

PrairieCat MARC/MARC Trainees Catalogers Meeting
Draft Minutes
October 9, 2025

ATTENDANCE: Berkley (MX), Bonny (PC), Brown (FR), Brozovich (RP), Chapman (RL), Dean (WL), Elsner (HC), Evans (SY), Eychaner (CH), Fane (LP), Fine (PR), Finnerty (NCK), Grega (CC), Groth (EM), Landis (PC), McSweeney (HD), Metzger (BL), Mladic (LP), Ni (KR), Sangston (MA), Sciaky (MK), Shippy (MX), Swanson (CC), Tedder (PC), Totton Schwarz (WO), Ward (YK), Zanelli (PC).

1. Call to order/welcome

The meeting was called to order at 11:15 am

2. Roll call for attendance

The attendance was taken from the Zoom attendance report

3. Review agenda for additions/changes

In item 7.3, change “bibliography” to “bibliographic”

Item 7.5 UPC codes in books was added to the agenda

4. Approval of minutes

4.1 From June 12, 2025, Meeting

The following motion was made:

- **Motion to approve the minutes as written by:** Sangston (MA)
- **Seconded by:** Groth (EM)
- **Vote result:** Motion passed with no opposition

5. New MARC members

Three new members were added to the MARC committee:

- Josh Hancock, North Suburban Public Library District
- Brian Grega, Adult Services Librarian, Coal City Public Library District
- Patti Thomas, Technical Services Assistant, Rock Island Public Library

6. Pending products/updates and discussion

6.1. 856 tags for Hoopla, Overdrive, etc. in print material

At the June 12, 2025, meeting, we addressed an issue involving bibliographic records for print materials that included 856 fields containing OverDrive links. These records were

incorrectly appearing in Vega Discover under the e-resources tab. To resolve this, the 856 fields with links to platforms such as Hoopla, OverDrive, and similar services have been removed from print material records. Moving forward, 856 fields should be used exclusively for true e-resources to ensure accurate classification and display.

6.2 URLs in 037 tag

Also at the June 12, 2025, meeting, a question was raised regarding whether the presence of a URL in the 037 field could cause any issues. It has since been confirmed that URLs in this field do not present any problems. A summary email covering both updates was sent to the group on June 13, 2025.

6.3 MARCive replacement

PrairieCat staff are continuing their search for a replacement for MARCive. One potential option under consideration is *BestMARC*, a product offered by the company Mitinet.

6.4 OHM update

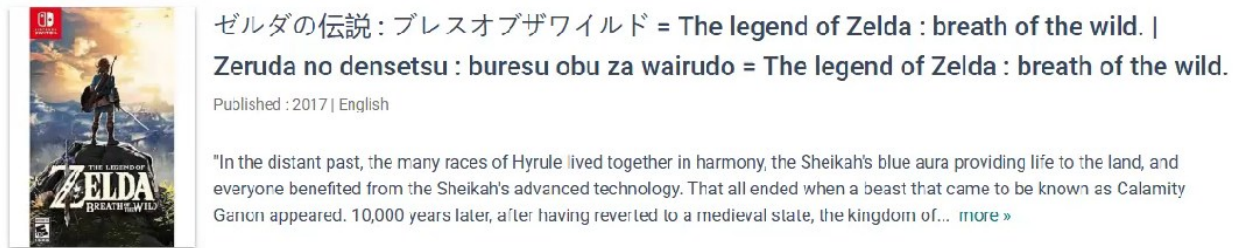
OHM is the OCLC Holdings Manager. An issue was identified where holdings were not being updated in OCLC; this has since been resolved, and our holdings are now current. PrairieCat is now updating WorldCat holdings on a monthly basis. If you notice any discrepancies with your library's holdings, you may update them manually or contact Tedder (PrairieCat), who will make the necessary corrections on your behalf.

7. New topics

7.1. Transliterated titles

Transliterated titles are versions of titles originally written in non-Latin scripts, such as Russian or Japanese, that have been converted into the Latin alphabet using English characters. In OCLC records, the second 245 field is linked to an 880 field containing the original script. Tedder (PC) consulted with Innovative regarding how this data is displayed in Vega, but the source of the information remains unclear.

Example:



A question was raised regarding what information will appear on the paging list. Tedder (PC) will conduct testing and report back to the committee with findings. It was noted that some consortia or ILS platforms do not display the transliterated title. If you notice any incorrect or unexpected display of transliterated titles, please submit a Help Desk ticket for further investigation.

7.2. Baker & Taylor

It has been confirmed that **Baker & Taylor** is going out of business and will *not* be acquired by **ReaderLink**, as previously announced. As a result, orders placed with Baker & Taylor are being canceled.

PrairieCat will not perform a system-wide deletion of on-order records. Each member library will determine how to manage their own open orders. In many cases, libraries may choose to reorder the same titles from a different vendor, so the associated bibliographic records will remain in the database. If you would like a report of your library's open orders, please submit a Help Desk ticket under the topic "Reports."

While Baker & Taylor has not formally notified libraries of its closure, libraries that place orders through Ingram have received confirmation of the shutdown from Ingram. During the meeting, members recommended the following vendors:

- **Ingram, Brodart, and Follett** (Follett specializes in children's and young adult materials)
- **Midwest Tape** for audiobook purchases
- **Amazon**, which now offers MARC records

Library staff members are encouraged to use the **Public Forum** on the PrairieCat website to share updates and information related to Baker & Taylor's closure. It can be found at

<https://support.prairiecat.info/members/forums/cataloging-and-technical-services>.

7.3. Long on-order bibliographic & item records

On-order records should be upgraded to full OCLC bibliographic records whenever possible. Please note that on-order records cannot be merged if no items are attached. In such cases, attach at least one item to the on-order record before merging it into the correct OCLC record.

7.4. Authority Control & Vega

PrairieCat staff raised the topic of the ongoing need for authority control work, particularly given Vega's lack of support for controlled headings. As the search for a MARCive replacement continues, input from MARC members was requested.

A discussion followed, with several key questions raised:

- Since Vega does not utilize authority records, should authority control be a requirement in our vendor search, or should it be discontinued?
- Is there a continued need in Sierra to perform full authority control, and is it worth the cost of engaging a vendor for this service?
- Do your libraries actively ensure the use of controlled headings whenever possible?

Member libraries are encouraged to compile and submit any additional questions or considerations for discussion at the next meeting.

Due to the need for additional clarification, Tedder (PC) tabled the topic until Slanicky (PC) is available to assist. Member libraries are encouraged to compile and submit and additional questions for discussion at the next meeting.

7.5. UPC Codes in Books

UPC codes in books may sometimes cause display issues in Vega. For example, the book *Fade* is incorrectly showing the cover image for *Shoot to Kill*. Searching the UPC code reveals multiple records—13 in Sierra and over 20 in WorldCat. To identify the source of the cover image in Vega, right-click on the image and select “Inspect.” The highlighted section on the right will indicate the image's origin. Tedder (PrairieCat) removed the UPC code in Sierra for *Fade*, which resulted in the correct cover image displaying. In some cases, the same UPC code is assigned to multiple items. ISBNs are recorded in the 020 field, and UPC codes are recorded in the 024 field with a second indicator 1.

UPC codes can also cause issues in audiovisual materials. In these cases, the UPC can be recorded in the 020 field with a leading zero added to resemble an ISBN. Updated instructions for troubleshooting incorrect cover images will be redistributed.

Re-ingesting of data will be required to see changes in Vega Discover; this is typically an overnight process. Re-ingesting is the act of loading data again into a system.

8. BYPT “Bring Your Problems Time”

8.1 MARC Statistics

Each MARC library is obligated to submit their monthly bibliographic statistics without exception, even in cases where all reported figures are zero.

9. Review of meeting, what worked and what did not

No feedback was provided.

10. Questions, comments, etc.

10.1 Holds for paperback or hardcover only

A question was raised about whether it is possible to place a hold specifically for a paperback or hardcover edition of a book. If the bibliographic record represents only a paperback edition, then placing a hold will ensure the patron receives the paperback. However, if both paperback and hardcover editions fall within the matching criteria and are included on the same bibliographic record, it is not possible to specify which edition will be supplied.

Do not place item-level holds or use an override. Item-level holds do not trigger paging and staff will only be alerted of the hold if item is checked in or out. The only reliable way to request a particular edition (paperback or hardcover) is to place a bibliographic-level hold and then contact the owning library directly to ask that the desired edition be sent to the patron.

Staff were also reminded that placing item-level holds on materials owned by other libraries is against policy. In addition, item-level holds should not be placed on items that are currently on the shelf. Item-level holds are intended only for a library’s own materials, for example, when a specific item needs to be returned to Technical Services for correction.

10.2 Training for the mobile app

A question was raised about whether any training would be offered on using the mobile app. Landis responded that training has already been conducted and should be available on Talent LMS soon. In the meantime, a demo video is available on YouTube: [PrairieCat Vega Mobile CMS Demo/Q&A August 12th, 2025](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=54OVMaNeETA) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=54OVMaNeETA>)



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11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 pm.

12. Next meeting – Thursday, February 12, 2026, via Zoom @ 11:15 AM