



# Florence County Library

400 Olive Avenue, Florence, Wisconsin 54121  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 440 Florence, WI 54121-0440

Florence County Library Board  
August 8, 2024  
4PM at the Florence County Library

Committee Members are: Fran Modschiedler (CO), Henry Sullivan (CO), Tiffany White (SDFC), Lisa Freeman (SDFC), Debra Demuri (CAL), Janice Gehlhoff (CAL), Barb Chiamelera (CAL), Tom Brandt (CO Alternate)

1. Call to Order
2. Verification of the meeting notice
3. Roll Call
4. New Board members - welcome
5. Approval of the agenda
6. Approval of the June minutes
7. Approval of the June / July bills
8. Old business: Discussion/Action
  - a. School Building Security / Grounds Update
9. New Business: Discussion/Action
  - a. Election of Officers
  - b. Hiring subs
  - c. Budget
  - d. Long Range Plan for NFLS
10. Librarian Comments
11. Friends Update – DeMuri
12. Board Prerogative
13. Adjourn

**NOTICE OF POSSIBLE QUORUM:** Please be advised that it is possible that a quorum of other Florence County Committees, may be in attendance. It is not intended for this meeting to include any other committee other than the Library Board specifically posted as such. Please be advised that there will not be any formal discussion or any official action taken of any pending or future matters pertaining to Florence County under the authority of any committee at this meeting other than the Library Board as posted on this agenda. Any Persons wishing to attend who require special accommodations because of a disability, should contact, Stephanie Weber at the Florence County Library, 715.528.3094, two days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made. Next Library Board meeting will be held on **October 10** at 4PM

Florence County Library Board

June 13, 2024

The Florence County Library Board was called to order by County Board Representative Fran Modschieder on Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 4 PM in the library meeting room.

- Verification of the meeting notice was given by Stephanie Weber, County Librarian.
- Members present were Fran, Jan Gehlhoff, Lisa Freeman and Debbie DeMuri. Stephanie was present. Excused were Tiffany White, Henry Sullivan and Barb Chiamulera. Four members constitutes a quorum.
- On reviewing the agenda, Debbie requested the tabling of the election of officers as new members representing the School and County Boards were not present. On motion by Jan, seconded by Lisa to approve the revised agenda. Motion carried.
- On motion by Lisa, seconded by Jan to approve the April minutes. Motion carried.
- On motion by Debbie, seconded by Jan to approve the April and May minutes and return to a spread sheet for easier understanding of the budget. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- No old business to report.

New Business:

- Stephanie requested approval to apply for a \$3,000 Improvement and Innovation Grant. The grant would provide for "Wonder Books." These are children's print books with ready-to-play audio inside. Kids can read along or switch to the listening mod as the book is read to them. Motion by Jan, seconded by Lisa. Motion carried.

Librarian comments: The summer reading program has six events planned for the summer. Programming of various interests continue to be a focus for the library.

Friends: The organization continues to support the library. Each year they participate in the community rummage sale. This year a profit of \$1,700 will be used for various activities such as Tot and Story time, monthly crafts, collection development of books and audio materials and programming. This is the Friends group one fund-raiser for the year.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for **August 8** at 4 PM in the library meeting room.

Debbie DeMuri

Secretary

Florence County

# Library Services Plan

2024-2028



Approved by the Florence County Library Board  
August 8, 2024

# Florence County Library Committee

## Committee Members

Fran Modschiedler (County Board 04/18)– **need to edit Pres. VP after meeting**

Henry Sullivan (County Board 04/24)

Mike Theis (Flo Schools Rep 01/22-04/24)

Tiffany White (Flo Schools new rep 06/24 – current)

Lisa Freeman (Flo Schools Rep 04/21 – 08-24)

Debra DeMuri (Library Board Secretary 09/87 - current)

Barb Chiamulera (Citizen at Large 01/24 – current))

Janice Gehlhoff (Citizen at Large 04/14 -current)

## Advisory Participants

Stephanie Weber (Library Director Florence County Consolidated Library Service 2011-Current)

## Executive Summary

The Florence County Library Board Committee recommends the following five-year plan that will guide the Florence County Consolidated Library Service in continuing to provide excellent library service to residents in our eight townships.

Florence County recognizes that public libraries contribute positively to the quality of life of its residents and our municipalities.

This county library planning process considered the previous plan, current environment, and anticipates future needs. The plan recommends the following:

- Review for excellence and opportunity.
- Complete a strategic planning process before the expiration of this county library plan.

# Introduction

Chapter 43 of the Wisconsin Statutes establishes the state's policy regarding public libraries. Because Chapter 43 outlines certain responsibilities for counties in relation to library services, it is important to note that the statute emphasizes:

- The importance of providing all Wisconsin residents free access to knowledge, information, and diversity of ideas;
- The critical role played by public, school, special, and academic libraries in providing that access;
- The major educational, cultural, and economic asset that is represented in the collection knowledge and information resources at the libraries in Wisconsin; and
- The most efficient and effective management of Wisconsin's library resources occurs through resource sharing and collaboration.

## Mission Statement

Florence County Library provides a welcoming environment where patrons and all residents have access to information, resources, services to encourage literacy and lifelong learning for a greater world.

## Statutory Requirements

Chapter 43.11 specifically addresses the requirements for county library planning. While library service plans can address any appropriate issues, Wisconsin Statutes Section 43.11 requires that counties address at least the following in their county library plan:

- How public library service will be provided to residents of those municipalities in the county not maintaining a public library; and
- The method and level of funding to be provided by the county to implement the services described in the plan, including the reimbursement of public libraries for access by residents of those municipalities in the county not maintaining a public library.

Florence County Consolidated Public Library Service was established in 1987, and is joint public/school library under Wisconsin Statute 43.57. The County Consolidated Library Board serves as the County Library Planning Committee. The Library Board consists of seven members confirmed by the Florence County Board of Supervisors, and includes two District of Florence School appointed and two county board supervisors, as specified by Statutes. It also has three at-large members per Library Board bylaws. As members of the Nicolet Federated Library System, the Florence County Board of Supervisors also confirms appointments to the Nicolet Federated Library System Board. There is currently one member of the County Consolidated Library Board on the System Board.

## Planning History

Since the adoption of 1998 Act 150, the County Consolidated Library Board acting as the County Library Committee has completed several county library plans.

## County Profile

Florence County is located in Northeastern Wisconsin, adjacent to Marinette and Forest counties. The Menominee River separates Florence County from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Using 2020 Census data and 2023 estimates from census.gov, we observe the following:

- An estimated 4688 people live in Florence County.
- Approximately 29.5% of the population is 65 years and over.
- The median age is 54.1 in Florence County.
- 91% of the population, 25 years of age or older has graduated from high school, and 62% of the population 25 years of age or older have some college
- The median household income is \$58,049.
- The poverty rate is nearly 9.8%

## County Library Services Profile

Florence County Library consists of two locations providing library service to all county residents. Locations provide a wide variety of library materials, both physical (such as books and DVDs) and electronic (such as eBooks). They also provide access to electronic resources and databases through our online catalog, [infosoup.info](http://infosoup.info). We partner with other organizations, agencies, and county departments to link patrons to information and services outside our expertise, and provide education events to further community learning and engagement. A full list of library services is provided in Appendix A.

## Regional Public Library Systems

Regional public library systems operate according to Wisconsin Statutes 43.13-43.24 and have been in place in Wisconsin since 1971. The goal of library systems is to provide all Wisconsin residents with access to high-quality library services needed to meet personal, work, educational, and community goals.

Nicolet Federated Library System (NFLS) is a state-funded organization assisting 15 member public libraries, through 42 library outlets, in providing better services to the people of northeastern Wisconsin since 1976.

## Planning Process

The Florence County Consolidated Public Library Service Board of Trustees, acting as the County Library Planning Committee began this library planning effort in 2018.

## Goals

1. Operational Excellence
2. Library Funding
3. Strategic Planning

### Goal 1: Operational Excellence

Florence County has always strived to provide all county residents with high-quality library materials and services. Because a high quality of life for the citizens of Florence County cannot be achieved without excellent libraries, it is important that libraries be measured against performance metrics with similar size and use of the Annual Reports. This report is given to both county and school board annually

### Goal 2: Library Funding

As a consolidated county library, the bulk of our funding comes from Florence County residents. A small portion of federal LSTA funds are received from NFLS each year, as well as monetary and in-kind donations from individuals and community organizations.

Adequate funding for Florence County Library is essential to the provision of high-quality library materials and service, as well as the retention and satisfaction of employees.

### Goal 3: Strategic Planning

In response to changing community needs and increased competition for adequate levels of county funding among county departments, Florence County Library would benefit from identifying priorities and strategies for addressing its priority concerns. A strong strategic plan could be used as a tool to evaluate current and future services and determine opportunities for reduction or reorganization to ensure basic and priority objectives can be met at the high level of quality that is desired.

## Plan Implementation

This county library plan will be presented to the Florence County Library Board upon approval by the Florence County Consolidated Library Service Board acting as the County Library Committee. It will be filed with the Nicolet Federated Library System and Department of Public Instruction to meet the state's county library planning requirements.

## Review of the Plan

This plan will be reviewed annually by the Florence County Consolidated Library Service Board of Trustees in their capacity as the County Library Committee. This is a five-year plan and the expectation is that when Goal 3: Strategic Planning is completed, the plan resulting from that process will be approved as the next County Library Plan prior to the expiration of this plan.

As a unique part of Florence County Library being connected to the Florence Middle School High School we also revisit our joint Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on a yearly basis.



# Appendix A

## Library Services Provided by Florence County Consolidated Library Service

Note: availability of some items may vary by location

### Physical Library Materials

- Books (Adult, Teen, and Children)
- Magazines & Newspapers
- DVDs & Blu-Ray discs
- Historical microfilm
- Video games
- Audiobooks, Read along books, and music CDs

### Electronic Library Materials

- Books & Graphic Novels
- Audiobooks
- Magazines
- Movies, TV Shows
- Great Courses

### Electronic Resources and Databases

- BadgerLink
  - 45 databases of magazines, journals, newspapers, and reference sources
- Ancestry.com (in-library use only)
- TumbleBooks Library

### Events and Programs

- Summer Reading Programs (for all ages)
- Storytimes and Tot Times (during the school year)
- Guest lectures/presentations
- Author visits and book signings
- Book clubs
- Craft events
- Family night