

# WVLS Leadership in 2025

*When Everyone Leads the Toughest Challenges Get Seen and Solved!*

## 2025 WVLS Board of Trustees

### **Tom Bobrofsky, Clark County (Pres.)**

Jim Mildbrand, Clark County  
Carol Bartlein, Forest County  
Judy Peterson, Langlade County  
Dr. Diane Peterson, Lincoln County  
Jim Backus, Marathon County  
Kari Sweeney, Marathon County

Kay Palmer, Marathon County (Vice Pres.)  
Michael Otten, Marathon County (Treasurer)  
Sonja Ackerman, Marathon County  
Petra Pietrzak, Oneida County  
Eileen Persike, Oneida County  
Candice Grunseth, Taylor County  
(2 vacant positions as of 1/1/2025)

### **2025 Library Advisory Committee**

**Laurie Ollhoff (Chair)**, T.B. Scott Free Library (Merrill)  
Vicky Calmes (Vice Chair / Chair Elect), Colby Community Library  
Alison Pichowski, Nicolet Area Technical College  
Amber Brill, Greenwood Area Library  
Cori Soukup, D.C. Everest School District, Schofield  
Jasmine Hansen, Wabeno Public Library  
Julie Beloungy, Thorp School District  
Kay Heiting, Granton School District  
Laurie Agema, Mosinee School District  
Leah Giordano, Marathon County Public Library  
Melissa Highfill, Westboro Public Library  
Peggy O'Connell, Minocqua Public Library  
Toni Edge, Antigo Public Library  
Tammie Blomberg, Rib Lake Public Library  
Virginia Roberts, Rhinelander District Library

### **2025 WVLS / V-Cat Steering Committee**

**Tom Bobrofsky (Chair)**, Trustee, Clark County  
Judy Peterson, Trustee, Langlade County  
Petra Pietrzak, Trustee, Oneida County  
Sonja Ackerman, Trustee, Marathon County  
Kay Heiting, Granton Community Library  
Laurie Ollhoff, T.B. Scott Free Library (Merrill)  
Laurie Renel-Faledas, Crandon Public Library  
Leah Giordano Marathon County Public Library  
Tammie Blomberg, Rib Lake Public Library  
Virginia Roberts, Rhinelander District Library  
Katie Zimmermann, WVLS ILS Administrator  
Marla Sepnafski, WVLS Director

### **2025 V-Cat Council Executive Committee**

**Rita Ludvigsen (Chair)**, Western Taylor Co. Public Library (Gilman)  
Katelyn Killian (Vice Chair / Chair Elect), Marathon County Public Library  
Janay Ziebell (Past Chair), Neillsville Public Library  
Brenda Walenton, WVLS Business Manager  
Katie Zimmermann, WVLS ILS Administrator  
Marla Sepnafski, WVLS Director

## 2025 V-Cat Council

### Bibliographic/Interface Committee

**Chris Luebbe (Chair)**, Marathon County Public Library  
 Allison Puestow, Tomahawk Public Library  
 Andrea Bennett, T.B. Scott Free Library (Merrill)  
 Cheryle Miller, Rhinelander District Library  
 Cindy Wendt, Minocqua Public Library  
 Elizabeth Simek, Antigo Public Library  
 Emily Mueller, Frances L. Simek Memorial Library (Medford)  
 James Bauer, Marathon County Public Library  
 Rachel Metzler, WVLS ILS and Database Support Specialist

## 2025 V-Cat Council

### Cooperative Circulation Committee

**Jenny Jochimson (Co-Chair)**; Abbotsford Public Library, Clark County  
**Virginia Roberts (Co-Chair)**; Rhinelander District Library, Oneida County  
 Erica Gelhausen; T.B. Scott Free Library (Merrill), Lincoln County  
 Erin Glennon; Marathon County Public Library  
 Laurie Renel-Faledas; Crandon Public Library, Forest County  
 Olivia Carlson; Marathon County Public Library  
 Rita Ludvigsen; Western Taylor County Public Library (Gilman), Taylor County  
 Toni Edge; Antigo Public Library, Langlade County  
 Katie Zimmermann; WVLS ILS Administrator

## 2025 WVLS Mentors

Heidi O’Hare, Tomahawk Public Library  
 Jill Trochta, Suring Area Public Library

Kristie Hauer, NFLS Assistant Director

## 2025 WVLS Library Legislative Day Cohort

**Leader: Kris Adams Wendt**, WVLS Advocacy Consultant

Eileen Persike, WVLS Trustee  
 Jim Mildbrand, WVLS Trustee  
 Kari Sweeney WVLS Trustee  
 Kay Palmer, WVLS Trustee  
 Heidi O’Hare, Tomahawk Public Library  
 Jenny Jochimsen, Abbotsford Public Library  
 Jill Roth, Demmer Library (Three Lakes)  
 Laurie Ollhoff, T.B. Scott Library (Merrill)  
 Joshua Klingbeil, WVLS Chief Information Officer  
 Jamie Matczak, WVLS Education Consultant

Michael Otten, WVLS Trustee  
 Nikki Hall, Owen Public Library Trustee  
 Sonja Ackerman, WVLS Trustee  
 Maxx Handel, Simek Mem. Library (Medford)  
 Nicole Metz-Andrews, Marathon Co. Public Library  
 Teresa Hall, Loyal Public Library  
 Virginia Roberts, Rhinelander District Library  
 Lorelee Petersen, Owen Public Library  
 Brook Sperry, Guest  
 Katie Zimmermann, WVLS ILS Administrator

## Other Leadership Positions

**Cooperative Children’s Book Center (CCBC) Advisory Board:** Annette Miller, Tomahawk Public Library, and Kris Adams Wendt, WVLS Advocacy Consultant

**Council on Library and Network Development (COLAND):** Appointments by Governor Tony Evers - Michael Otten, WVLS Trustee, and Joshua Klingbeil, WVLS Chief Information Officer

**DPI Library Services Data Workgroup:** Erica Brewster, WVLS Data and Technology Consultant

**DPI Library Workforce Connection:** Emily Rogers, WVLS Public Library Services Consultant  
**Foundations of Wisconsin Librarianship: Essential Skills for Library Media Specialists and Public Library Staff Serving Youth 2024:** Amber Brill, Greenwood Area Library, and Kristie Heistad, Antigo Public Library

**LEANWI Website Accessibility Learning Group:** Brendan Tuckey, LEANWI Website Support and Development, and Erica Brewster, WVLS Data and Technology Consultant

**Public Library System Marketing Cohort:** Jamie Matczak, WVLS Education Consultant

**System Office Managers and Business Administrators of Wisconsin (SOMBAW):** Brenda Walenton, WVLS Business Manager

**System and Resource Library Administrators Association of Wisconsin (SRLAAW):** Leah Giordano, Marathon County Public Library Director (2025 Vice-Chair), and Marla Sepnafski, WVLS Director

**Wisconsin Humanities Council:** Appointment by Governor Tony Evers: Kris Adams Wendt, WVLS Advocacy Consultant

#### **WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (WLA)**

2024 Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries Conference Presenter: Alexander Johnson, Marathon County Public Library; Katelyn Killian, Marathon County Public Library; and Kristie Hauer, WVLS Public Library Services Consultant

2024 WLA Conference Planning Committee: Vendor/Exhibit Hall Chair was Brenda Walenton, WVLS Business Manager; Local Arrangements was Jamie Matczak, WVLS Education Consultant

2024 WLA Conference Presenters: Jamie Matczak, WVLS Education Consultant, and Kris Adams Wendt, WVLS Advocacy Consultant

2024 WLA Conference Room Monitors and Greeters: Brenda Walenton, WVLS Business Manager; Jamie Matczak, WVLS Education Consultant

Member of WLA Library Development and Legislation (LD&L) Committee, LD&L Budget Team, and LD&L Library Legislative Day Team: Kris Adams Wendt, WVLS Advocacy Consultant

#### **WISCONSIN PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSORTIUM (WPLC)**

WPLC Board Member: Marla Sepnafski, WVLS Director

Collection Development Committee: Rachel Metzler, WVLS ILS and Database Support Specialist

Liaison to Digital Library Steering Committee: Rachel Metzler, WVLS ILS and Database Support Specialist

Data Dashboard Workgroup: Erica Brewster, WVLS Data and Technology Consultant; Joshua Klingbeil, WVLS Chief Information Officer

Delivery Services Workgroup: Brenda Walenton, WVLS Business Manager; Jamie Matczak, WVLS Education Consultant; and Marla Sepnafski, WVLS Director

Digital Archives Backup Collaboration Workgroup: Emily Rogers, WVLS Public Library Services Consultant, and Joshua Klingbeil, WVLS Chief Information Officer

Digital Library Steering Committee: System Representative is Elisha Sheffer, Rhinelander District Library

Selection Committees: (Advantage/Consortium Collections): Cindy Wendt, Minocqua Public Library (Adv); Jenny Jochimsen, Abbotsford Public Library (Adv); Kate Sullivan, Marathon County Public Library (Adv); Maria Pregler, T.B. Scott Free Library, Merrill (Adv); Rachel Metzler, WVLS ILS and Database Support Specialist (Adv); Lorelee Petersen, Owen Public Library (Consortium and Adv); Elisha Sheffer, Rhinelander District Library (Consortium)

Technology Backup Collaboration Workgroup: Joshua Klingbeil, WVLS Chief Information Officer; Kris Schwartz, IFLS Library System and Tony Kriskovich, Northern Waters Library Service (LEAN WI Partnership)

Technology Collaboration Community of Practice: Erica Brewster, WVLS Data and Technology Consultant; Joshua Klingbeil, WVLS Chief Information Officer; Kris Schwartz, IFLS Library System and Tony Kriskovich, Northern Waters Library Service (LEAN WI Partnership)

Technology Collaboration Steering Committee: Marla Sepnafski, WVLS Director

## Leadership by County

### Clark County

Amber Brill, Greenwood Area Library  
 Janay Ziebell, Neillsville Public Library  
 Jenny Jochimsen, Abbotsford Public Library  
 Jim Mildbrand, WVLS Trustee  
 Julie Beloungy, Thorp School District  
 Kay Heiting, Granton Community Library /  
 Granton School District

Lorelee Petersen, Owen Public Library  
 Nikki Hall, Owen Public Library Trustee  
 Teresa Hall, Loyal Public Library  
 Tom Bobrofsky, WVLS Trustee  
 Vicky Calmes, Colby Community Library

### Forest County

Carol Bartlein, WVLS Trustee  
 Jasmine Hansen, Wabeno Public Library

Laurie Renel-Faledas, Crandon Public Library

**Langlade County**

Elizabeth Simek, Antigo Public Library  
Judy Peterson, WVLS Trustee

Kristie Heistad, Antigo Public Library  
Toni Edge, Antigo Public Library

**Lincoln County**

Andrea Bennett, T.B. Scott Free Library (Merrill)  
Annette Miller, Tomahawk Public Library  
Allison Puestow, Tomahawk Public Library  
Dr. Diane Peterson, WVLS Trustee

Erica Gelhausen, T.B. Scott Free Lib. (Merrill)  
Heidi O'Hare, Tomahawk Public Library  
Laurie Ollhoff, T.B. Scott Free Library (Merrill)  
Maria Pregler, T.B. Scott Free Library (Merrill)

**Marathon County**

Alexander Johnson, Marathon Co. Public Library  
Brook Sperry, Library Legislative Day Participant  
Chris Luebbe, Marathon Co. Public Library  
Cori Soukup, D.C. Everest School District  
Erin Glennon, Marathon Co. Public Library  
James Bauer, Marathon Co. Public Library  
Jim Backus, WVLS Trustee  
Kari Sweeney, WVLS Trustee  
Kate Sullivan, Marathon Co. Public Library

Katelyn Killian, Marathon Co. Public Library  
Kay Palmer, WVLS Trustee  
Laurie Agema, Mosinee School District  
Leah Giordano, Marathon Co. Public Library  
Michael Otten, WVLS Trustee  
Nicole Metz-Andrews, Marathon Co. Pub. Lib.  
Olivia Carlson, Marathon Co. Public Library  
Sonja Ackerman, WVLS Trustee

**Oneida County**

Alison Pichowski, Nicolet Area Technical College  
Cheryle Miller, Rhinelander District Library  
Cindy Wendt, Minocqua Public Library  
Eileen Persike, WVLS Trustee  
Elisha Sheffer, Rhinelander District Library

Jill Roth, E.U. Demmer Memorial Library  
(Three Lakes)  
Peggy O'Connell, Minocqua Public Library  
Petra Pietrzak, WVLS Trustee  
Virginia Roberts, Rhinelander District Library

**Taylor County**

Candice Grunseth, WVLS Trustee  
Emily Mueller, Frances L. Simek Memorial  
Library (Medford)  
Maxx Handel, Frances L. Simek Memorial  
Library (Medford)

Melissa Highfill, Westboro Public Library  
Rita Ludvigsen, Western Taylor County Public  
Library (Gilman)  
Tammie Blomberg, Rib Lake Public Library

**Leadership Outside WVLS Area**

Jill Trochta, Suring Area Public Library  
Kris Schwartz, IFLS Library System (LEAN WI Partnership)  
Kristie Hauer, Nicolet Federated Library System  
Tony Kriskovich, Northern Waters Library Service  
(LEAN WI Partnership)

