



BENJAMIN JEWELL, President, City of Coldwater
SUSAN SMITH, Vice President, Quincy Twp.
KIMBERLY LANGWORTHY, Secretary, County-at-Large
SUSAN BROOKS, Trustee, County-at-Large
ROBERT HOSTETLER, Trustee, City of Coldwater
STEPHANIE CALHOUN, Trustee, Union Twp.
KAREN SMITH, Trustee, Bronson Twp.

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Alganssee Township Hall, 376 S. Ray-Quincy Rd., Quincy MI 49082
Monday, May 18, 2026, 5:30pm

MINUTES



1. Call to Order

BDL President Benjamin Jewell called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call / Attendance

Trustees Present: Stephanie Calhoun, Robert Hostetler, Benjamin Jewell, Karen Smith, Susan Smith

Trustees Absent: Susan Brooks (excused), Kimberly Langworthy (excused)

Others Present: Erica Ewers, Kimberly Feltner, John Rucker, Teresa Shilling, Jessica Tefft

4. Consent Agenda

Motion by Karen Smith, supported by Susan Smith, to approve the Consent Agenda and place the items within it on file. Motion carried.

- A. BDL Regular Board Meeting Minutes: April 20, 2026
- B. Bills: April 2026
- C. Financial Statements: April 2026
- D. Branch County Penal Fine Report: not yet available
- E. Management Reports: May 15, 2026
- F. Branch Reports: May 15, 2026
- G. Monthly Statistical Report: April 2026
- H. Publicity and Comments: May 15, 2026
- I. Correspondence

5. Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Karen Smith, supported by Susan Smith, to approve the Agenda as submitted. Motion carried.

6. 2026 Tax Rate Request (L-4029)

Motion by Karen Smith, supported by Stephanie Calhoun, to approve levying the maximum allowable millage rates of 0.5906 mills and 0.4881 mills for the 2026 tax year. Motion carried.

7. Quincy Donation

Motion by Stephanie Calhoun, supported by Susan Smith, to accept the donation from the will of Mary Jo Kranz in accordance with her wishes, limiting the donation solely for the benefit of the Quincy Branch. Motion carried.

8. Management Team Employment Agreements

Motion by Karen Smith, supported by Stephanie Calhoun, to approve the employment agreements for Kimberly Feltner and Jessica Tefft as presented. Motion carried.

9. Do Americans Read Print, Ebooks, or Audio More?

Director Rucker gave a brief presentation on his report in the packet about how BDL compares to national trends in library usage. He particularly noted how in April our "digital branch" had more unique users than any physical branch, a fact that will inform future budget recommendations.

10. Report from This Month's Host Branch: Alganssee Branch Manager Teresa Shilling

Teresa expressed thanks for support from the board for the move and renovation of the library facility over the past year. She shared how it is lovely to have more space now to conduct library business and to offer that community space that the community desired, noting that where people used to quickly do their business and get out to make room for the next group queued up on the porch, now people are likely to hang out and have a conversation with their neighbor. Teresa explained about the other new rooms and how the library is putting them to use. Over 180 showed up for the recent open house. Looking forward, Teresa is excited to see the turnout for the alligator sanctuary program coming up this summer.

11. Announcements

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Branch District Library Board of Trustees will be held Monday, June 15, 2026, at 5:30 pm at the Bronson Branch Library.

12. Public Comments - None.**13. Adjournment**

Motion by Susan Smith, supported by Karen Smith, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:48 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kimberly S. Langworthy
BDL Board Secretary