

PrairieCat MARC/MARC Trainees Catalogers Meeting

Draft Minutes

June 11, 2026

ATTENDANCE: Berkley (MX), Bonny (PC), Brown (FR), Brozovich (RP), Burdelik (NL), Chapman (RL), Dean (WL), Evans (SY), Fane (LP), Fine (PR), Finnerty (NCK), Grega (CC), Groth (EM), Hotchkiss (LP), Johnson (LP), Landis (PC), McSweeney (HD), Mladic (LP), Molinari (MK), Sangston (MA), Shippy (MX), Slanicky (PC), Swanson (CC), Tedder (PC), Thomas (RP), Totton Schwarz (WO), Walwyn (NL), Zanelli (PC).

GUESTS: Thomas (CMC)

1. Call to order/welcome

2. Roll call for attendance

3. Review agenda for addition/changes

No changes were made to the agenda.

4. Approve minutes for February 12, 2026, MARC member and trainees meeting

The following motion was made:

- **Motion to approve February 12, 2026, minutes as written by:** Dean (WL)
- **Seconded by:** Sangston (MA)
- **Vote result:** Motion passed with no opposition

5. Welcome new MARC members

- Ann Marie Jinkins _Cherry Valley
- Fran Burdelik _New Lenox
- Lea Walwyn _New Lenox
- Zach Berkley _Moline Public Library
- Christy Johnson _North Suburban

Congratulations to the new MARC members. They are all doing a great job.

6. Pending products/updates and discussion

6.1. Discussion, Mitinet/BestMARC

PrairieCat has obtained a quote from Mitinet for their Best/MARC global product, which was approved at the April 29, 2026, Delegates Assembly. PrairieCat has a three-year agreement with Mitinet.

6.2. Data Exchange load tables update

The following load tables have been updated to include ‡2 pana (Pan-American Authorities: a bilingual Spanish English subject heading list)

- (L) ADD & OVERLAY
- (N) OVERLAY
- (O) ADD

6.3. Library of Congress practice of discontinuing the use of \$v.

A support ticket with Innovative was created regarding how 655 (genre) fields are handled in Vega, especially considering the Library of Congress change effective February 2, 2026. As a reminder, this change discontinues the use of form subdivisions (\$v) in 650 fields and shifts those terms to the 655-genre field using LCGFT headings. Currently, there is no requirement for institutions to follow the Library of Congress practice of discontinuing the use of \$v.

Here is what we learned from Innovative:

- There is currently no separate genre facet available in Vega for refining search results.
- The 655 field is indexed and searchable, but it is only included within the “search all” index.
- This means users can retrieve genre terms through keyword searching but cannot limit or refine results specifically by genre at this time.

Innovative also noted that there are existing enhancement requests in their Idea Exchange to add genre-based searching and faceting. A consortium-wide email has been sent encouraging members to vote in support of these enhancements. The links are below if anyone would like to review or vote:

- [Add the ability to refine results by genre in Vega](#)
- [Index genre headings](#)

Additionally, they provided several helpful resources on Vega indexing and facets, which may be useful for further review.

7. New topics

7.1. OCLC AI-driven record matching and merging

OCLC uses advanced machine learning and AI to support large-scale de-duplication of WorldCat records. These automated matching and merge processes are designed to evaluate millions of bibliographic records efficiently, streamlining cataloging workflows while still relying on metadata professionals to review, validate, and guide outcomes.

Slanicky (PC) and Tedder (PC) attended a webinar and learned that the current matching and merging approach is not always ideal. It can miss subtle but important distinctions between records. The presenters recommended being more deliberate and descriptive in the 250-edition statement and 500 notes to help reduce the likelihood of unwanted merges.

In practice, when issues are identified, it is recommended to first report the problem to OCLC and then to evaluate whether one record can be enhanced or whether both records need adjustment to better differentiate them. If the merge has already occurred and cannot be reasonably corrected in place, recreating the record may be the best option.

One recent example involved paperback and hardcover editions of a title being merged despite a clear size difference that should have kept them on separate records. Rather than report this to OCLC to request a pre-merge reversal, Tedder (PC) instead chose to recreate the paperback record and enhance the merged record. This will help prevent the issue from recurring in future merges.

The updates included:

Adding size in parentheses within the edition statement

Adding a 563 binding information note

Adding a 500 note clarifying format and size

Example changes:

Edition 250: Atria paperback edition (21 cm).

Note 563: Paperback. |5IFK

Note 500: Issued as a 21 cm trade paperback.

(IFK in the 563 field is PrairieCat's OCLC code)

8. BYPT “Bring Your Problems Time”

8.1 Pirated items

It has come to our attention that some libraries may hold copies of video materials for which no official DVD or Blu-ray release date has been announced, or copies that may require verification to ensure they are authorized editions. These could be pirated items which are not allowed in our database.

Examples:

Title: *Marty Supreme*

Bibliographic Record Number(s): b30101578, b30065732

Title: *Landman – Season 2*

Bibliographic Record Number(s): b30081075

In Amazon’s product description, they usually have a release date, but these two do not have a release date.

If you see a pirated DVD, an email should be sent out that the item is not legitimate. If there are holds on the item, they should be cancelled, the items should be set to discard and withdrawal, and the bib record removed.

Tedder (PC) will follow up on pirated items with an email.

8.2 Old on-order records

There are some old on-order bib records in the database where the release date has been delayed and some where the title has been cancelled. One example is the DVD Megalopolis (b29472684). The bib record was originally entered on October 10, 2024, and there are no holds. There are no items attached. If you choose **Summary** and then set View to **All**, you can see the order information.

b29472684

File Edit View Go Tools Window Help

Browse

b29472684

Title Megalopolis [videorecording].
 Publication Info. [United States] : Lionsgate, 2024.
 Edition Widescreen ed.
 Description 1 videodisc (ca. 138 min.) : sd., col. ; 4 3/4 in.

Summary

Summary

... o51009729

Bib-Leve... 0

View a All

#	Record Number	DESCRIPTION
✓ 1	o51009729	Other: emacct76

If an order is attached, you can place holds, even if there are no items attached. Some on-order records have items attached to other libraries (not the library who ordered it) so holds can be placed. If you see a brief on-order record and a full record, merge the short record to the full record. If the item has been cancelled by the publisher:

- Cancel the holds and send a notice that the item is not available.
- Wait a day for the hold cancellation notices to be generated before deleting the bib record.
- You could place a hold for yourself and then cancel it to get a hold cancellation notice to let you know that the hold cancellation notices have gone out and it is now safe for you to delete the bib record.

There is no PrairieCat policy that requires libraries to remove their orders after a certain number of days. Slanicky (PC) will send an email about checking on old order records.

8.3 Cover images not displaying

Some cover images may not display correctly in Vega. Libraries can contact Syndetics directly to request corrections to missing or incorrect cover images. A future Sierra update will allow UPC codes to be used to improve cover image display in Vega.

Please follow the instructions previously sent to members regarding troubleshooting and submitting cover image issues. Please note that Syndetics corrections may take one to two weeks to appear.



220 W. 23rd Ave.
Coal Valley, IL 61240
877-542-7257
support.prairiecat.info

The PrairieCat website also includes a Help Desk form for submitting cover image issues to PrairieCat staff. The form can be found under **Resources → Forms → Cataloging/Technical Services** and is titled “**Custom Cover Images in Vega Discover.**”

9. Questions, comments, etc.

There were no questions or comments.

10. Adjournment

11. Next meeting – Thursday, August 13, 2026, via Zoom @ 11:15 AM