

League of Women Voters of St. Croix Valley

Board and Committee Chair Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2026, via Zoom

Board Members Present: Irene Bugge, Beth Wood, Kris Surbaugh, Evanne Hunt, Katrina Larsen
Edna Early, Kathy Streitz, Vicki Harmon

Also attending: Kay Brooks, Janet Lestock

4:00 – 4:10 pm Welcome

Business Meeting called to Order at 4:10

LWV Oath: "We do solemnly swear that we will empower voters and defend our democracy. That we will faithfully execute our civic responsibility as nonpartisan advocates. We do this fearlessly, reflectively, and collectively. We act from a place of hope and collective power.

Approve Agenda

Unanimous approval of the agenda with two additions: change date of next meeting to March 19, discussion of SAVE Act.

Approve Minutes

Unanimous approval of January 20, 2026, minutes with the following corrections:

- Remove text that was struck through under current business.
- Change 19 candidates to 11 candidates for Meet-and-Greet.

Financials

Katrina Larsen submitted the report, FY26 FYD January 2026; it is attached to the end of the minutes. She also highlighted some items:

- Added sales income and expenses (hats) to record where the money comes from.
- We have been approved to participate in the St. Croix and Red Cedar Valley GiveBIG event.

Unanimous approval of financial report.

Current Business

Nominating Committee Update – Kathy reported that the League needs a candidate for the open VP position. We are also looking for a Communications Chair. She suggested we look possible candidates through the HUBz. Nominations will be brought to the March Board Meeting for Board approval. The election is April 26.

Voter Services Update – Kay reported that we have several events that require money (bookmarks, parade candy, flyer costs). The Spring Primary is today; please report the winners so we can update the website. She has found four artists (one for each HUBz) to create signs. She reminded us about Project SaltBox that informs people about possible new detention centers.

Los Amigos/DEIJ work – Edna reported that all nine families now have a sponsor. She also reported that we have two new volunteers. She reported that it costs \$100 a month to sponsor a family. If you have any large boxes, please let Edna know. A Google Doc is keeping track of all income and expenses.

Unite and Rise update – Beth reported that issues adhering to Title IX and discrimination against transgender children in the New Richmond School District are becoming a divisive issue. She read her planned statement at the next school board meeting.

Annual Meeting Update – Beth/Irene reported we have announced the speaker will be Jenelle Ludvig-Krause from GROWW. Her presentation will be scheduled for 3pm after the business meeting. Janet will propose a new budget at the meeting for review. Kathy will not be at the meeting but will have someone to bring nominations to the meeting.

Candidate Meet & Greets Update – Irene and Kathy are preparing questions with their respective teams for the Meet & Greets in Polk and St. Croix counties on March 9 and 10 respectively. Five candidates have agreed to participate in the Polk event, 10 in the St. Croix event.

Lunch and Learn Program Update - Kris reported the next Lunch and Learn is next week in Webster. Evanne will add link to the Karrie Weaver presentation.

Nurturing your Nonprofit Expo April 9 – Kris reported she will be contacting someone in HUB 1 to staff our table at the Expo in Siren.

Reflections on Hub Transition – Previously, Kay proposed scheduling a monthly meeting of HUB Leaders. Irene suggested that the HUBz leaders meet immediately after the board meeting. Kay reported that she is effectively communicating with the HUB leaders through email.

Discussion of SAVE Act – Kris reported that Barb suggested we have a public service announcement ready to send to newspapers. Discussion ensued; no objection voiced.

Meeting adjourned at 5:19 pm

Next Board Meeting

Thursday, March 19, 2026, 4-5 p.m. via zoom. Changed because of conflict with St. Patrick's Day. LWV SCV is participating in the NR parade.