



## Minutes

### Oconee County Public Library Board of Trustees meeting

Tuesday, May 27, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

Council Chambers, County Administration Bldg., 415 S. Pine St., Walhalla, SC

Members present: Adams, Ellison, Holcombe, Jackson, Knapp, McKinney, V. Smith

Members absent: Powell, Weekes

Staff: Blair Hinson, Library Director; Quientell Walker, Local History Assoc.

Press: None

- I. Call to Order: meeting called to order at 5:30 PM
- II. Approval of minutes: March 25, 2025 regular meeting; and April 29, 2025 special training meeting. Motion to accept March minutes made by Adams, seconded by Ellison; approved unanimously. Motion to accept April special meeting minutes made by Adams, seconded by Knapp. Approved unanimously.
- III. Public Comment: Limited to 4 minutes per person, 30 minutes in total.  
None.
- IV. Friends' Report: Director reported April income figures (not available at the time background was sent to members). Director also reported that the Friends had given \$4,400 for the Summer Reading program for 2025, and Wish List money in the amount of \$6,000.

#### April Revenue Summary

Basement Sales	\$2,774
Books on the Alley	2,013
Lobby	349
Seneca	42
2nd Party Sales	98
Total	\$5,292

- V. Committee Reports (if submitted)
  - A. Finance – none.
  - B. Policy/Personnel – none.

Library Board-Judith Adams, Mandy Ferguson-Ellison, Paul Holcombe, Kim Jackson, Kay Knapp, Nick McKinney, Clifton Powell, Vicky Smith, Tara Weekes

C. Building and Grounds – deferred until covered in agenda items.

D. Community Relations – have worked on small projects, but nothing to report at this time.

VI. Chair's Report – Chair continued to spotlight a valuable staff member or service at the library. He highlighted the electronic resource Hoopla, and discussed what Hoopla had available.

VII. Director's Report – Director reported that the library is close to hiring a youth services librarian; also briefly discussed the State Aid situation for FY26, and mentioned a freeze on local general fund spending until June 30. There was some discussion of the Senate amendment to Proviso 27.1, which covers State Aid. The amendment stipulated that libraries would have to certify twice a year that they do not have items of "prurient" interest in the youth, teen, or children's areas of the library. It also stated that if the legislative delegation found a library not to be in compliance, the delegation would ask the State Library to investigate and withhold State Aid until the State Library certified that the library is in compliance. Discussion ensued. Director also mentioned recent changes to the library website.

#### VIII. Old Business

A. Update on library improvement projects – Director provided brief update about the changes to the Westminster building drainage situation to try to prevent puddling in the parking areas; also discussed the near-completion of the small conference room in Walhalla. Also discussed was the recently completed project to isolate library public-use computers in their own subnet.

B. Discuss ADA ramp construction at Seneca Branch location – Director outlined changes made to the accessibility project in Seneca. Instead of a ramp, a new set of parking spaces would be created in the front of the Seneca branch to include two or three handicapped spaces. The lot would be accessed from the main drive rather than a separate entrance from Depot Street. The project is still under discussion at the county level, and no formal plan has been introduced.

C. Discuss transition of "Young Adult" to "Teen" section in our collections – Director updated the Board on the progress of the conversion from Young Adult to Teen categories in the catalog and on the shelves. The Walhalla main branch has been completed and Collection Management is now calling in materials from other locations, with the goal of completing the project by fall.

#### IX. New Business

A. Vote on changing position title of "Community Resource Associate" to "Library Resources Associate" – Director presented to the Board why the change in title was being sought, which is to more integrate the position into the library organizational chart and into the discussion of library services. After discussion, a motion was made by Jackson to accept the change, seconded by Knapp. Motion approved unanimously.

- B. Continue discussion of updating the library strategic plan – Director presented a brief slide show of a staff survey that was sent out prior to the spring in-service in April. Staff was given the chance to evaluate the progress on the 23-25 Strategic Plan. At that meeting, staff also chose four top categories they wished to see make up the new Strategic Plan. In another brief slideshow, the staff choices and some additional information was also presented. Senior staff will incorporate those categories into strategies and objectives to be presented as a draft plan to the Board at the July 2025 Board meeting.
- X. Executive Session: none for this meeting.
- XI. Adjourn – motion to adjourn by McKinney, seconded by Ellison. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.