

**ANDERSON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
Monday, January 13, 2025 | 5:30 pm | Meeting Room B&C**

Present: Chair Wendy Tucker, Nicole Davenport, Angela Dixon, Jimmy Johnson, Albert “Howie” Howard, Pinkey Rinnix, Elaine Stoll

Absent: Sara Crocker, Frances Saville

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

Also Present: Cathy Champ, Friends President

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wendy Tucker called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

INVOCATION

Chair Tucker gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Howie Howard motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes for November 4, 2024, as written. Nicole Davenport seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was heard as follows:

1. Robert Mecke [5] – prayer representing all religions; suggested Pledge of Allegiance; microphone use
2. Mona Fleming [4] – non-partisan Board; requested prayer representing variety of religions
3. Will Cord [1] – encouraged Board; weeding transgenderism/sexuality in childrens material
4. Kevin Hardy [4] – requested meetings be held at different branches; thanked new Board members
5. Cynthia Baker [4] – support for library, staff, what library provides
6. Cassie Hamilton [1] – concern over formation of special committee; support for library and staff

FRIENDS REPORT

Friends Board Chair, Cathy Champ, reported that the Friends online store is launching at the end of the month and members of the public can now donate to and become members of the Friends via the Library’s website. The Friends Annual Meeting is Sunday, April 6, and features author and guest speaker, Grace Helena Walz. The Friends recently funded the Staff Appreciation Luncheon in December and are in good shape financially.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report: Jane Cornelius presented the financial report for the month ending December 31, 2024. The Library is in good shape and recently received funds from the County. Director Sutton pointed out that the Library is running at 50% on the operating budget, and adding more funds to this area may be something for the Finance Committee to consider in the new financial year.

Capital Projects Update: Director Sutton presented a PowerPoint with updates on the Iva Branch renovation, the book vending machine, and a choice for the new Bookmobile.

Finance Committee Meeting: The Finance Committee will meet in mid-February or early March to discuss the 2026 Budget; meeting date to be determined. Chair Tucker suggested adding more members to the Committee. Elaine Stoll and Howie Howard volunteered to serve on the Finance Committee.

SPECIAL POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Chair, Angela Dixon, reported that the Special Policy Committee met on Monday, November 24 and discussed the wording of SC Proviso 27.1 and the verbiage on explicit parental consent. The Committee will meet again to talk with the County Attorney. Meeting date to be determined.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Pendleton Land Swap: The Board was informed of the possibility of swapping part of the Pendleton Branch property with the neighboring resident for the creation of a walking trail. The decision to swap the property would come from the County.

Facilities Update: Director Sutton reported on multiple projects including repairs and landscaping at the Main Library and Belton, and Main's re-wiring project through E-Rate.

Marketing/Programming Update: "Chapter Chasers," a year-long reading challenge for adults, launched this month and has 562 patrons signed up. The Library is hosting community discussions for the March Community Read, "Dopesick" by Beth Macy. Copies will be available after the meeting.

Outreach planning for the Anderson Soiree will begin at the end the month.

Strategic Plan Update: Board Members were given a Strategic Plan Update Report for 2024. Director Sutton pointed out increased statistics, goals reached, and upcoming events, and encouraged members to share the report with County Council, local legislators, and community members. A copy of the report will be available on the Library's website.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bylaw Review: Chair Tucker asked for suggestions for amendments to the Board Bylaws. Elaine Stoll proposed increasing the minimum number of Committee members to four. The amendment will be voted on at the regular March Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel Committee Chair, Nicole Davenport, reminded Board Members that the Director's annual review was due in April, and suggested adding more members to the Committee. Angela Dixon and Elaine Stoll volunteered to serve on the Personnel Committee. Chair Davenport will email Board members with more information.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Tucker asked for a motion to adjourn. Elaine Stoll so moved, and Nicole Davenport seconded. All were in favor. Chair Tucker declared the meeting adjourned at 6:18 pm.

The next regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 10, 2025, at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Miranda White
Administrative Assistant