

## (Department)

To: Library Board of Trustees

From: Peg Checkai-Library Director

Date: 6/12/2025

Subject: Jefferson Co. appointment to Library Board

## Background

This is unfinished business from the May meeting/. I contacted the City Attorney and this is his reply:

I am not sure what board bylaws they are looking to have me further review. Wis. Stat. Sec. 43.54 and 43.60 dictate the creation of library boards. Under Wis. Stat. Sec. 43.54 they are to have 9 members appointed by the mayor in a class 3 City such as Watertown except as may be modified by Wis. Stat. Sec. 43.60. There are some specified members that must be appointed by the mayor and other restrictions on who can be appointed. Under 43.60 the number of board members can be increased by up to 5 individuals depending on the contribution from a county towards the library fund as compared to the City's contribution. Under the details below, Jefferson County has the discretion, but is not obligated to, add one board member to the library board. Dodge County is not able to unless they increase their contribution to at least \$141,810.

Sincerely,

**Steven T. Chesebro, City Attorney**  
City of Watertown

Please note that county funds are not a contribution to our budget. They are funds to repay the library for services rendered, based on circulation of materials, to patrons who live outside of Watertown and do not have a local library. (For example: Lebanon, Ixonia) Referred to as TNR-True Non-Resident

## Budget Goal

NA

## Financial Impact

NA

## Recommendation

Jefferson Co. falls within the guidelines outline in Chapter 43 and has made an appointment.