



Minutes

Oconee County Public Library Board of Trustees meeting

Tuesday, September 23, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

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

Members present: J. Adams, M. Ellison, K. Jackson, K. Knapp, V. Smith, T. Weekes

Members absent: P. Holcombe, N. McKinney, C. Powell

Staff: Blair Hinson, staff liaison

Press: none.

- I. **Call to Order**-meeting called to order at 5:30. K. Jackson (vice-chair) presided. Motion made by K. Jackson, seconded by K. Knapp, to amend agenda to include invocation. Invocation delivered by J. Adams.
- II. **Approval of minutes: July 22, 2025 regular meeting**-K. Knapp motioned to approve, J. Adams, seconded. Minutes approved.
- III. **Public Comment:** Limited to 4 minutes per person, 30 minutes in total. None.
- IV. **Board member comments:** K. Knapp discussed attending Friends of the Library Board meeting as Library Board liaison. Mentioned a couple of their needs to the Library Board.

IV. **Friends' Report** –no figures for July or August were available at the time of the meeting. The Friends are recruiting and training a new treasurer. Sales were said to be good for both months, however.

- V. **Committee Reports** (if submitted)-none.
 - A. Finance
 - B. Policy/Personnel
 - C. Building and Grounds
 - D. Community Relations

VI. **Chair's Report** – chair thanked staff for a successful End-of-Summer Reading bash. Also thanked the Friends for assisting with handing out books to kids, and the Oconee County Sheriff's Department, First Steps, and the Humane Society for their participation.

VII. **Director's Report**- Director gave a report about his attendance at the Assoc. of Rural and Small Libraries annual conference in Albuquerque, NM. Director also reported that he had spoken with Jason Neal, head of Facilities Maintenance, about the outlets in the basement that the Friends requested. Director also noted that he had reached out to Kyle Reid with Oconee Roads and Bridges, but was unable to reach him, and would try again. Director also mentioned that Kerry Leeper Brock and Amy Saylor would be attending the first annual Social Work in Libraries conference in Columbia October 1 and 2.

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

VIII. **Old Business**

- A. Continue discussion of updating the library strategic plan-Director mentioned that the public survey had received around 120 responses with one week to go. Once the survey ends on Sep 30, the staff will compile the results to send to the Board, along with a draft of the latest version of the plan. Once the Board reviews, staff will incorporate any Board input and have a final version of the plan to vote on at the November 2025 Board meeting. K. Jackson also mentioned including list of resources for parents to be on library website in Strategic Plan.
- B. Update building projects-Director provided brief update of building projects.

IX. **New Business**

- A. Discuss/vote on expansion of child safe policy – after brief discussion of ages in different parts of the policy (to make sure they were consistent), V. Smith moved to accept new policy, and M. Ellison seconded. Policy accept unanimously.
- B. Discuss/vote on changes to meeting room(s) policy-discussion ensued about item 2. It was decided to strike item 2 at this time. Discussion also ensued about time limits and author talks. A motion was made to amend the policy as discussed. K. Knapp made the motion, J. Adams seconded. After this motion, a motion was made to accept the policy by K. Jackson, seconded by J. Adams. Policy was accepted unanimously.

X. **Executive Session**

[upon reconvening the Board may take a Vote and/or take Action on matters brought up for discussion in Executive Session, if required]

For the following purposes, as allowed for in § 30-4-70(a) (1) of the South Carolina Code of Laws:

None for this meeting

XI. **Adjourn-** motion to adjourn by J. Adams, seconded by M. Ellison. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.