125	2,926	1,631	1,493	1,499
Winchester	34,200	34,200	32,200	2,800	2,800	2,800	1,654	1,654	1,499

	Federal			Other*		
	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016
Boulder Junction	1,338	338	208	17,113	19,200	20,264
Eagle River	2,250	11,401	1,435	0	0	2,500
Lac du Flambeau	7,120	6,923				
Land O'Lakes	2,155	1,113	1,503	37,322	39,156	33,047
Manitowish Waters	1,899	561	1,406	28,119	54,018	51,375
Phelps	1,719	647	499	17,165	10,808	11,506
Presque Isle	308	332	308	12,441	11,841	12,441
Sayner	1,926	827	761	31,291	42,960	50,095
Winchester	575	538	480	4,501	6,095	7,816

*Other includes fines, fees, donations, and other non public dollars.

** County includes funds from Vilas County plus surrounding counties.

Attachment 4 Vilas County Library Data

	Collection Size			Circulation			Total Program Attendance		
	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016
Boulder Junction	18,754	18,923	19,610	20,718	20,368	19,776	1,303	1,466	1,832
Eagle River	39,089	43,835	43,926	55,445	53,236	51,385	3,725	2,580	2,355
Lac du Flambeau	18,814	13,645		7,680	7,000		220		
Land O'Lakes	21,776	21,912	21,186	29,720	26,694	26,151	2,293	1,826	2,178
Manitowish Waters	27,886	28,029	28,038	20,875	19,615	19,803	448	714	946
Phelps	15,634	16,433	17,319	26,469	23,942	22,302	489	741	357
Presque Isle	25,723	26,281	25,701	12,689	11,547	11,101	1,851	1,389	1,252
Sayner	30,305	30,435	30,233	20,832	20,376	17,836	965	803	878
Winchester	7,807	7,952	7,978	2,338	2,061	2,505	130	157	859

	Annual Hours Open			ILL Lends			ILL Borrowers		
	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016
Boulder Junction	1,686	1,686	1,686	3,842	3,910	3,629	3,458	3,464	3,195
Eagle River	2,659	2,659	2,659	7,804	7,846	8,831	11,881	10,931	11,889
Lac du Flambeau	1,976	1,976		1	100		12	100	
Land O'Lakes	1,932	1,932	1,932	5,287	5,488	5,314	4,440	4,089	4,063
Manitowish Waters	1,634	1,634	1,634	5,937	5,288	4,962	2,151	2,244	2,818
Phelps	1,560	1,560	1,560	4,477	4,926	3,243	3,243	2,506	3,749
Presque Isle	1,560	1,560	1,560	4,210	4,104	3,668	2,179	2,287	2,451
Sayner	1,672	1,672	1,664	4,241	4,563	4,362	2,187	2,120	2,140
Winchester	1,040	1,040	1,040	1,058	714	1,144	451	251	309

	Staff FTE		
	2014	2015	2016
Boulder Junction	1.16	1.28	1.28
Eagle River	3	3	3
Lac du Flambeau	3	3	
Land O' Lakes	2.13	2.13	2.13
Manitowish Waters	1.26	1.26	1.26
	1.13	1.18	1.18
Phelps Presque	1.25	1.25	1.36
Isle Sayner	1.48	1.63	1.53
Winchester	0.5	0.5	0.54

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Attachment 5 Glossary (underlined terms used in a definition are also defined in the glossary)

Act 150: Wisconsin law allowing public libraries to seek reimbursement from their own counties for serving residents of towns, villages, and cities that do not support their own public library.

$(\text{Operating expenditures} - \text{expenditures from federal sources}) + \text{Circulation} = \text{Cost per circulation}$

$\text{Cost per circulation} \times \text{Circulation to non-residents} = \text{Cost to serve}$

$70\% \text{ of Cost to Serve} = \text{Reimbursement}$

Act 420: Wisconsin law allowing public libraries to seek reimbursement from adjacent counties for serving residents of towns, villages, and cities that do not support their own public library. Act 420 also made a number of other changes to state legislation concerning public libraries

Act 157: Wisconsin law allows that libraries are eligible for payment from consolidated counties, but only for service to residents of the consolidated county who live in municipalities without a library or library branch.

Badgerlink: A group of databases that includes encyclopedias, periodical indexes, and other resources. Badgerlink is available to all state residents for use at home, school, or work. See www.badgerlink.net

Board of Trustees: A group of citizens appointed by a town, village, or city to govern a public library.

Catalog: A complete listing of things, usually arranged in some way.

Chapter 43: The laws governing public libraries in Wisconsin.

Circulation: Any book, film, magazine or other item borrowed for use outside the library. Renewals are considered circulations.

Collection: All books, films, magazines, and other items owned by a library for use by patrons. Collection may also refer to a specific group of books or other items such as the "fiction collection."

Database: Information gathered and organized for quick, easy search and retrieval, especially on a computer or over the Internet.

FTE (Full-time equivalent): A person employed to work 40 hours per week or 2080 hours per year. FTEs are calculated by dividing the total number of hours a person or group of people are paid to work and dividing by 2080. For example, a person paid to work 1040 hours a year is considered .5 FTE.

ILL (Interlibrary loan): Program allowing a library to borrow an item from another library for use by one of its patrons.

Joint library: A public library established by two or more towns, villages, or cities.

Merlin: A group of libraries sharing a common catalog. Merlin also allows patrons to use the same library card at any library belonging to Merlin and to search the catalog, renew materials, and see their accounts online at merlin.nwls.lib.wi.us

Municipal library: A public library established by a town, village, or city. Northern Waters library Service: The public library system serving Vilas County.

Online: Connected to the Internet.

Patron: A person who uses a library for any purpose.

Public library system: In Wisconsin, an organization created to provide services to libraries in order to improve local library service.

Virtual collection: A collection of library materials available online through a database, catalog, or website.

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Attachment 6 Notice of Hearing and Public Meeting

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