



PCLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES

5:30pm Friday -March 6, 2026
Hampton Memorial Library
304 Biltmore Road Easley, SC 29640

PRESIDING: Mr. Danny Parton, Chair- District 3 (Pickens)

Dr. Alfred Wheeler – District 1 (Clemson)
Ms. Nancy Miller, Sec – District 2 (Six Mile)
Ms. Alesa Pinkerton, V. Chair – District 4 (Liberty)

Mr. Robert Sams – District 5 (Easley)
Mr. Brian Aiken – District 6 (Dacusville)
Mr. Mark Kilburn, Treasurer – At Large

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm. Mr. Patron made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

1. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Aiken led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Enter Executive Session - S.C. Code of Laws, Section 30-4-70 (A)

Mr. Parton made a motion that only the board move into executive session to discuss the hiring of an interim director of the Pickens County Library System, until we hire a full-time library director. He noted that the candidate that they are interviewing has expressed that he does not want the permanent library director position. Ms. Pinkerton seconded the motion.

Mr. Sams made a point of order on behalf of Dr. Wheeler that the board has not established a process or voted on how to interview candidates. Mr. Parton asked for a motion for Mr. Sams point of order. The Assistant Director explained that the Chairman would just need to rule on the point of order, and that there is no need for discussion, just a ruling of whether you agree or disagree. Mr. Sams stated that Dr. Wheeler suggested that the board postpone the executive session until the board has established a process for interviewing a candidate for the interim library director position. Mr. Parton ruled against Mr. Sams' point of order.

Mr. Parton explained that the interim process is always at a fast pace compared to hiring a full-time person, so we can get someone quickly that can keep the library functioning and working. The primary job of the interim director is to keep the library door open and keep the programs going. Mr. Parton explained that the state library has referred to this candidate as a resource, Ken Roper is familiar with this process, and the chair has the authority to bring in an interim director before the board.

Mr. Kilburn suggested that they take a vote to agree with the chair or overrule chair's position. Mr. Parton explains that if Mr. Sams wants to appeal this decision, then the board would take a vote.

Mr. Sams mentioned that he probably wouldn't get a second to his motion to delay, but less than a half hour ago the board got an email from Stephanie Howard stating that she is filing a grievance. Mr. Parton said, "That's not about what we're discussing right now."

Mr. Parton restated the motion that only the board move into executive session to discuss the hiring of an interim director of the Pickens County Library System, until we hire a full-time library director. He noted that the candidate that they are interviewing has expressed that he does not want the permanent library director position. Ms. Pinkerton seconded the motion. Mr. Kilburn, Mr. Parton, Ms. Pinkerton and Mr. Aiken voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Sams voted against the motion. Motion carries.

Mr. Parton dismissed the public at 5:39 pm.

3. Personnel Matters – Interview a candidate for the Interim Library Director position

4. Adjourn Executive Session

Executive session ended at 6:50 pm

5. Executive Session – Discussion and possible action

Mr. Parton made a motion to recommend to the county Bruce Heimburger as Interim Director of the Pickens County Library System until we hire a full-time Library Director. He noted that the candidate that they are interviewing has expressed that he does not want the permanent library director position. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Mr. Parton mentioned that Mr. Heimburger was recommended by the South Carolina State Library. They resource 46 library systems in South Carolina and this is what they do, they will have people that come in and help the libraries.

6. Restart all cancelled programs – Discussion and possible action

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| Preschool Storytime | American Girl |
| Mother Goose on the Loose | Wiggle & Giggles |
| Teen Game Night | Mini Maestros |
| Messy Munchkins | Teen Thursdays |
| Teen Art Club | |
| Poetry Writing Workshop and Reader’s Round Table | |
| Saturday Storytime | |
| STEAM Adventures with Jack and Annie | |

Mr. Parton stated that the programs were cancelled due to the former library director’s implementation process.

Mr. Aiken made a motion to restart all cancelled programs. Ms. Pinkerton seconded the motion.

The Assistant Director mentioned that as long as the next motion passes, we will be able to restart programming, however, a lot of planning goes into these programs, and it will take some time to get needed supplies. We can start the Preschool Storytimes at all the locations as well as American Girl next week. Other programs can start the following week, and monthly programs will start in April. The Poetry Writing Workshop will be rescheduled, and Book Boxes will start up in May.

Unanimous approval.

7. Pause Collection Policy implementation process until an Interim Library Director is hired- Discussion and possible action

Mr. Kilburn made a motion to pause the collection policy implementation process until an interim library director is hired. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion.

Ms. Pinkerton wanted clarification on if pausing the implementation would help with staffing for programs. The Assistant Director stated that yes, pausing the implementation will allow for the programs to restart.

Unanimous approval.

8. Change time of meetings from 6:00pm to 5:30pm- Discussion and possible action

Mr. Parton made a motion to change the time of the board meetings from 6:00 pm to 5:30 pm. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion.

Ms. Pinkerton asked if that is a problem with reserving the room. The Assistant Director stated that it is not a problem for the room reservation, but it would make it difficult for the public to engage in the meetings. Mr. Parton stated that the reason for the change is based on the hiring of the interim director, because he will be working two days a week, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 20 hours a week and working remotely the rest of the time. He will have a 2-hour drive after board meetings, so if we can start a little bit earlier for him that would be helpful. However, if it interferes with the public coming, then let the board know and we can adjust it back.

Mr. Kilburn clarified that it is a change just to help him with his travel time and after a permanent director is hired, we can revert back to 6:00 pm. Mr. Parton agreed.

Unanimous approval.

Mr. Sams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Next Meeting: Regular meeting, March 19, 2026, 5:30 pm at Hampton Memorial Library