

**From:** Brist, Steven  
**To:** Schwenn, Kathryn  
**Cc:** Mainella, Lara; Bender, Jill  
**Subject:** Library Powers  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 22, 2015 11:50:56 AM

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Attached is a scan of the article that I mentioned. It goes into far more detail than you probably need about general library governance topics. So, in order to simplify your task, here are some relevant points:

1. A library board has exclusive control of the expenditures of all moneys appropriated by the Common Council or donated to the library fund, under the following state statute:

**Wis. Stat. sec. 43.58(1)** The library board shall have exclusive control of the expenditure of all moneys collected, donated or appropriated for the library fund, and of the purchase of a site and the erection of the library building whenever authorized. The library board also shall have exclusive charge, control and custody of all lands, buildings, money or other property devised, bequeathed, given or granted to, or otherwise acquired or leased by, the municipality for library purposes

2. This power of the library board to control funds has been interpreted by the attorney general to include the authority to contract for necessary goods and services, for the public library, under the following Opinion of the Attorney General:

The express power of a library board under section 43.58(1), Stats., to control the expenditure of funds includes the authority to contract for necessary goods and services for the public library. OAG 43-88.

I hope that the above is "on point" and answers your question. Let me know if you need further information. Steve

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**From:** Bender, Jill  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 22, 2015 11:30 AM  
**To:** Brist, Steven  
**Subject:** SCAN Overview of Library Board Composition