



PCLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
6:00 PM July 24, 2025
Hampton Memorial Library

PRESIDING: Ms. Lori Osborn, Chair – At Large

Dr. Alfred Wheeler – District 1 (Clemson)

Ms. Alesa Pinkerton – District 4 (Liberty)

Ms. Nancy Miller – District 2 (Six Mile/Central)

Dr. Henry Wilson – District 5 (Easley)

Mr. Danny Parton – District 3 (Pickens)

Ms. Susan Childers – District 6 (Dacusville)

1. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting called to order at 6:10 pm.

2. Public Comment

Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per participant and 30 minutes total.

Ms. Osborn read aloud the Public Comment Policy. Ms. Osborn made a motion to extend public comment to allow all 12 participants to speak. Dr. Wilson seconded the motion. Unanimous vote to extend public comment.

1. Johnnelle Raines – Used allotted time to pray aloud.

2. Lou Kaye – She is a minor and leads Students Against Book Banning at Daniel High School. She spoke about the importance of the Miller Test and that there is no porn in the children’s section. She spoke about allowing kids to learn in a safe environment and preparing them for the world by educating them and giving them the opportunity to choose what they read.

3. Karen Mims – She spoke as an active patron and advocate for the library, urging the board to not relocate material in order to satisfy the proviso. The mission of PCLS is to provide all county residents with access to information through the development of appropriate collections and services that service the informational, educational, cultural and entertainment needs of county residents.

4. Kate Byrd - She spoke about proviso 27.1 being vague and confusing. It is causing the library to walk a legal and ethical tightrope with the risk of losing state funding or the risk of a lawsuit like Greenville’s, for violating constitutional rights. She encouraged the board to honor their constitutional obligations, uphold policies and protect every reader’s rights.

5. Mae Anderson – She is 15 years old and with the group Students Against Book Banning. She spoke about her parents encouraging reading and they have a diverse collection of books. She mentioned that her parents would rather her learn about difficult subjects under their own roof where they can have conversations about them. She spoke about the benefits of diverse viewpoints and how good parenting will shape morals and values.

6. Craig Holcombe – not present

7. Brittany Fowler – She Spoke about Proviso 27.1 being an immediate and serious threat to the heart of what the library stands for and that it does not uphold parental rights but imposes vague, politically

motivated restrictions on our public libraries. She mentioned that the proviso is designed to intimidate library boards and staff into compliance and that moving books is censorship. She urged the board to examine and reconsider the proviso's deeper impacts.

8. **Denise Davidson** – She spoke about moving porn and prurient material to the adult section and that moving a book from one section to another is not book banning. She asked the board what minors can access here in the Pickens County Library and if they will vote to allow access to books that violate state law or vote to not allow access. She told the board that they can either protect the children or pervert the children.
9. **Jane Bauer** – She spoke about the history of banned books and suppression of free thought, expressed in literature, during the Holocaust and how the Nazis and Hitler burned books that were thought to be too liberal or freethinking for the German people. She mentioned that as a band director for 32 years in Greenville County, she saw firsthand how school libraries and public libraries became critical for inner city students in terms of providing resources and opportunities for those that did not have books in their homes. Book banning or restriction harms access to information and limits critical thinking and intellectual growth.
10. **Virginia King** – She spoke about how the founding fathers quoted the Bible and fought for religious freedoms to have moral, God-fearing citizens. Prayer and God were removed from schools in 1962, and our nation has become evil and immoral ever since. Some children have read Playboy magazines and grew up to be addicted to pornography and pedophiles. Parents have the responsibility to guide children and discuss with them their curiosities. Public libraries should remove immoral books from the children's section and add them to the adult section.
11. **Peter Greenberger** – He spoke about his family being educators and how the value literature, learning and great books were a priority in his home growing up and still is today. He mentioned that there is nothing virtuous, uplifting, or enlightening about graphic descriptions of sexual acts and endless streams of profanity. He stated that we have standards of conduct and decorum required in this board room which prohibit the use of language found in these books, so why is it okay for kids to be exposed to it?
12. **Juliet Penna** – She spoke about the library board's role being to support the library director in their role of directing operations of the library, creating policy, advocating for the library at the county level and keeping the library within the law. She quoted a press release from the South Carolina State Library about Proviso 27.1 "the South Carolina State legislature passed a change which lacks sufficient detail for implementation." She spoke about the State library not having the authority to establish requirements related to the collection development in public libraries. The South Carolina State Library and Public Libraries support the parent's right to guide the selection of material for their own children's reading and encourage parental involvement.

Mr. Parton made a motion to have Senator Rex Rice speak; Ms. Miller seconded. Unanimous approval.

13. **Rex Rice** – He is happy to answer any questions about the Proviso; he thinks the Proviso is plain on what is discussed. He mentioned having a meeting with the Director and she gave him a letter of her thoughts on the Proviso.

Ms. Osborn asked if we lose our state funding due to the Proviso, do other counties with the same placement for these books lose their funding too? Is this Proviso just for Pickens County or is it a state Proviso? Senator Rice explained that this Proviso is for the state and would affect every library. Each library would certify that they meet the intent of the Proviso. Ms. Osborn said that if Pickens County library has to move books, then all libraries in the state will have to move books or risk losing state funding as well. Senator Rice explained that each county library will have to certify that they meet the intent of the Proviso, if they do that and no one questions it, then they won't risk their state funding

being withheld. Only when it has been determined and challenged that they are not in compliance, then it will be applied to that county also, but it's not going to be automatic.

Dr. Wilson asked if there is a committee or group that decides whether we're in compliance with the proviso or not. Senator Rice said that it would be up to a majority vote of the delegation to submit a request to the state librarian, and it is up to the state librarian how they would determine compliance.

Dr. Wilson asked Senator Rice how long he thinks the process should take for the delegation to review, while funding is withheld for heavily used and critical programs. Senator Rice believes the process should take 3 months to complete. Ms. Pinkerton stated that a book review can take up to 10 months to complete. Dr. Wilson points out that there will be other books that are challenged after this and at what point can we say that we are complying and receive state funding for these programs that are critical for the community. We asked council for a management position in the budget so their full-time job would be to manage these reviews and expedite the process. With the goal of giving each reconsideration it's due diligence. The Proviso supersedes this process. How do we know we're going to get the money to operate the library? Senator Rice stated that his opinion is to allow 3 months for this process.

Mr. Parton said to Senator Rice that they are in the process of getting a team committee that would go through these books to help speed up the process. The books you want to move you said you've read some of them and if they're moved out then we meet the Proviso. Then the process starts with our committee of volunteers to speed up the reconsideration process. He said there are very few that he's heard talk about removing every book with kissing in it, and it's more of a matter of getting the books with this sexually explicit language out of the children's section.

Ms. Osborn asked Senator Rice if he had read each book, in its entirety, on the list of 10 books that Mr. Parton is talking about or if he has only read the pages that were submitted. Senator Rice said he did not read the entire book.

Dr. Wheeler stated that we have a list of 10 books now and the librarian has taken valuable time to review. We are going to have a special meeting to discuss those books. What prevents another 10 books from showing up and another 10 books and another 10 books? How will we manage that? Meanwhile, every time these books show up our budget's being compromised. Senator Rice said to deal with them as they come along and show some good faith in moving in that direction.

Ms. Osborn asked Senator Rice if he realizes the effect this could have on families that rely on the Hot-Spot program that is in jeopardy if state funding is withheld. Senator Rice stated that there are a lot of things he doesn't realize. Ms. Osborn explained that the Hot-Spot program helps children to be able to do schoolwork and get an education. This doesn't just penalize the board, it's not protecting the children so they can have a good education.

Ms. Pinkerton explained that if the board follows the guidelines from the State Librarian and moves the books based on that guidance, the board wouldn't be overwhelmed.

The Director clarified that in her letter to the Senator she made the point that these books must have items of obscenity and prurient interest, not sex, not language. That is what we are judging these books on. The board can choose to move them based on other things, but I was answering the question "Is the book prurient or not?"

3. Approval of Minutes

a. Library Board Meeting May 15, 2025

Dr. Wheeler mentioned a correction to the title from "Agenda" to "Minutes." Dr. Wheeler made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Pinkerton seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

b. Library Board Special Called meeting May 20, 2025

Ms. Osborn requested an addition to the minutes where "Ms. Pinkerton expressed that an evaluation is supposed to be a positive thing, when did it get so negative?" Ms. Osborn would like her response added as "Ms. Osborn stated that the reason it got so negative is because of a Facebook post that mentioned that the Director had not been evaluated and comments on that post saying, 'hang on until December and then she won't be here to worry about anymore.' This is the reason for the negative feeling."

Dr. Wheeler made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Dr. Wilson seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

4. Library Director's Report

a. Library Information

The Director reported on Buildings and Grounds that the carpet installation has been completed in the Central-Clemson meeting room and the Sarlin Meeting room. Central Clemson also received new light-weight stackable chairs for their meeting room. We are working on scheduling the complete carpet replacement for the Sarlin branch because of the moisture problem and it's a tripping hazard; this will take place in September. Our Air Conditioning on the top floor main area of the Hampton Library has been out since July 1st. We have moved the reference staff to the historical room and have found ways to continue offering public computers, printing, and fax services during the outage. Patrons are not currently allowed on the top floor unless they have a scheduled meeting in the conference room. The AC in the conference room and some of the staff offices upstairs is still working. We do not yet have a date for the repair, I believe we are still waiting on parts. MCG, the company currently working on our new HVAC installation at the Hampton Library, will be working on the demo of the boilers on Monday, 7/28 so that they can begin that replacement.

The Director reported on Personnel that we currently have 3 staff vacancies: a new part-time floater position, a part-time Reference Assistant position, and our Youth Services Manager position.

The Director reported on Summer Reading Summer Reading 2025 "Color Our World" is almost over. We have our final prize drawing live on Facebook on Wednesday July 30th at 2:00pm. The PCLS Float Day with Saluda Outdoor River Company will take place that same day from 10:00-2:00pm.

The Director reported on other items of interest that we have finally been able to launch our PCLS GO! App that makes searching the catalog a lot easier from mobile devices. We have been working on getting this app in the app stores for a while and Apple finally allowed us to release it. We encourage everyone to check it out. You just search "PCLS GO!" in the app store on your phone. You can search the catalog, keep up with your account, take care of your wireless printing, look up your Libby account, it has hours, locations, and contact information for all the libraries, along with some other features. Through the month of August all the libraries will be accepting donations for the Pickens County Animal Shelter through our Dog Days of Summer Pet Supply Drive. For those that would like to participate, on your next visit to the library you can drop off unopened dog food (wet and dry), dog toys, blankets, rugs, towels, dawn dish detergent, or H.E. Laundry Detergent. On August 9th our Outreach team will be at the Dacusville Community Library to help them celebrate their 10 year anniversary.

Ms. Pinkerton asked if interviewing for the Adult Community Liaison Librarian position has started. The Director explained that we did not get that position approved in the budget, the only position they gave us was the part-time floater. We asked for 3 positions, and they only gave us one. Ms. Pinkerton stated that the budget was changed, because we approved the budget with that position in there. The Director explained that we submit the proposed budget from the library board, but then the county council has the final say on what we get and what we do not get. Council did not approve that position and the part-time PR position. Dr. Wilson stated, to clarify Ms. Pinkerton's question, that "two people ran for office and organized to have people come to county council and raised hell about this issue. We asked for a position to help make this process faster and they said, "Yeah we want to raise hell about it, and we want to get elected, but we're not going to fund that role"" Mr. Parton stated to the Chair that he thinks the language Dr. Wilson is using, needs to be toned down. Dr. Wilson responded, "Send me a letter. I'll talk the way I want to; it's America." (audience disruption)

b. Library Statistics

The Assistant Director reported that FY25 4th quarter and FY25 yearly totals look good. eBooks are only slightly down not even half of a percent and on the flip side of that eAudio books are up almost 25%. eMagazines that started in FY24, have jumped up by 164% usage since it started. Computer usage continues to go down, more patrons are using Wi-Fi on their own devices, especially with mobile printing becoming more popular. Patrons don't have to sign on to a computer to print something out. Meeting room attendance is up 18%. Teen programming and attendance have done really well, with the number of events up by 50% and attendance up by 285%. Passive programs are where patrons can engage in a program without needing to be

here at a certain time, this type of program has contributed to the large increase. Children's attendance is slightly down, looking back at the year this decrease can be pinpointed to the closures and programs that were canceled due to the hurricane. Outreach attendance is up overall, but we had fewer events across the board last year. We are focusing on prioritizing larger events to reach more people, but we are still happy to do smaller events as well. If you have an event, you would like us to come to, please reach out to us about it.

Dr. Wilson asked about eBooks and eAudio books being a significant area of growth and what portion of the budget do we use to pay for that program. The Director stated that it is a significant portion of state funding. Dr. Wheeler stated that this would be an example of something we would lose from the loss of state funding.

c. Financial Report

The Director clarified that they have a copy of the year-end FY25 report and the beginning of FY26 report. Everything looks good so far for the year-end report. If there are any significant changes, she will let the board know. Some money was saved from FY25 and will be carried over to FY26 to complete the carpet project at Liberty. So that will not come out of FY26 budget. On the FY26 budget, because we lost our millage and we are now in the general fund, you will no longer see the revenue page, you will only see the expenditure page. If you wish to see the general fund revenues, I will have to ask for it from the Finance Director, I am no longer able to pull that report. Dr. Wheeler asked about the library's dedicated funds. The Director clarified that the dedicated funds will be a part of the general fund, but our dedicated amount can only be used for the library. Dr. Wheeler encouraged the need to track that amount to be sure. The Director explained that the County Finance Director is working on finishing out FY25 and will then be able to give us the exact amount of the library's dedicated funds. This will allow the board treasurer to keep track of the dedicated library funds and have on record what that amount is. The Director will follow up with the County Finance Director to see if the amount can be added as a line item on the budget. Dr. Wilson clarified that we no longer have keep a reserve fund, so we can use every bit of that fund for renovating upstairs or other projects. The Director will ask the County Finance Director to grant access to more of that information.

d. Foundation Report

The Director reported that the Foundation total balance is \$78,594.65. At the upcoming meeting in August, they will be discussing their goals and some exciting things they are working on.

e. FY25 Annual Report

The Director stated that the annual report needs a few minor things corrected in it, but the numbers are correct. The report will be presented at the County Council Meeting on Monday August 4th. After that we will have them printed for distribution at all the library locations. Ms. Pinkerton asked if the page of five-year accomplishments is part of the strategic plan and goals. The Director clarified that this page is just what we've accomplished these past 5 years. However, when we get the strategic plan together, we would like to print something like this, so the public knows what we have planned next and what we're working on accomplishing.

5. Motion Period and New Business

Matters can be added to the agenda by appropriate motion, second, and majority vote of the Board.

a. Library Director evaluation form and timeline

Dr. Wheeler asked Mr. Parton about his comment to put a question about learning from past mistakes under the category of community engagement, instead of putting it under professional development. Dr. Wheeler stated that it sounds like it is mistakes that have been pointed out by the public as opposed to a more general reflection of professional development. Mr. Parton clarified that the question should be included in the evaluation, but the board will need further discussion on its placement. Ms. Osborn stated that this would be a comment when you're doing the evaluation, something to address at a future date. Otherwise, it would be as if we were assuming that, if there is another director, that there's going to be a problem. This is not just an evaluation form for the current director; it will also be used for future directors as well. Mr. Parton said that he got the question from a website with other library evaluations, and he thinks it a good question for whoever the director is. Dr. Wheeler suggested editing the question grammatically to parallel the other questions. Ms. Pinkerton agreed with that suggestion. Dr. Wilson suggested getting the questionnaire 90% complete and including everyone's

suggestions and then adjusting it afterward. The goal is to have a dialogue about the experience they are having on the job and then what your expectations are for them.

Ms. Pinkerton explained that she asked to take out questions about the foundation because the foundation has its own board separate from the library board. The Director explained that any director would still be a part of the foundation board as an ex officio, it is part of the job description to work with the foundation.

Ms. Pinkerton questioned the accuracy of point 5 on the Director Evaluation Form, that states the objective of developing and implementing library policies and procedures. Ms. Pinkerton explained that the director is a resource and advises the board about policy, but the board is really who develops the policies. Dr. Wheeler clarified that point 5 is about operational policies. Ms. Osborn suggested that point 5 could say “Develops and implements operational policies.” The Director explained that what this means is that the director does the research and creates the policy, then brings it to the board for approval or changes. Ms. Pinkerton asked why you wouldn’t bring that information to the board and let the board make to procedure and policy. The Director explained that a director is at the library every day and would know how the library and staff should operate. In answer to Ms. Pinkerton’s question, Dr. Wheeler clarified that point 10 covers how a director would submit recommendations of policies and procedures for the board. The Assistant Director clarified that point 5 would refer to internal policies and procedures. The Director suggested that point 5 reading as “Develops and implements operational or internal policies and procedures.”

Ms. Miller said that she has no clue how to score point 2 because she does not know how the director handles supervisory duties. Ms. Osborn stated that the director gives the board reports on staff development training. Ms. Miller stated that those are her (Ms. Howard’s) reports. Ms. Osborn clarified that any director’s reports would include how the board approved staff development and training went. Dr. Wilson explained that not everyone on the board is expected to know the answer to every question, but on this question, there may be one board member who works more closely with the director on the everyday stuff. That board member would be in a better position to answer the question because it’s an aggregate of all our input.

Dr. Wheeler made a motion to approve the Director Evaluation Form with the changes to point 5 reading as “Develops and implements operational or internal policies and procedures.” Dr. Wilson seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Wheeler pointed out about the Director Evaluation Timeline that any personnel discussions would be done in executive session. All the places in this document where we are with the director or talking about the director, it should be clearly stated that those discussions are in executive sessions. Dr. Wheeler also advised having a small personnel committee of possibly two people, to compile and organize the information that will come from the staff and the evaluation forms of each board member. This small committee can draft the evaluation and bring it to the board to look at, comment on, or make changes, because trying to write an evaluation with seven people will be chaotic. Dr. Wilson suggested that they work through the process we have right now and after we can look at what worked well and what didn’t, then we can make changes.

Dr. Wilson made a motion to approve the Director Evaluation Timeline with the addition of everything done in executive session. Dr. Wheeler seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

b. Elect Strategic Plan Committee

Ms. Osborn stated that we already agreed for everyone to do the breakout session. Dr. Wilson agreed that we should participate in the breakout session this year and then if there needs to be a committee next year, we’ll do that. Ms. Miller asked if Dr. Wilson had found a proctor yet. Dr. Wilson has asked a few people and is waiting for a response.

c. State Aid form to be signed in front of Board quorum

The Director explained that this form has the percentage of our budget divided up as requested by the State Library. The State Library understands that it is difficult to get the percentages correct, due to the legislation for public libraries is so old, but we do our best to get as close as we can. The State Library will send us an acknowledgement letter that it is okay that our percentages are not correct.

Mr. Parton made a motion to have all 10 books on Senator Rice’s list moved to the adult section before we sign this form, so we can sign it with a clear conscience that we’re meeting what state law requires. Ms. Pinkerton seconded the motion.

Ms. Osborn stated that she would prefer not to sign the form tonight and to have a special-called meeting to discuss this. We only got pages of the books, and we cannot decide on placement of a book with only a few pages of it. We need to read the entire book.

Dr. Wheeler agreed that he is not prepared to discuss this issue in detail and would rather have a special-called meeting to discuss it.

Dr. Wilson decided to abstain from voting because he believes this is unnecessarily coercion on behalf of the proviso and a complete violation of home rule. You are deciding tonight under political coercion whether we can keep funding our Wi-Fi systems, which overwhelmingly affect the poorest people in our community. When you elect to move books under political coercion and tell everybody in this public environment that that is your reason, those are the lawsuits people win. Dr. Wilson abstained, under complete protest, from voting to move books under political coercion. He chooses as a representative of this community not to participate in anything that abridges anyone's constitutional rights. Mr. Parton stated that his opinion is that it's the law and we abide by it.

Dr. Wheeler stated that the proviso is not consistent with state law, and we do not have any prurient material in the young adults or children's area. He does not feel we are in violation of proviso 27.1 and is happy to sign the document without moving the 10 books.

Ms. Osborn agreed that she would sign the form because we do not have prurient material in the young adults and children's sections. She will not sign the form with the agreement to move 10 books to the adult section, and we have not even read the books in their entirety.

The Director stated that she did not have time to read the books in their entirety, which is a part of knowing if a book is prurient or not, so in her professional opinion, based off the pages that were sent, none of those books are prurient according to the legal definition of the term prurient. I was not tasked with judging if the books have sexual content, because that is not what is in the proviso.

Mr. Parton explained that the definition of prurient is having or encouraging an excessive interest in sexual matters. The book Empire of Storms has many chapters that have been filled with sexual content.

The Director stated the definition of prurient as a shameful or morbid interest in sex.

Ms. Pinkerton expressed that the state library guidelines are to protect underage minors by moving material with upper age of 18 to the adult section. Do you read every book you order before you put it on the shelf?

The Director stated that the library board made and voted on our collection development policy. We cannot read every book. We look at reviews and do the best we can to make the best collection for our citizens. The board has a reconsideration policy they approved to allow someone to request a book be relocated.

Ms. Pinkerton stated that staff do not read the entire book to add them to the collection, why do we have to read the entire book to relocate them? Ms. Osborn pointed out that moving the 10 books is circumventing our own reconsideration policy. Ms. Pinkerton stated that we could lose the funding because of those policies. Ms.

Osborn responded that the state library guidance says that, if we have a reconsideration policy and a library card application that gives the parent exclusive rights, we are compliant with the proviso.

The Director pointed out that this board is in charge and has liability, the state library is not in charge and does not have liability, but if you want to put your trust in the state library's guidance and what she is advising, send it to her and let her make the decision. If the board decides to not sign this form, then Senator Rice writes a letter to the state librarian, and it is up to her to make the final decision.

Dr. Wilson explained that once you cave and move these books, this group is going to go back to Senator Rice with a longer list of books to move. That's why you don't negotiate with terrorist, because they are just going to keep taking hostages. By moving these books, it is not going to just be the books you don't like, it will be any book anybody doesn't like that will be requested to be kicked out or moved. Some people think it's a big deal to move books to another section. The lawsuits that win are when they don't have an educational reason to move the book. When you base it on politics, you will lose.

Mr. Parton said we can't live by threats of lawsuits.

The Director mentioned turnover with staff being a possibility with the implications with this decision. Staff could leave and walk out because they don't understand why you're making the decision you're making. Ms. Pinkerton responded that there are plenty of people and we could hire someone else. Ms. Pinkerton stated that she thought state aid money was only for books, she did not know that programs were part of that.

The Director responded that it is funding eBooks, ancestry, newspapers, magazines, hotspots and physical books too. She added that it is a very serious thing not to get our state aid, and it is a very serious thing infringing on people's rights, we have to make sure we are getting this right. The funding will only be delayed if we sign the form and do not move the books the state librarian will come in to review and facilitate the process to help us.

Dr. Wilson reiterated that he is going to abstain from voting because he has not read the books in their entirety, he believes this supersedes home rule, and because this is constitutionally questionable.

Ms. Osborn stated that nobody has read the books, including Senator Rice.

Dr. Wheeler asked how he could vote to move a book without first reading it.

Ms. Osborn stated that she is abstaining from the vote for the same reasons as Dr. Wilson.

Dr. Wheeler asked Mr. Parton to repeat his motion.

Mr. Parton made a motion to have all 10 books on Senator Rice's list moved to the adult section before we sign this form, so we can sign it with a clear conscience that we're meeting what state law requires. Ms. Pinkerton seconded the motion.

Dr. Wilson stated that once we move these books, what if this group comes back with another 10 books that they think are prurient, at what point will this end?

Ms. Osborn stated that Dr. Wheeler can sign it, or it can be passed to the next officer on the board, Ms. Miller.

Dr. Wheeler stated that he is not signing any of these forms under this level of coercion.

Ms. Miller stated that she has no problem with signing it. Dr. Wilson stated that we must have a vote to give Ms. Miller temporary chairmanship for the sole purpose of voting on Mr. Parton's motion and a signature for this form. Dr. Wilson made a motion to give Ms. Miller temporary chairmanship for the sole purpose of voting on Mr. Parton's motion and signing this form. Ms. Pinkerton seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Ms. Miller restated Mr. Parton's motion to have all 10 books on Senator Rice's list moved to the adult section before we sign this form, so we can sign it with a clear conscience that we're meeting what state law requires.

Ms. Pinkerton seconded the motion. Dr. Wheeler, Ms. Osborn and Dr. Wilson all abstained from voting. Ms. Miller, Ms. Pinkerton and Mr. Parton are in favor. Motion carried. Ms. Miller signed the present form, and the Director will get the other forms to Ms. Miller to sign.

Dr. Wheeler reiterated his objection to this process, and it was important enough that we should have had the full board here for these discussions and the vote. (Ms. Childers is not present due to medical reasons)

6. Old Business

a. Discussion of YA/Teen collection labeling

Ms. Osborn stated that during the last discussion of the YA Teen collection it was mentioned that the staff could ask patrons, that use the library regularly, if it would be confusing to do a YA/Teen collection. The Director responded that we did not have time to do that because we have been concentrating on this book issue and working without a Youth Services Manager. We can still do that survey if the board wants to.

Ms. Pinkerton stated that when you look it up on Google it says Young Adult is ages 18 to 29. The Director clarified that Young Adult and Teen has been a term for ages 13 to 17 in literature since the 1940s. Ms. Pinkerton asked why the website doesn't say "Young Adult Events and Programs?" The Assistant Director explained that Young Adult literature is a category of books. The teen area and teen programming refers to targeted age group for the programs. The Director asked if it would be helpful to have a teen sticker added to the YA book collection. Ms. Pinkerton asked why we can't have everything, the books, the catalog and the events say "Teens." The Director responded that it would be a massive undertaking to physically and electronically change the catalog for over 13,000 books and she believes we can educate parents that this is a young adult collection, and it is for teens. One of the ways we can do this is by stickering the books with a "Teen" sticker, this won't take as much time as re-cataloging the whole collection.

Ms. Osborn suggested that we table this again until we can survey the parents and see if those that use the library find the "Young Adult" term confusing or not.

Ms. Osborn made a motion to table the discussion of YA/Teen collection labeling until we do the survey. Dr. Wilson seconded the motion. Ms. Osborn, Dr. Wheeler, Dr. Wilson and Mr. Parton are in favor. Ms. Pinkerton and Ms. Miller are opposed. Motion carried.

b. Results of June Library Survey

The Director reported that we did an NPS style survey. NPS scores are categorized as 0 to 30 is good but have room for improvement, 30 to 70 is great with a strong customer base and positive brand perception and 70 to 100 is excellent or even worldclass with exceptional customer loyalty and advocacy. The online survey we received a score of 33.33, that is in the great category. The in-house survey was 82.88, that is excellent or worldclass category. If we combine both surveys together the score was 42.69, which is great with a strong customer base and positive brand perception category. Dr. Wilson made the point that the online scores showed the IP addresses that cooked the online score. The in-house survey score completely undermines this idea that the library is trying to ruin our kids, it showed that the patrons are satisfied with the programs and services they provide.

Dr. Wilson made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Wheeler seconded the motion. Unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 11th, 2025, 6:00pm at the Village Library, Pickens