

**ANDERSON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
Monday, January 12, 2026 | 5:30 pm | Meeting Room ABC**

Present: Chair Jimmy Johnson, Andrew Cacossa, Nicole Davenport, Angela Dixon, Albert “Howie” Howard, Kelly Moon

Absent: Pinkey Rinnix, Frances Saville, Wendy Tucker

Staff Present: Annie Sutton, Library Director; Jane Cornelius, Head of Finance; Miranda White, Administrative Assistant

Also Present: Eleanor Walters, Friends of the Library Chair

CALL TO ORDER & INVOCATION

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and Andy Cacossa gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Andy Cacossa motioned to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for November 10, 2025, as written. Kelly Moon seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Nicole Davenport motioned to approve the Strategic Plan Session Minutes for November 17, 2025, as written.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was heard as follows:

1. Robert Mecke [3]: Thanked Director Sutton and Caitlin Bellinger for helping in his transition to ebooks.
2. Stephanie Patterson [1]: Praised the Library’s digital resources; Hoopla daily limits reflected on survey.
3. Laura Lander [2]: Support for staff and librarians; concern over book banning; unity at the Library.

FRIENDS REPORT

The Friends will celebrate their 40th anniversary at their annual meeting on Sunday, April 12th, at 3:00 PM, featuring an upstate author as the guest speaker. The fall quilt raffle was a successful fundraiser and saw a surge in membership renewals. Operating hours for the Friends bookstore and gift shop are being extended to three evenings a week (Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday until 5:30 PM).

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report: Jane Cornelius presented the financial report for month ending December 30, 2025. The Library’s budget is on track at the midway point of the fiscal year. Funds have been received from the County and we are preparing to request more. An issue with paperwork regarding the closing of the Skelton Fund Trust has been resolved; the check is expected soon.

Capital Projects Update: The delivery of the new Bookmobile has been delayed by a couple of weeks but is expected soon. A ribbon-cutting and VIP tour of branch locations will be planned upon its arrival.

The Library is awaiting the insurance payment on a totaled van and will likely replace with another van. The Pendleton Zoning Board approved adding a protective structure over the outdoor hold pickup locker. This project is moving forward with concrete and wiring while awaiting final approval from Pendleton’s Architectural Review Board.

Security upgrades include a new camera system at the Pendleton Branch, and three new cameras and a badge-scan entry at the staff door at the Main Library.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

ILL Policy Change: To align with the recent changes to the Collection Development Policy, Director Sutton suggested a change to the Interlibrary Loan Policy to specify that only Adult and Full-Access Minor cards can request ILLs. Angela Dixon motioned to change the policy as suggested and Nicole Davenport seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Facilities Update: There are currently no active roof leaks at the Main Library. Leaks at the Iva Branch have also been repaired. Current projects include adding blinds to the second floor of the Main Library and changing lights at all locations to LED. Director Sutton will look into adding shades to the office windows at the Pendleton Branch.

Marketing/Programming Update: Director Sutton reported on current and upcoming programs, including Chapter Chasers, the 13th Annual Poetry Contest, Black History Month programs, and the Seed Library. The Event Guide has been redesigned for better usability.

Strategic Plan/Annual Report Update: Director Sutton is analyzing data gathered from public surveys for the Strategic Plan and anticipates having a draft in February. The Library's Annual Report will be released around the same time.

Director Sutton will travel to Columbia on February 18th for the Library's assigned Legislative Day. This year's advocacy focus is on asking Legislators to support raising the minimum grant for small, rural library systems in SC from \$150,000 to \$200,000. This benefits the statewide system and increases resource availability for all.

Director Sutton announced the official date for the Regular May Meeting as Monday, May 4th.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bylaw Review: No changes were made.

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel Committee Chair, Nicole Davenport, will be in touch with Committee members about starting the process for the Director's annual review. A survey will be emailed to Board Members in February.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Johnson asked for a motion to adjourn. Andrew Cacossa so moved, and Howie Howard seconded. All were in favor. Chair Johnson declared the meeting adjourned at 6:04 pm.

The next regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 9 at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Cacossa
Board Secretary/Treasurer