

**RUTHERFORD COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
Monday, April 15, 2024**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Tim Bowling	Kory Wells
Laurie Cantrell	Marzee Woodward
Rollie Holden Jr.	Shawn Wright
Phil King	Cody York
Dina Piazza	

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Steve Sullivan

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Mindy Barrett, RCLS, Interim Director	Donna Jordon, Eagleville Branch Supervisor
Kathleen Tyree, TEC Branch Manager	Kate Huddleston, SRRL Director
Ginger Graves, Smyrna Branch Manager	Leslie Collum, FOLL President
Elsa Britt, Recorder	

**OTHERS ABSENT:**

Kristen Birckholtz, MGL Branch Manager

**PUBLIC (who signed in):**

Tiffany Fee	Jim Bjoric
Matthew Fee	Cindy Bjoric
W.D. Woodward	Jessica Robertson
Talitha Cox	Susan Todd
Jason Vance	Lori Lewis

=====  
**CALL TO ORDER:**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Rutherford County Library System was called to order by Mr. King, Vice-Chair, on Monday, April 15, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at the Rutherford County Courthouse, 1 Public Square, Murfreesboro, TN 37130.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBER/S:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (action items on the agenda):** None

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING:**

The Minutes of Meeting held on March 18, 2024 were presented for approval. There being no corrections, revisions, or changes, Mr. Wright made a motion to approve the Minutes as presented. Ms. Woodward seconded. Those who were present voted “aye.” Motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** None.

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD**

**Budget and Finance:** Mr. Bowling presented the following financial reports and made a motion for their approval:

- January 31, 2024. Mr. York seconded. Those who were present voted “aye.” Motion carried.
- February 29, 2024. Mr. Holden seconded. Those who were present voted “aye.” Motion carried.
- March 31, 2024. Mr. Wright seconded. Those who were present voted “aye.” Motion carried.

**By-Laws & Policies:** Mr. Wright presented two action items in the Agenda for approval:

- PM 401 – Selection Criteria. This policy was discussed at the March 15, 2024, board meeting but was tabled to give the board time to study the verbiage.

The Board discussed the verbiage on item (c) of the policy, with some board members expressing concern over mentions of the ALA (American Library Association) in this and other policies. (See more below).

After considerable discussion, Mr. York made a motion that the Board adopt the recommended changes on sections (e) and (f), and tweaked section (c) to state: “Selection of any material for inclusion in RCLS’s collection must be done in an objective manner following the guidelines outlined in this policy. A variety of professional and vendor resources are used to aid in the selection of materials. RCLS will not exclude materials based on origin, background, or viewpoint of their creators. Similarly, selector bias should not play a role in choosing appropriate materials for the collection.” Ms. Woodward seconded. Those who were present voted “aye.” Motion carried.

- Juneteenth Holiday. Mr. York made a motion for the Board to adopt a policy that it will only recognize holidays that are recognized by the four (4) funding bodies (Rutherford County, City of Murfreesboro, Town of Smyrna, and City of Eagleville). Ms. Woodward seconded. Six board members (6) voted “aye,” two board members (2) voted “nay.” Motion carried.

This policy will be added to the Human Resources policy, HR-2007 – Holidays, as section (g).

- Mr. Wright introduced two (2) topics not listed on the Agenda.
  - Because the new RCLS library card profiles, as well as changes to PM 401 – Selection Criteria, contradict the ALA Bill of Rights, and because the RCLS is not a member of the ALA., Mr. Wright suggested the board further discuss whether ALA references should remain in our policies. This would continue a discussion introduced at the last Bylaws and Policies Committee meeting some time ago. Including and referencing ALA policies implies the RCLS is associated

with and supporting those policies, some of which are also in contradiction to state law. Mr. Wright invited discussion of possibly removing ALA references from all RCLS policies. Although there was some discussion, Mr. Holden objected because it was not on the Agenda, and mentioned the tremendous work involved in a change of this scope. No action was taken.

- Loitering and vagrancy at Linebaugh Public Library continue to be a challenge, despite board action some months ago. Mr. Wright asked what could be done to take care of the issue once and for all. Ms. Barrett made a request for a police officer to be assigned to Linebaugh Library. Board members expressed support for finding funding, possibly through a grant related to the Murfreesboro Police Department's HOST (Homeless Outreach Support Team). Mr. Wright noted that MPD has an officer shortage and left the meeting to immediately investigate options. The Board requested Ms. Barrett to send them a report (email) once a week whenever there is an incident that involves police or other emergency personnel.

**Development & Acquisitions:** Mr. King had nothing to report at this time.

**Facility Maintenance:** Mr. Holden gave an update on Smyrna Library's structural and foundational issues reported at the December 2023 meeting. The land that the library sits on belongs to the Town of Smyrna, but who owns the building is in question. Mr. York spoke with Ed Elam, Rutherford County Risk Management Officer, who said that Rutherford County funded the actual construction of the building through the Public Building Authority (PBA). Mr. Elam's understanding is that Rutherford County operates as if they do not own the building. Mr. Elam will continue to investigate this matter.

Ms. Graves received a quote from a foundation specialist: \$25,365.95 to start addressing the settling issue, and a secondary quote of about \$71,000 for additional work. Mr. Bowling suggested that Mr. Sullivan needs to be involved in this discussion as a Smyrna Town councilman and a representative to the Board from the Town of Smyrna. Mr. Bowling also suggested that we may contract with a consultant rather than a foundation repair company for an independent assessment.

**Nominating:** Vacant.

**Personnel Committee:** Mr. Bowling made a motion to approve a job title change from Collection Development Coordinator to Technical Services Manager as recommended by Mr. Coutcher (RCLS Human Resources Manager) to better align with similar jobs across RCLS. Mr. Holden seconded. Those who were present voted "aye." Motion carried.

**Strategic Planning:** Ms. Wells had nothing to report at this time.

**Ad Hoc Committee:** Mr. Bowling had nothing to report at this time.

**REPORTS FROM LIBRARIES & SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS:**

**Linebaugh Library:** Ms. Barrett submitted her reports in the packet. She also thanked the FOLL for their gifts to Linebaugh staff in celebration of National Library Week and their financial support in allowing her to attend the Public Libraries Association conference; she highlighted what she learned.

**MGL Library:** Ms. Birckholtz was absent. Her reports were submitted in the packet.

**Technology Engagement Center (TEC):** Ms. Tyree submitted her reports in the packet and also thanked the FOLL for their gifts to the TEC staff in celebration of National Library week, as well as allowing her to attend the Public Libraries Association conference; she shared highlights of the experience. She also gave a brief overview of recent and upcoming programming at the TEC.

**Bookmobile (BKM):** Ms. Barrett highlighted some items from the report submitted in the packet.

**Historical Research Center (HRC):** Nothing to add to reports submitted in the packet.

**Friends of Linebaugh Library (FOLL):** Ms. Collum highlighted parts of the report submitted in the packet.

**Smyrna Public Library (SPL):** Reports were submitted in the packet. Ms. Graves announced that Stephanie Jones, Circulation Supervisor, has given her retirement notice after 33 years with the RCLS; her last day is April 17, 2024. The SPL will be hosting a volunteer appreciation brunch on Saturday, April 20, 2024. Ms. Graves also thanked the FOSL for their gifts to staff in celebration of National Library Week.

**Friends of Smyrna Library (FOSL):** Reports were submitted in the packet.

**Eagleville Library:** Ms. Jordon had nothing to add to her reports submitted in the packet.

**Friends of Eagleville Library (FOEL):** The FOEL is preparing for their book sale at the First Friday Event beginning May 3. The BKM will be participating at this event as well, alternating with FOEL.

**Rutherford County Library System (RCLS):** Reports were submitted in the packet.

- Corrected statement in the report - it was Lori Lewis, filling-in as Technical Services Coordinator, who contacted a representative from Midwest (vendor) to suggest some options to minimize the number of Hoopla user blocks when we reach our cap each day.

**Foundation:** The Foundation will meet on Wednesday, April 17, 2024.

**Stones River Regional Library (SRRL):** Ms. Huddleston had nothing to add to her reports submitted in the packet.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (non-agenda items):** None.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Mr. King reminded everybody to do business in Rutherford County because that money stays in the county, and some ends up in the library.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.