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Minutes
Oconee County Public Library Board of Trustees meeting
Tuesday, February 24, 2026, 5:30 p.m. (make up from January meeting)
Council Chambers, County Administration Bldg., 415 S. Pine St., Walhalla, SC

Members present: J. Adams, M. Ellison, P. Holcombe, K. Jackson, K. Knapp, C. Powell, V. Smith, T. Weekes
Members absent: N. McKinney
Staff: B. Hinson, Library Director
Press: None.

I. **Call to Order** (staff liaison will conduct meeting until Chair elected) -- meeting called to order at 5:30

II. **Vote to amend agenda** - to include Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance (consistent with County Council agenda) -- K. Knapp made motion to amend agenda, seconded by K. Jackson, motion passed 7-1, T. Weekes opposed.

III. **Invocation**

IV. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America**

V. **Approval of minutes** - November 25, 2025 regular meeting -- motion to approve by C. Powell, seconded by P. Holcombe; minutes approved 8-0.

VI. **Officer Election** - nominations from the floor for Chair; vote for Chair (Chair assumes conduct of meeting from hereon); nominations from the floor for Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer, vote for Vice-chair and Secretary/Treasurer – K. Jackson nominated P. Holcombe for chair, no other nominations. Vote was 8-0 in favor. Chair called for nominations for Vice Chair. M. Ellison nominated K. Jackson, no other nominations. Vote was 8-0 in favor. K. Jackson nominated J. Adams for Secretary-treasurer, no other nominations. Vote was 8-0 in favor.
2026 officers: P. Holcombe, Chair; K. Jackson, Vice Chair; J. Adams, Secretary-treasurer.

VII. **Public Comment** - Limited to 4 minutes per person, 30 minutes in total – none.

VIII. **Board member comments** – none.

X. **Friends' Report** – library director provided brief comments about the Friends' efforts, the donations they received, and their various sale locations. Discussion ensued about the $3 grab bags.

XI. **Committee Reports** (if submitted)

A. Finance – none.

B. Policy/Personnel – none.

C. Building and Grounds – P. Holcombe made brief comments about taking some readings in the Walhalla Library to compare to the thermostat readouts. Discussion ensued about the HVAC in the rear of the Walhalla Library in particular, and the general age and condition of the HVAC in all of the libraries. There was also discussion of the need for volunteers for beautification and assisting with landscaping.

D. Community Relations – K. Jackson reported that the committee had met on January 20, 2026. She mentioned their discussion of events related to America's 250 anniversary, and their request to add some books about Benjamin Rush, one of the founders. There was also brief discussion about the list of parental resources they wanted to add to the OCPL website.

XII. **Chair's Report** – none.

XIII. **Director's Report** – Director mentioned that the library was finalizing the purchase of new Smartboards for the Walhalla and Seneca locations.

XIV. **Old Business**

A. Update/vote on 2026 Board meeting schedule due to election year conflict in May 2026 – due to a conflict with the fourth Tuesday in May 2026 thanks to the chambers being used for early voting, the alternative dates were Wednesday, May 13, or Wednesday, May 20. C. Powell motioned to update to May 20, K. Jackson seconded. Vote was 8-0 in favor. C. Powell then motioned to accept the full calendar, including January 2027. Seconded by T. Weekes, vote was 8-0 in favor.

B. Update building projects – director updated members about the Seneca Library paving project, and making sure the libraries are kept up-to-date regarding maintenance.

XV. **New Business**

A. Vote to change bylaws to include Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance in regular order of business of meetings under Article V – K. Jackson made a motion to add to the regular order of the meeting, seconded by M. Ellison. Vote was 7-1 in favor, T. Weekes opposed.

B. Update committee assignments as needed – committee assignments for 2026 were discussed and divided up among the members as follows:
Finance: C. Powell, chair, J. Adams.
Policy and Personnel: T. Weekes, chair, K. Jackson, V. Smith.
Building and Grounds: K. Knapp, chair, P. Holcombe, C. Powell.
Community Relations: K. Jackson, chair, K. Knapp, M. Ellison.

C. Vote on closing on Saturday, July 4 (the county holiday is on July 3) – motion by C. Powell to allow closing on Saturday, July 4, seconded by J. Adams. Vote was 8-0 in favor.

D. Amend Strategic Plan to include the following under Community Involvement, Goal 4, Objective 1:
Provide curated lists of parental review resources on the OCPL website and in print form from a variety of sources. New resources should be advertised as posted.
Discussion ensued about wording, particularly the word “curated.” After discussion, K. Jackson made motion to accept new objective without the word “curated,” seconded by J. Adams. Vote was 7-1, T. Weekes opposed.

XVI. **Adjourn** – motion to adjourn by J. Adams, seconded by M. Ellison. Meeting adjourned at 6:37 PM.