

PCLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING AGENDA

6:00 PM July 16, 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/Central)
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

1. Call Meeting to Order
 - a. Roll Call for the Record
 - b. Accept Agenda as written
2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comments – Limit to (3) minutes each (Total 30 minutes)
4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Special Called Meeting 2/12/26
 - b. Library Board Meeting 5/21/26
5. Library Director Report
 - a. Financial Report
 - b. Foundation Report
 - c. Statistical Report
 - d. Hampton Library renovations
 - e. Friends of the Library
6. Old Business
 - a. Discuss
7. New Business
 - a. Report of Library Director Search Committee
8. Meeting Adjourn



PCLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES

6:00pm February 12, 2026
Hampton Memorial Library
304 Biltmore Road Easley, SC 29640

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

Dr. Alfred Wheeler – District 1 (Clemson)	Mr. Robert Sams – District 5 (Easley)
Ms. Nancy Miller, Sec – District 2 (Six Mile)	Mr. Brian Aiken – District 6 (Dacusville)
Ms. Alesa Pinkerton, V. Chair – District 4 (Liberty)	Mr. Mark Kilburn, Treasurer – At Large

1. Call Meeting to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm.

a. Roll Call for the Record

Ms. Miller did roll call. The full board was present.

b. Accept Agenda as written

Mr. Aiken made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Parton led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Motion- changes to Constitution Article V

Mr. Aiken made a motion to accept the changes to Constitution Article V. Mr. Parton stated that no second is needed. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Motion - changes to Bylaws: Article IV & IX

Mr. Parton made a motion to accept the changes to Bylaws: Article IV and IX. No second needed. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Motion – Collection Policy as written

Ms. Pinkerton made a motion to accept the Collection Policy as written. No second needed.

Mr. Kilburn thanked the policy committee for coming up with this collection policy. He proposed making a few changes to it.

Mr. Kilburn's proposed changes to Collection Policy:

- PG 1- 2nd Paragraph – Last Sentence before bullets:

STRIKEOUT "the" and ADD "a"

ADD – "that conforms to this collection policy."

It will read "...a selection process that conforms to this collection policy."

Mr. Parton asked all in favor of this amendment. Unanimous vote. Amendment approved.

Mr. Kilburn's proposed changes to Collection Policy:

- PG 2 – 2nd Bullet from the bottom
ADD “National Book Rating Index”

Mr. Kilburn said, “this source provides information that is relevant to the collection policy and the criteria that we’re establishing... I’d like to add that as a suggestion to help in the evaluation process.”

The Director pointed out that she is not familiar with that as a resource. The Director pointed out that she is not familiar with that as a resource. Mr. Kilburn stated that “it is another source that summarizes a wide variety of books. It may be useful to you; it may not be. But I think it provides some additional perspective on things.”

Mr. Sams stated that “...if the Director Howard has not heard of this, I don’t see why it should be added. She is the authority. She’s been a professional librarian for many years.... So I wouldn’t want to add something that she is unfamiliar with.”

Mr. Kilburn noted that “these listing of sources that are on here are part of the sources and the professional review that she uses, among other things, maybe that's not the particular one that she would use, maybe it is, I don't know, but it provides some additional commentary that these other ones don't seem to have, so I just thought it would be a more robust way to look as you're trying to review the books as a selection policy, it can give you an additional perspective on it. I don't think any of these are required to be used. I think she uses what needs to be used, so it was just an additional source.”

Mr. Parton asked all in favor of adding this amendment. Mr. Kilburn, Mr. Parton, Ms. Pinkerton, Mr. Aiken, and Ms. Miller all voted in favor. Mr. Sams and Dr. Wheeler voted against. Amendment approved.

Mr. Kilburn's proposed changes to Collection Policy:

- PG 4 – 1st Paragraph
STRIKEOUT “use” and ADD “follow”
STRIKEOUT “as a resource” and ADD a “.”

It will read:

“The following two sections: Children’s and Teen’s Collections will follow the “Guidance on Collection Development for Minors” by the South Carolina State Library.”

Mr. Parton asked all in favor of adding this amendment. Mr. Kilburn, Mr. Parton, Ms. Pinkerton, Mr. Aiken, and Ms. Miller all voted in favor. Mr. Sams and Dr. Wheeler voted against. Amendment approved.

Mr. Kilburn's proposed changes to Collection Policy:

- PG 4 – Middle of page
DELETE “** If materials contain...etc.” (the whole sentence)

Dr. Wheeler stated that he too has some corrections that he would like to make after they finish with Mr. Kilburn's amendments.

Mr. Parton asked all in favor of this amendment. Unanimous vote. Amendment approved.

Mr. Kilburn's proposed changes to Collection Policy:

- PG 4 – 2nd to last paragraph
MOVE below Last paragraph on Page 4

ADD "Paragraph (C) provides clarification of terms and will be referred to for the following" (the following would be the listing of the criteria materials)

Mr. Parton asked all in favor of this amendment. Unanimous vote. Amendment approved.

Mr. Kilburn's proposed changes to Collection Policy:

- PG 5 – 1ST Paragraph

DELETE "Criteria" and CAPITALIZE "M" it would read "Materials that contain the following"

ADD to list "5. Patently Offensive"

Mr. Parton asked all in favor of adding this amendment. Mr. Kilburn, Mr. Parton, Ms. Pinkerton, Mr. Aiken, Ms. Miller, and Mr. Sams all voted in favor. Dr. Wheeler voted against. Amendment approved.

Dr. Wheeler stated that he has a lot of problems with this policy and he sent notes on it. He stated that he appreciated that some of the things were included. Dr. Wheeler said, "There are still numerous outstanding issues. But just as a general statement, before we consider voting. Given the potential legal ramifications which have been articulated by board members, the library staff and informed members of the public. Not to mention the enormous impact of the distribution of the workload on library staff and the impact on library services. I think we should table voting on these policies, but particularly this one until we get legal advice from an attorney who is experienced in civil rights, constitutional law and preferably public library policy. I would hate to see us stumble into expensive lawsuits, wasting taxpayer money and staff time if we can easily avoid it. And there really is no hurry. And I know you don't all agree, but if it isn't broken, why fix it? Using the existing policies, we were approved for state funding. So, I believe we can sign the certification and continue to work on these policies or if you want to temporarily hold the certification, I think the library can use existing resources to purchase materials while they sort this out. But if we insist on going forward, I do have some corrections to this policy." Dr. Wheeler handed out copies to the board of his edits.

Dr. Wheeler stated that under the children's collection is currently says, "the following *criteria* will not be included." Dr. Wheeler points out that what it should say is "materials that have the following *content* will not be included." Dr. Wheeler clarified that you don't include criteria in collections, it is the content you're calling into question.

Dr. Wheeler made a motion to table this policy until we get legal advice. Mr. Sams seconded the motion. Mr. Sams stated that in September of last year the county attorney recommended that the library board get our own attorney to discuss these policies, so we're not changing the policy and then having to defend it. Mr. Sams said, "We've had a number of emails from not only patrons, but also library staff members. So, if these policies are recommended, we're going to have to eliminate some extremely popular programs that library staff cannot handle these changes and the current programming."

Dr. Wheeler makes the point that he is concerned that the policy leaves a lot of room for interpretation, and we can't put that burden on the librarians to make these kinds of decisions. He mentioned that librarians would have to review over 86,000 books and reclassify all the YA into Teen and this will have a massive impact on library services and not much programming will get done. Dr. Wheeler said, "We need to be prepared for a major blowback, not to mention the specter of lawsuits. So that's just to expand on my idea of why this should be tabled at this time."

Mr. Kilburn mentioned that the collection policy was updated a couple years ago, and he asked what law firm was used to review that collection policy before it was implemented. Mr. Kilburn expressed that what has

changed is the budget proviso saying that we need to remove books that are of prurient interest to minors, we are not talking about adults, we are talking about minors so there is a distinction between adults and minors. The Proviso says if we want to have funding from the state, we have to certify that we have a collection policy in place that corresponds to that proviso.

Mr. Kilburn went on to say “this current collection policy doesn't correspond to that proviso, because it doesn't address any of the things that it says in the proviso. So we're trying to update this collection policy to get it in line, so that the money can be released now. If there's no hurry, I would agree with that. I guess we can continue to pound through this, but these.. that's really the issue here, and. and I don't understand this constant argument that we don't know what prurient means, and you know it's in the law. We can look it up in the dictionary. It's in the obscenity law of 16-15-305 as it relates to minor. There's definitions of it, so I don't accept the premise that this is too hard to figure out, and we have to at least make a good faith effort to try to be in compliance with this, and yes, you did go ahead, the previous board did go ahead and sign and receive the funds, but that was also a contentious issue as well, because of this very fact that the collection policy doesn't really address what was in the proviso, which came later. So, I don't know if you guys did use a law firm to review that first collection policy. Who is it, and can we use them again? Hopefully, but aside from that, in order to release the funds that we need to keep the, I mean, I'm sorry, but \$300,000 is a lot of money, and yes, I know you've gotten half of it, but that's still a lot of money, so we're trying in good faith to move this forward, that this has been discussed for quite a long time now with no real resolution, so we're just trying to make a distinction between minors and adults, and we're trying to put prurient interest material, and not have that available in that minor area, and I don't think it's more complicated than that, and you know, yes, I'm sure we'll have to see how we can implement this, and I'm also sure that it will not be, it'll probably be practically impossible to go through every single book, and maybe that would be a wonderful goal to have, but we have to at least make a good faith effort to do so, and that's what I think we're trying to accomplish here.”

Mr. Sams confirmed with the Director that we have received the first half of the state funding for this fiscal year and the board's main battle with funding is with the county. Mr. Sams makes the point that it seems like the board is not respecting the expertise of the library staff.

Mr. Parton reaffirmed the Board's understanding that it is “not to be involved in that of going in, telling her how to deal with her employees, etc. and those things, but when it comes to this part of it, policies, procedures, bylaws, those things, that's our responsibility.”

Dr. Wheeler makes the point that the main issue is that professional librarians do not put any prurient material, according to the legal definition, in the library. Dr. Wheeler asked the Director if she would agree with that statement. The Director said, “I would agree.” Dr. Wheeler stated that the board can sign the certificate without having a new collection policy. Ms. Pinkerton stopped discussion and said, “Point of order, isn't there a motion on the table? Can we go to the motion?”

Mr. Parton called for a vote on Dr. Wheeler's motion to table the collection policy. Mr. Sams seconded the motion. Dr. Wheeler and Mr. Sams voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Parton, Ms. Pinkerton, Mr. Kilburn, Mr. Aiken and Ms. Miller were opposed. Motion failed.

Dr. Wheeler suggested the following amendments:

Pg. 4 - “The following criteria for children material will not be included...” to “The following content for children material will not be included...”

Pg. 4 - "The following criteria for juvenile material will not be included..." to "The following content for juvenile material will not be included..."

Pg. 5 - "Criteria materials that contain the following will not be included..." to "Materials that contain the following will not be included..."

Dr. Wheeler clarified that this makes more sense.

Mr. Kilburn made a motion to consider Dr. Wheeler's amendments. Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Pinkerton made a motion to accept the collection policy with the additional amendments that we voted on. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion. Mr. Kilburn, Mr. Parton, Ms. Pinkerton, Mr. Aiken and Ms. Miller voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Wheeler and Mr. Sams voted against the motion. Motion carried.

6. Motion – Review of Materials/Reconsideration Policy as written

Ms. Pinkerton made a motion for the Materials and Reconsideration Policy to be accepted as written. No second needed.

Dr. Wheeler suggested the following amendment:

- Pg. 2 #5 - "The Director will gather together all the information related to the request and send it to the Chairman of the Board, who will add the request to the next Board meeting that follows an intervening period of at least (30) days from the time the Chairman's receipt of the information."

Dr. Wheeler made a motion to accept this amendment of the Materials/Reconsideration Policy. Mr. Sams seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Wheeler suggested the following amendment:

- Pg. 2 #4 – "The director will consider this recommendation along with the Collection Policy and make a final decision which will be emailed to the petitioner within (25) business days.."

Dr. Wheeler made a motion to accept this amendment of the Materials/Reconsideration Policy. Mr. Sams seconded the motion. Dr. Wheeler and Mr. Sams voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Kilburn, Mr. Parton, Ms. Pinkerton, Mr. Aiken and Ms. Miller voted against the motion. Motion failed.

Ms. Pinkerton made a motion to accept the Materials/Reconsideration Policy as written with amendments. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion. Mr. Kilburn, Mr. Parton, Ms. Pinkerton, Mr. Aiken and Ms. Miller voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Wheeler and Mr. Sams voted against the motion. Motion carried.

7. Sign Certification form for State library

Mr. Kilburn made a motion to postpone signing the Certification form for the State Library until the next board meeting in March. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion.

Mr. Kilburn suggested that we need time to implement the changes to the collection policy before the board signs this document.

Dr. Wheeler asked why we made all the changes to the collection policy if we are not going to sign the certificate, wasn't that the whole point. The certificate was signed under the old policy and now we have a new policy that is exactly what you wanted, and you don't want to sign the form.

Ms. Pinkerton stated that they have a collection policy that will help us be in compliance, but at this moment nothing has been moved, so we are not in compliance. Waiting to sign will give us a month to get some of these books moved.

Dr. Wheeler said "How many of these books are you going to be able to review in the next month? Maybe 2% of them? So, 2% of the books will be evaluated. And so, on that basis, you will be more comfortable signing this? Again, this makes absolutely no sense to me whatsoever!"

The Director pointed out that there is a timeline issue that's very important to this. We were under the impression that this special called meeting tonight was called just to do this. If the board waits until March to sign, the library will get the payment at the end of April or May. All of state money must be spent by the end of June. It is a big deal not to have spent that money by the end of June.

Mr. Parton expressed that his understanding was that you have until June to submit this form. The Assistant Director clarified that you have to have the funds spent by June 30th.

Mr. Aiken stated that from his experience with the school district, this is correct the funds have to be spent, ordered and received by the end of the fiscal year.

Ms. Pinkerton asked if the first state aid payment has been spent. The Director stated that they are close to having spent the first installment.

Mr. Kilburn asked about the process for county to receive the money and the library spending it. The Director stated the county finance director "has wanted to see that money hit because of all this controversy. Are we getting it? Are we going to have to give it back? He likes to see that money hit our account before we spend it, so like he has it in there as something, but until that payment hits, there's going to be a delay, and you can talk, you know, to somebody about that and change it, but that's how it was last year, because there were so many questions about where we're going to get it, were we not going to get it, we're going to have to get it back. He was like, when it hits..."

Mr. Aiken then asked for a clarification on state funding, asking "that's the money that you use it or you lose it. Is that, is that the way the funding works on this one, that it can't carry over, can't roll over, correct?" The Director answered "Correct, and we are required to use it all by June 30th."

Ms. Pinkerton then asked "How long does it take to get to the bank account from the minute they get this paperwork? How long does it take? Howard's response was "it took a while last time because they only cut checks. Ms. Pinkerton asked, "It's not a direct deposit, it's not wired it's a check that gets sent to you?" Ms. Hamilton stated, "I think it's direct deposit, but they only do it once a month." Ms. Howard says she thinks it is more like a month before we got it. Ms. Pinkerton asked why they wouldn't put a time frame on this form to be signed by a certain time if you have to spend it by a certain time? Ms. Howard answered, "I think they probably... let library boards work through whatever process they need to work through and they don't put a deadline on it to try to be flexible."

Mr. Parton summarized the current discussion by saying "Here's my thought after listening tonight, just weighing in on it. Do one of two things, go ahead and sign, but if I'm not mistaken, signing that you're stating you are in compliance with, with that, that's something we just need to weigh in on, just to consider with what we discussed that's something we just need to weigh in on."

Mr. Kilburn expressed the following thoughts: "I would just want to say that the hang up, I think, for me, is that, and I know, Hap, you've just said that you know about the collection policy. We just passed a collection policy, so why aren't we happy? And the reason I'm not happy is because it says in here that you have to certify that you have a policy in place, and libraries do not offer any books or materials that appeal to the prurient interest of children under the age of 17 in the children's youth or teen book sections, and that they're only made available with explicit parental consent, and because we've had so many reconsiderations brought forward, and of a number of issues. I don't think in good faith that we can say, as of right now, just because we passed this policy, that we're also meeting that element of it, and so that's why I think an extra 30 days to just try to get something in place and moved, so that we can, in good conscience, say that we're at least have made progress in this thing. I don't know, I, I could be wrong about the timing of getting the funds, or maybe there's

other alternatives, so maybe we could, we could consult afterwards with the county and find out, and if need be, we could call another meeting and to sign this if it's mission critical that it's impossible to spend all that money by the end of the year, and lose it, then perhaps before that next meeting we could find, but let's find that fact out afterwards. I would still suggest that we just postpone this until March and let this policy kind of percolate a little bit.”

Dr. Wheeler stated that there isn't any prurient material in the library, the librarians wouldn't put it in the collection, and we received our funding last time, so waiting a month to sign the form does not good. He sees no point in not signing.

Mr. Parton restated the motion to postpone signing the state library certification until the March board meeting, allowing time to determine whether the newly adopted collection policy is beginning to be planned and implemented in good faith. The chair confirmed that the intent is to delay certification until the next regular board meeting in March in order to assess early progress in good faith. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion. Mr. Kilburn, Mr. Parton, Ms. Pinkerton, Mr. Aiken and Ms. Miller voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Wheeler and Mr. Sams voted against the motion. Motion carried.

8. Executive Session - Motion to go into Executive Session

Mr. Aiken made a motion to go into Executive Session. Ms. Pinkerton seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Parton explained what will be discussed in executive session is updates on FOIA request to board members, responding to a letter from American United about separation of church and state.

Adjourned to Executive Session at 7:11 pm.

a. Legal Matters

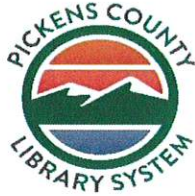
Meeting called back into order at 7:42 pm.

Ms. Pinkerton made a motion to comply with the FOIA request. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Aiken made a motion to send the county attorney's letter to American United that they are not breaking the constitution in line with the law. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion. Mr. Kilburn, Mr. Parton, Ms. Pinkerton, Mr. Aiken, Mr. Sams and Ms. Miller voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Wheeler voted against the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Sams made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Next Meeting: Regular meeting, March 19, 2026, 6:00pm at Sarlin Library- Liberty



PCLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

6:00 PM May 21, 2026
Hampton Memorial Library
304 Biltmore Road Easley, SC 29640

PRESIDING: Ms. Alesa Pinkerton, V. Chair – District 4 (Liberty)

Dr. Alfred Wheeler – District 1 (Clemson)
Ms. Nancy Miller, Sec – District 2 (Six Mile/Central)
Mr. Danny Parton, Chair- District 3 (Pickens)

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

(Per the Pickens County Library Board, the minutes are a synopsis of the meeting and not a verbatim discussion. To see a full viewing and recording of the meeting, visit Pickens County Library System's YouTube channel or the Pickens County Boards and Commissions Portal.)

1. Call Meeting to Order

a. Roll Call for the Record

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm. Mr. Parton was not in attendance. The rest of the board was in attendance.

b. Accept Agenda as written

Ms. Pinkerton made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Mr. Sams seconded. Unanimous approval.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Sams led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Manager Report – Margaret Holder, Youth Services

Get ready to ROAR into Summer Reading! Join us for an exciting Unearth a Story Kick-Off! May 29th 10-1pm.
Hampton Memorial Library – Easley

Featuring Ed's Dinosaurs Live—featuring lifelike animatronic dinosaurs, interactive shows, a fossil display, and even baby dinosaurs you can see and pet! Meet mascots including Sky, the Pickens eastern screech owl, Beasley, the Easley City Canine, Greenville Drive's Reedy Rip'It, and the Chick-fil-A Cow, and grab a bite from **The Nomadik Few & Upstate Chick-fil-A Food Truck**.

Village Library – Pickens

Enjoy outdoor fun like lawn games, balloon animals, and even a fire truck to help everyone cool off! Enjoy delicious bites from **One Armed Smoker** and sweet treats from **Kona Ice** of Pickens while you explore hands-on dino activities.

Sarlin Library – Liberty

Play outside with lawn games, bubbles, and music, then head inside for hands-on dino activities like crafts, building stations, and even adopting your own dinosaur. Cool off with a treat from **Pelican's SnoBalls** while you explore and play!

Central-Clemson Library -Central

Enjoy games, activities, and fun for all ages! Cool off with a sweet treat from the **Gettin' Chilly Ice Cream Truck** while you celebrate the start of a summer of reading and adventure!

During Summer Reading we will continue to have Preschool Storytime at all locations.

Storywalks: What the Dinosaur's Did Last Night: A Very Messy Adventure by Refe Tuma and Susan Tuma
Summary: A Very Messy Adventure is a children's picture book by Refe and Susan Tuma that uses photographs to show plastic dinosaurs causing humorous household messes overnight, from raiding the fridge to getting into parents' belongings, all while the family sleeps. The book is part of the popular "What the Dinosaurs Did" series, which originated from the authors' "Dinovember" tradition of staging dinosaur antics for their kids. It's known for its chaotic, funny scenes and is aimed at preschool to early elementary-aged children.

SC250 programs:

Carolina Day event June 27th [partnership DAR]:

Learn more about South Carolina's role in the American Revolution through kid-friendly crafts and activities. Reenactors will be on hand to tell the story of the Battle of Fort Sullivan and the importance of the palmetto tree in our freedom.

Sponsored by Fort Prince George Chapter, NSDAR, Pickens County 250 and PCLS.

Locations:

Central-Clemson 9-11

Pickens 11-1

Sarlin 12-1:30

Easley 2:30-4:30

July 24 @ 10:30 American Girl Summer Program!

We'll be watching the American Girl movie featuring Felicity Merriman, the spirited colonial girl who loves adventure and standing up for what she believes in.

While the movie plays, enjoy fresh popcorn and create a fun, hands-on craft inspired by Felicity's time period. Craft along with the story and bring a little piece of history home with you!

Dial A Story

Karen Petit, author and member of DAR is going to read her book, Celebrate America! The People Declare Independence for Dial A Story (864) 868-2727.

May 4th, Staff Day

Staff had the option of block printing SC 250 on a new item that they brought

What's Your Story? Family Oral History Project Kickoff, Sunday, June 07, 2026, Time 2:30PM - 4:30PM

Join us for a drop-in kickoff to our Family Oral History Project! Make a craft and interview your friends and family members to preserve a piece of family history.

Throughout the month of June, kids are invited to interview their friends and family members using our Archivist in a Backpack Kits and take home a piece of family history. Interview slots will be open on Tuesdays from 5:00pm-6:00pm and Thursdays from 10:00am-11:00am. Call 864-850-7077 to reserve your space!

4. Public Comments – Limit to (3) minutes each (Total 30 minutes)

1. Meredith Burr

She is submitting her comment for the official record. Stated that the role of a public library board is to protect and defend intellectual freedom. (statements will be attached)

2. Kate Byrd

She is submitting her comment for the official record. This policy was rushed without considering how it would be implemented. Why has the book DRAMA been moved to the adult section? (statements will be attached)

3. Agustin Edmundson

He is submitting his comment for the official record. The First Amendment includes the right to gain information. This collection policy is a dragnet against a specific demographic. Stephanie Howard was forced to pause all youth and teen programming. (statements will be attached)

4. Johnnelle Raines

Thanked Mr. Heimburger for facilitating the movement of books. Asks for updating of the online reconsideration list and for the online records to show how many times a book has been checked out. Also, for clarification as to the online book policy for children.

5. Virginia King

Some of the books that are in question may be good for parents to use to educate their children, however, books with nudity need to be put in a section that parents can decide when they want their children to read these books. She thanks the board for their work. (statements will be attached)

6. Reba Kruse

DRAMA has been moved to the adult section without reconsideration. Who ordered the relocation of DRAMA and under what specific provision of the policy was it moved? The quiet reclassification was done outside written policy.

7. Lou Kaye

Represents students against book banning. Survey showed that library patrons are incredibly satisfied with the library and 95% of patrons are not confused about the term Young Adult. Calls on the board to reverse course and make decisions with the ideals of intellectual freedom in mind.

8. Andi Hendricks

The convictions and beliefs of the board members are their worst enemies. The only losers on the board's agenda are the actual library patrons. She believes that the board members that have violated board policy or undermined the board should resign.

9. Jesse Henley

Thanked the staff and the interim director for having the courage and the wisdom to make decisions that will make libraries safe for children to explore. Stated that this is not about banning books or limiting adult access to ideas, it is about recognizing that children and adults are not the same.

5. Approval of Minutes

a. Policy Committee 1/28/26

Mr. Kilburn moved to accept the minutes. Mr. Sams seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

b. Special Called Meeting 2/12/26

Mr. Aikens moved to accept the minutes. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion. Dr. Wheeler asked for a correction to add back into the minutes his statement, "the librarians wouldn't put it in the collection." Mr. Kilburn mentioned that the changes he requested twice have not yet been made. He feels that this particular meeting was not done the same way as the other meetings. Ms. Pinkerton stressed that if a board member asks for a specific change, it should be made. Ms. Pinkerton called for a vote on the minutes be accepted as written. Unanimous vote against the minutes. Motion fails.

c. Library Board Meeting 3/19/26

Ms. Pinkerton moved to accept the minutes. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

6. Library Director Report

a. Library Information

The library has received two grants of \$2000 each. One from the Dollar General Foundation for purchasing large print juvenile fiction. The other one is a federal Library Services and Technology Act grant to cover the cost of Brightstar Theater troop to perform during this year's summer reading club.

Parenting section has been established in Easley, shelving units are on order; then will be moving to the other libraries to do the same. There have been 14 requests in 2026 for reconsideration; the online chart for reconsideration has been updated. Dr. Wheeler asked Mr. Heimbürger if, aside from the reconsideration request, he has received lists from the public and the board of books to be moved to the adult section. Mr. Heimbürger said yes and that all the books are considered individually according to the collection policy. Dr. Wheeler asked Mr. Heimbürger if he found any materials in the collection of prurient interest, according to the legal definition, or any material taken as a whole, that lacks serious literary, artistic merit or scientific value in our libraries. Mr. Heimbürger said yes. Dr. Wheeler suggested having a rolling list of books that have been moved and the reasons why they were moved and the ones that have been identified as prurient, because that is a serious allegation for a book. Dr. Wheeler asked about the county giving more details about the budget.

b. Financial Report

Mr. Heimbürger reported that spending is on target with the fiscal year. The goal is to have all the money in each category spent by June 20. They are beginning with the review of the 2027 budget to be prepared when the county requests it. Mr. Kilburn asked if the state money has been received and spent. Mr. Heimbürger replied that it had been. The state allotment will be higher for the next budget year. Ms. Pinkerton asked if it would be possible to receive budget information ahead of time, so we have time to study it before the meetings.

c. Foundation Report

Mr. Heimbürger said that 1 Foundation donor leaf and 2 Foundation T-shirts have been sold. The Foundation bought a credit card terminal to accept donations anywhere.

d. Quarterly Statistical Report

Mr. Heimbürger stated that the larger decrease in numbers on some events is possibly because of the collection management mandate staff was given several months ago. There is a great increase in electronic resources. Mr. Kilburn asked the chairman if he could make comments regarding the library information report. He stated it is inappropriate to make comments about whether patrons are giving the library lists of books to be moved under the radar. We are trying with a new director to implement the new collection policy, so books will have to be moved dependent on the content. Mr. Kilburn also expressed that it is no longer necessary to have discussions about “books taken as a whole” or what the definition of prurient interest is. The board is not trying to do anything that is underhanded, we are concerned with ensuring that age-appropriate books are placed in sections of the libraries designated for minors.

Mr. Kilburn explained that he had conversations with Ralph, the finance director, about the budget process in hopes of understanding how it works, so next time the board will be in a better position to handle the budget process.

Ms. Pinkerton asked for clarification about whether the lists that are coming from patrons, if the books are reviewed or if they are just being moved. Mr. Heimbürger stated that staff are reviewing each book based on the collection policy before deciding on placement.

Dr. Wheeler asked about the book DRAMA, why it was moved to the adult section and how it violates the collection policy. Mr. Heimbürger said that he would look into it and get back to board, and if he finds that it does not violate the policy then he will move it back to the teens section. Dr. Wheeler also asked Mr. Heimbürger to find out who moved the book to begin with.

7. Old Business

a. Discuss the process for receiving minutes before the meeting

Ms. Pinkerton suggested that board members could receive the minutes 5 days before meeting in draft form. This would allow 3 days to review and recommend changes so the minutes will be updated before the meeting to save time during meetings. Dr. Wheeler suggested that any changes made should be highlighted, so it will make finding the changes easier for other board members. Ms. Pinkerton suggested linking the video of the meetings to the website. Dr. Wheeler made the motion to accept this new schedule for receiving and amending the minutes, Mr. Sams seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

8. New Business

a. Selection of Library Director Search Committee

Ms. Pinkerton reported that Mr. Parton chose Mr. Sams, Mr. Kilburn, and Ms. Pinkerton to be the Library Director Search Committee. This committee will pare down the list of resumes and bring the top 5 – 10 candidates forward to the board to make the final decision. Ms. Miller made the motion to accept this committee. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion. Mr. Sams asked for Mr. Heimburger to be involved in the selection process for his advice. Unanimous approval.

b. Discuss and Possible Motion - Volunteer Policy

Ms. Pinkerton explained that it is a county regulation now for volunteers to be 18 years of age or older due to county liability. Mr. Aiken made the motion to change the age on the volunteer policy to say, “The Library cannot accept volunteers under the age of 18.” Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion. There was discussion that groups volunteering is part of another group such as the Boy Scouts or ROJTC, can still volunteer as long as that program or group provides their own liability insurance. Unanimous approval.

9. Meeting Adjourn

Mr. Sams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion. Unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm

Next Meeting: Regular meeting, July 16, 2026, 6:00 pm at Hampton Memorial Library

Hi, my name is Meredith Burr and I am a resident of Pickens County. I am also a parent and frequent patron of the library. I am submitting this statement for the public record.

The board's decision to fire our experienced, award-winning library director Stephanie Howard was deeply wrong and represents a governance failure. According to the SC library trustees manual, the role of a public library in a democratic society is to ensure free and open access to information and materials for all. (p. 48) Former Director Howard did exactly her duty in protecting intellectual freedom, but this board is failing in their duty. According to the trustees manual, it is in fact "the duty of the Library Board of Trustees to protect and defend intellectual freedom." (p. 48)

This board has failed in this duty by:

- Firing our intellectual freedom-award winning director for doing her job.
- Removing the American Library Association's Bill of Rights and Freedom to Read Statement from collection policies (which the trustee manual recommends always be included)
- And creating a set of collection development policies that aim to censor materials.

These actions not only embarrass Pickens County, but also open our county up to legal risk.

The new collection development policies violate the role of the library. From the trustee manual:

"The Library is a selector, not a censor. A selector believes in the individual's right to examine and evaluate materials and make personal choices about them; a censor believes in evaluating and choosing materials for others according to the censor's own values."

The new collection development policies represent censorship. They include rules for evaluating and choosing materials for others according to the values of board members.

The argument that all the books still exist in the library is not sufficient. Books need to be accessible. Re-classifying books intended for one age group to another part of the library makes them harder for people to access. Now books that I would like to find for my kids may just not be there when I browse the shelves, and I won't know what's

missing. The same will be true for so many kids and teens – books that were written for them and would be fine with their parents just won't be found where they look.

The ALA freedom to read statement includes that “In a free society individuals are free to determine for themselves what they wish to read...But no group has the right ... to impose its own concept of politics or morality upon other[s]” (p. 87)

A library fulfills its duty to intellectual freedom by providing a wide range of books and materials and leaving reading decisions up to individuals. Parents have a responsibility to guide their children's reading, but parents (and this board) should not be making decisions for other parents' children. Doing so is government overreach and censorship.

Judy Blume, my favorite author when I was young, wrote:

“I believe that censorship grows out of fear, and because fear is contagious, some parents are easily swayed. Book banning [or book restricting] satisfies their need to feel in control of their children's lives. This fear is often disguised as moral outrage. They want to believe that if their children don't read about it, their children won't know about it. And if they don't know about it, it won't happen.”

But books can be the best tools for understanding complex issues. Limiting kids and teens access to books does not protect them from life's complex and challenging issues. Limiting access can in fact be harmful.

Please do your duty as library board trustees to protect intellectual freedom. Put back the freedom to read and library bill of rights, stop censoring our books, and let all of us, individuals and parents, decide what to read. Our community will be better for it. Thank you.

Good evening. My name is Kate Byrd. I am a resident of Pickens County, and this statement is submitted for the public record.

I speak tonight to the board and to the community in this room and those watching online. In March my public comments were about good governance. The people who use this library and the taxpayers of Pickens County deserve it. They are not getting it.

This board rushed a collection policy into place with no implementation plan, no guidance for staff, and no clear process for how decisions would be made or communicated to the public. That is not governance. That is improvisation — and the community is paying the price.

Which brings me to *Drama* — not the drama so evident in this board's conflicts and administrative chaos. I'm talking about the book *Drama* by Raina Telgemeier.

In March 2024, there was a reconsideration request to have *Drama* moved to another section. Three members still on this board voted to move it to the then Young Adult section. The vote failed and the book remained in the juvenile section. Yet recently, *Drama*, a book suitable for ages 10 to 14, has been quietly moved to the adult section — with no public notice, no explanation, and no update to the library's online reconsideration list. It may be just one of a number of books shifted the same way. The public has no way to know.

The public deserves to know which books are being moved, by what standard, and at whose request. Pickens County School District publishes the name of the person filing a reconsideration petition. That transparency would show this community that this is not an organic process driven by concerned parents. It is a coordinated campaign driven by a small group imposing their views on everyone else.

That coordinated campaign led to the firing of library director Stephanie Howard, who repeatedly asked how to implement this very policy as it was being rushed through. Instead of an answer, she got a termination notice. Many in this community believe the board's treatment of her carries consequences they have not yet fully reckoned with.

The recklessness extends beyond the collection. Three members voted against signing the form for state funding. That is not stewardship. That is recklessness in service of a personal ideology.

Nothing I have seen since January has changed my assessment of this board — and I know I am not alone. The people of Pickens County are watching. And we are keeping the record of this board's failures.

"Good evening, members of the board.

My name is Gus Edmundson, and I am a resident of Easley. I am here tonight to address the **systematic overreach**, procedural violations, and **fundamental misunderstandings of law** that define this board majority's current platform.

Every single fact, statistic, and email I am citing tonight is **not a rumor**—it is documented truth obtained through a formal **Freedom of Information Act** request. The public records have **unmasked** exactly how this operation was built.

First, I must correct the legally vacant talking points spun by previous public commenters in these chambers. The claim that the First Amendment only protects *speaking* and not *reading* is **both ignorant and uneducated**. The United States Supreme Court has made it clear for decades, notably in *Lamont v. Postmaster General* and *Board of Education v. Pico*, that the right to freedom of speech explicitly includes the right to **receive information and ideas**.

Furthermore, to the commenters claiming the First Amendment applies fundamentally differently to minors in this context: **the constitutional law rejects your position**. Public libraries are not public schools. In a public library, minors possess recognized First Amendment rights to access voluntary literature, and a governing board cannot strip that access away simply because an outside political group finds the ideas objectionable. Censorship does not become constitutional just because you target the **reader** instead of the writer, and the **right to read** is an inseparable component of the freedom of speech.

Second, let us **dismantle** the claim that this board is conducting a broad, neutral audit for age-appropriateness. The FOIA data **completely fails** that narrative. The public records show a continuous outside campaign dating back to late 2024, which this current voting majority has fully embraced. When analyzing the unique book titles targeted across the individual reconsideration forms, the library's master log, and the specific 21-book hit list emailed directly to members of this board by outside political group leader Johnelle Raines, **fifty-eight point six percent** of the entire conflict footprint **exclusively targets LGBTQ+** individuals, characters, or histories. When looking strictly at the physical paperwork generated by this outside network, that concentration spikes to **eighty-one point eight percent**. The FOIA trail proves this is not an objective administrative review; it is a **highly focused ideological dragnet** against a specific demographic.

Third, I ask this board to **look around this room** and look at the public record since this policy was announced. The **overwhelming, dominant turnout** of Pickens County residents has been explicitly **against** this overreach and **in favor** of free access to literature. The community has spoken **clearly**. You need to **abandon** this outsourced political agenda tonight, implement an **objective** collection policy that follows professional and publisher data, and **trust** your library director and professional staff to do their job.

Because if you choose to maintain this disregard for our laws and our community instead, your actions carry **direct administrative violations**. According to the library system's own internal master ledger, for titles such as *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* and *Last Night at the Telegraph Club*, professional staff **forensically recorded** that this board majority held **invalid** votes, failed to pass legal motions, and **manually forced** books to the adult section **without a formal review process**.

And let the record be crystal clear on what happened next: our former Library Director, **Stephanie Howard**—whom this board subsequently **fired**—was the one who stepped in to move those books **back to Young Adult** to preserve standard, legal county protocol. You won't publicly say why you terminated her, but the FOIA timeline reveals the truth. Her firing came right after she was forced to **pause all youth and teen programming across the county** just to divert the insane manpower required to execute your ludicrous cataloging demands. Because you refused to trust the automated system data, and refused to trust our professional librarians to do their jobs, you paralyzed public library operations for our children. You did not fire her for poor performance; you terminated a professional who had just **notably won an award for protecting the freedom of literature**, purely because she dared to manage the direct fallout of your ideological overreach.

This is documented, undeniable proof of a **complete disregard for procedures**. Under **Rule 7.2, Section C** of the Pickens County Council Organizational Rules, these exact actions constitute **full legal grounds for 'Removal for Cause.'** County Council has the **unilateral authority** to remove appointed members by a **simple majority vote**.

Let me be entirely unambiguous about what happens next: **this evidentiary packet WILL be handed directly to the County Council, backed by extreme community pressure to vacate all three of your seats**. Tonight is **not** an opportunity for us to debate you. Tonight is merely your **final chance** to correct your mistake before the Council forces you out. This is your one remaining window to salvage any shred of **credibility** back with the public."

Virginia King's Statement

Library Board May 21, 2026

First, I would like to apologize for going over my time at the last board meeting. When I heard the heckling from the audience I tuned out all noises. Therefore I did not hear the timer to realize my time was up. I promise to do better today.

I have been reading several of the books in the children's section of the library. Some of them are very good for parents to use to teach sex education to their children as the parents' deem age appropriate.

Two of the books I really appreciated are *Where Did I Come From* by Peter Mayle and *Where Willy Went* by Nicholas Allan.

Where Willy Went is a wonderful book to help parents talk to their children about sex. It can be used as a guide to answer questions children may have. Because of the nudity it should be relocated to the adult section under your new category of parenting. Parents can use discretion as to the degree the child is ready to understand the material. It's best to answer the child's question without giving all the information at one time.

2nd book

Where Did I Come From is over the top showing body parts and explaining the foreplay and act of sexual intercourse. It can be used as a guide to answer questions children may have. It should be relocated to the adult section: parenting, teaching sex education and shown to juveniles as preparation for puberty by their parents to the degree the child is ready to understand the material. Again, it's best to answer the child's question without giving all the information at one time.

Thank you for creating the new parenting section. This will be a great resource for parents to use for reference material as they teach their children.

Thank you too for all you are doing to make our library morally sound for our great community.

Pickens County, S.C.



YTD BUDGET REPORT FY26 FINAL

FOR 2026 13

ACCOUNTS FOR: 01 GENERAL FUND	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANSFERS/ ADJUSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
01540 COUNTY LIBRARY							
01540 4010 SALARIES & WAGES	1,892,796.00	16,643.00	1,909,439.00	1,838,676.75	.00	70,762.25	96.3%
01540 4012 FICA	166,611.00	2,843.00	169,454.00	160,667.00	.00	8,787.00	94.8%
01540 4013 WORKER'S COMPENSATIO	5,913.00	63.00	5,976.00	2,840.88	.00	3,135.12	47.5%
01540 4014 RETIREMENT	413,087.00	3,669.00	416,756.00	399,540.67	.00	17,215.33	95.9%
01540 4015 HEALTH INSURANCE	392,751.00	.00	392,751.00	384,409.90	.00	8,341.10	97.9%
01540 4016 DENTAL INSURANCE	8,316.00	.00	8,316.00	8,723.69	.00	-407.69	104.9%
01540 4017 LIFE INSURANCE	306.00	.00	306.00	318.65	.00	-12.65	104.1%
01540 4020 OVERTIME	25,750.00	6,642.00	32,392.00	38,203.87	.00	-5,811.87	117.9%
01540 4025 PT SALARIES & WAGES	332,767.00	-5,000.00	327,767.00	293,417.13	.00	34,349.87	89.5%
01540 4070 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	1,300.00	.00	1,300.00	450.00	.00	850.00	34.6%
01540 4100 OFFICE SUPPLIES	29,000.00	3,000.00	32,000.00	29,854.92	566.89	1,578.19	95.1%
01540 4110 POSTAGE	4,000.00	-250.00	3,750.00	3,605.83	.00	144.17	96.2%
01540 4140 DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	1,590.00	250.00	1,840.00	1,792.69	.00	47.31	97.4%
01540 4150 TRAVEL EXPENSE	2,000.00	.00	2,000.00	1,334.16	.00	665.84	66.7%
01540 4160 SAFETY ITEMS	700.00	.00	700.00	.00	.00	700.00	.0%
01540 4170 FUEL & OIL	3,000.00	.00	3,000.00	2,065.55	.00	934.45	68.9%
01540 4190 CREDIT CARD FEES	1,800.00	.00	1,800.00	1,649.40	.00	150.60	91.6%
01540 4200 ELECTRICITY & HEATIN	132,000.00	.00	132,000.00	101,440.31	.00	30,559.69	76.8%
01540 4210 TELEPHONE	30,000.00	.00	30,000.00	23,471.10	.00	6,528.90	78.2%
01540 4212 DATA LINE PHONE CHAR	.00	.00	.00	167.03	.00	-167.03	100.0%
01540 4220 WATER & SEWER	20,000.00	.00	20,000.00	11,067.96	.00	8,932.04	55.3%
01540 4262 COPIER CONTRACT	31,000.00	.00	31,000.00	.00	.00	31,000.00	.0%
01540 4263 SECURITY MONITORING	1,777.00	89.00	1,866.00	1,865.52	.00	.48	100.0%
01540 4264 PEST CONTROL CONTRAC	2,500.00	.00	2,500.00	1,742.00	.00	758.00	69.7%
01540 4265 SOFTWARE CONTRACT	75,000.00	12,832.00	87,832.00	87,831.92	.00	.08	100.0%
01540 4266 EQUIPMENT CONTRACT	15,000.00	.00	15,000.00	14,775.15	.00	224.85	98.5%
01540 4268 FIRE ALARM INSPECTIO	1,892.00	.00	1,892.00	1,513.20	.00	378.80	80.0%
01540 4269 FIRE EXTINGUISHER CO	3,700.00	.00	3,700.00	1,321.49	.00	2,378.51	35.7%
01540 4270 REPAIRS TO EQUIPMENT	1,000.00	.00	1,000.00	.00	.00	1,000.00	.0%
01540 4280 REPAIRS TO BUILDINGS	75,000.00	-2,289.00	72,711.00	41,714.70	112.00	30,884.30	57.5%
01540 4290 REPAIRS TO VEHICLES	2,000.00	2,324.00	4,324.00	4,414.22	.00	-90.22	102.1%
01540 4400 FOOD	700.00	.00	700.00	689.81	.00	10.19	98.5%
01540 4430 CLEANING & SANITATIO	20,000.00	.00	20,000.00	19,920.49	.00	79.51	99.6%
01540 4621 PROPERTY INSURANCE	39,000.00	1,161.00	40,161.00	40,161.22	.00	-.22	100.0%
01540 4622 TORT INSURANCE	35,600.00	-2,418.00	33,182.00	33,181.23	.00	.77	100.0%
01540 4624 LICENSES	120.00	3,620.00	3,740.00	3,739.56	.00	.44	100.0%
01540 4625 PERMIT FEES	900.00	.00	900.00	880.00	.00	20.00	97.8%
01540 4630 RENT-BUILDINGS, EQUI	1,000.00	-1,000.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0%
01540 4640 TRAINING	2,459.00	6,000.00	8,459.00	8,504.28	.00	-45.28	100.5%
01540 4640 GE577 TRAINING: LSTA	.00	2,531.43	2,531.43	2,531.43	.00	.00	100.0%

Pickens County, S.C.



YTD BUDGET REPORT FY26 FINAL

FOR 2026 13

ACCOUNTS FOR: 01 GENERAL FUND	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANSFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
01540 4650 CONSULTING & CONTRAC	20,000.00	15,008.00	35,008.00	31,381.31	.00	3,626.69	89.6%
01540 4710 00128 PROGRAMMING/OUT	24,000.00	.00	24,000.00	22,988.18	981.69	30.13	99.9%
01540 4710 GE565 DEPARTMENTAL SU	.00	500.00	500.00	505.34	.00	-5.34	101.1%
01540 4710 GE566 DEPARTMENTAL SU	.00	13,290.00	13,290.00	7,361.92	5,558.97	369.11	97.2%
01540 4710 GE569 DEPARTMENTAL SU	.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	3,941.34	.00	58.66	98.5%
01540 4710 GE581 DEPARTMENTAL SU	.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	813.78	.00	686.22	54.3%
01540 4780 BOOKS	140,000.00	-6,000.00	134,000.00	90,040.25	2,565.64	41,394.11	69.1%
01540 4783 00055 FRIENDS OF LIBR	5,000.00	.00	5,000.00	4,913.64	.00	86.36	98.3%
01540 4789 LIBRARY MISC DONATIO	1,000.00	.00	1,000.00	884.67	.00	115.33	88.5%
01540 4790 BOOKS (STATE AID)	329,445.00	-47,519.00	281,926.00	276,721.35	5,125.90	78.75	100.0%
01540 4810 COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	30,000.00	-12,700.00	17,300.00	17,282.77	13.59	3.64	100.0%
01540 4820 OFFICE FURNITURE & E	25,000.00	-2,000.00	23,000.00	21,291.79	.00	1,708.21	92.6%
01540 4915 MACHINERY & EQUIPMEN	.00	80,080.00	80,080.00	40,265.00	39,815.00	.00	100.0%
TOTAL COUNTY LIBRARY	4,346,780.00	96,869.43	4,443,649.43	4,086,875.05	54,739.68	302,034.70	93.2%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	4,346,780.00	96,869.43	4,443,649.43	4,086,875.05	54,739.68	302,034.70	93.2%
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,346,780.00	96,869.43	4,443,649.43	4,086,875.05	54,739.68	302,034.70	

Pickens County, S.C.

YTD BUDGET REPORT FY26 FINAL



FOR 2026 13

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
--	--------------------	----------------------	-------------------	--------------	--------------	---------------------	-------------

GRAND TOTAL	4,346,780.00	96,869.43	4,443,649.43	4,086,875.05	54,739.68	302,034.70	93.2%
-------------	--------------	-----------	--------------	--------------	-----------	------------	-------

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Cassie Hamilton **

PICKENS COUNTY BUDGET ANALYSIS REPORT

01540 COUNTY LIBRARY	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 Y.T.D.	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 REQUEST	FY 2027 FINAL	ITEM DESCRIPTION
4100 OFFICE SUPPLIES							OFFICE SUPPLIES ARE ESSENTIAL FOR DAILY LIBRARY OPERATIONS, SUPPORTING ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS, PATRON SERVICES AND EFFICIENT WORKFLOW ACROSS ALL BRANCHES.
	-	-	30,844	29,000	30,000	20,000	
Total 4100							
4110 POSTAGE							LIBRARY POSTAGE POSTAGE IS NECESSARY FOR GENERAL LIBRARY CORRESPONDENCE AND FOR MAILING DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH OUR PASSPORT ACCEPTANCE SERVICES.
	-	-	3,606	4,000	5,000	4,000	
Total 4110							
4140 DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS							EASLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERSHIP JOINING THE LOCAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE STRENGTHENS COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND INCREASES THE LIBRARY'S VISIBILITY, SUPPORTING OUTREACH, PROGRAMMING, AND COLLABORATIVE OPPORTUNITIES.
	-	-		-	370	-	
					25	25	PARADE FEE HOLIDAY PARADES PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND VISIBILITY
				-	1,605	1,605	SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARY ADMINISTRATORS DUES TO SC APLA PROVIDE ACCESS TO PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT, ADVOCACY, AND COLLABORATION AMONG PUBLIC LIBRARY DIRECTORS ACROSS SC.
Total 4140							
4150 TRAVEL EXPENSE							STAFF TRAVEL EXPENSES TRAVEL FUNDS SUPPORT ESSENTIAL LIBRARY OPERATIONS BY COVERING MILEAGE AND RELATED COSTS WHEN STAFF MUST TRAVEL FOR TRAINING, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, OR TO PROVIDE LIBRARY PROGRAMMING THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY. THIS ACCOUNT IS ALSO CRITICAL WHEN COUNTY VEHICLES ARE UNAVAILABLE, ENSURING STAFF CAN CONTINUE TO MEET SERVICE OBLIGATIONS WITHOUT INTERRUPTION
	-	-	1,793	1,590	2,000	1,630	
					2,000	2,000	

**PICKENS COUNTY
BUDGET ANALYSIS REPORT**

01540 COUNTY LIBRARY	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 Y.T.D.	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 REQUEST	FY 2027 FINAL	ITEM DESCRIPTION
Total 4150	-	-	1,353	2,000	2,000	2,000	
4160 SAFETY ITEMS				-	700	500	SAFETY ITEMS
							FUNDS THE PURCHASE AND REPLACEMENT OF FIRST AID SUPPLIES, AED MATERIALS, AND BEE STING KITS USED IN OUR OBSERVATION HIVE PROGRAM. THESE ITEMS MUST BE KEPT UP-TO-DATE TO ENSURE THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF STAFF AND PATRONS.
Total 4160	-	-	-	700	700	500	
4170 FUEL & OIL				-	3,000	2,500	
Total 4170	-	-	1,896	3,000	3,000	2,500	
4190 CREDIT CARD FEES				-	1,800	1,800	CREDIT CARD FEES
							ALLOWS US TO ACCEPT CREDIT/DEBIT AT LIBRARY SERVICE DESKS
Total 4190	-	-	1,496	1,800	1,800	1,800	
4200 ELECTRICITY & HEATING FUEL				-	132,000	125,000	
Total 4200	-	-	97,424	132,000	132,000	125,000	
4210 TELEPHONE				-	30,000	30,000	
Total 4210	-	-	23,444	30,000	30,000	30,000	
4220 WATER & SEWER				-	20,000	14,000	
Total 4220	-	-	10,593	20,000	20,000	14,000	
4262 COPIER CONTRACT				-	-	-	
					31,000	31,000	
Total 4262	-	-	-	31,000	31,000	31,000	
4263 SECURITY MONITORING CONTRACT				-	2,000	2,000	
Total 4263	-	-	1,866	1,777	2,000	2,000	

PICKENS COUNTY BUDGET ANALYSIS REPORT

01540 COUNTY LIBRARY	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 Y.T.D.	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 REQUEST	FY 2027 FINAL	ITEM DESCRIPTION
4264 PEST CONTROL CONTRACT	-	-	1,647	2,500	2,500	2,500	
Total 4264	-	-	1,647	2,500	2,500	2,500	
4265 SOFTWARE CONTRACT							
				-	8,738	8,738	OCLC SOFTWARE THAT SUPPORTS OUR DIGITAL ARCHIVES LAB - DIGITIZED HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS
				-	2,848	2,848	COMPRISE DEBIT/CREDIT CARD FEE ACCEPTANCE AT SERVICE DESKS
				-	295	295	AUTHORIZE.NET DEBIT AND CREDIT CARD ACCEPTANCE ONLINE
				-	600	600	ADOBE SOFTWARE PR AND MEDIA SOFTWARE
				-	45,961	45,961	TLC INTEGRATED LIBRARY SYSTEM SOFTWARE
				-	270	270	ISSUU SOFTWARE FOR PUBLISHING ONLINE NEWSLETTER
				-	3,084	3,084	ENVISIONWARE PUBLIC COMPUTER RESERVATION AND PRINTING SOFTWARE
				-	8,750	8,750	COMMUNICO LIBRARY PROGRAMMING AND PR/MEDIA WORKFLOW AND APPROVAL SOFTWARE
				-	6,587	6,587	MS365 (ZONES) MICROSOFT SUITE AND TEAMS SOFTWARE
				-	1,235	1,235	BLUE LION SKEDDA COMMUNITY ROOM SCHEDULING SOFTWARE AND LIBRARY WEBSITE ADMINISTRATION
				-	1,813	1,813	ARUBA NETWORK SWITCHES AND ACCESS POINTS
				-	3,451	3,451	BARRACUDA FIREWALL
				-	1,368	1,368	MYTURN RESERVATION SOFTWARE FOR LIBRARY OF THINGS
Total 4265	-	-	87,832	75,000	85,000	85,000	
4266 EQUIPMENT CONTRACT				-	1,025	1,025	PRIORITY ONE

PICKENS COUNTY BUDGET ANALYSIS REPORT

01540 COUNTY LIBRARY	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 Y.T.D.	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 REQUEST	FY 2027 FINAL	ITEM DESCRIPTION
							LIBRARY SECURITY HARDWARE
				-	4,093	4,093	OTIS ELEVATOR
				-	4,620	4,620	BIBLIOTHECA
				-	1,280	1,280	PCLS CONNECT LOCKER SYSTEM SIX MILE
				-	3,082	3,082	CASCADE WATER
				-	900	-	HVAC TOWER
				-	-	-	OTHER EQUIPMENT
				-	-	-	FUNDS THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT CONTRACT ITEMS
				-	-	-	NEEDED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR TO SUPPORT LIBRARY
				-	-	-	OPERATIONS
Total 4266	-	-	14,650	15,000	15,000	14,100	
4268 FIRE ALARM INSPECTION				-	1,892	1,892	
Total 4268	-	-	1,513	1,892	1,892	1,892	
4269 FIRE EXTINGUISHER CONTRACT				-	3,700	3,700	
Total 4269	-	-	1,321	3,700	3,700	3,700	
4270 REPAIRS TO EQUIPMENT				-	1,000	500	
Total 4270	-	-	-	1,000	1,000	500	
4280 REPAIRS TO BUILDINGS & GROUNDS				-	75,000	5,000	
Total 4280	-	-	38,449	75,000	75,000	5,000	
4290 REPAIRS TO VEHICLES				-	2,000	750	
Total 4290	-	-	4,414	2,000	2,000	750	
4400 FOOD				-	700	700	
Total 4400	-	-	690	700	700	700	
4430 CLEANING & SANITATION				-	20,000	10,000	

PICKENS COUNTY BUDGET ANALYSIS REPORT

01540 COUNTY/LIBRARY	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 Y.T.D.	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 REQUEST	FY 2027 FINAL	ITEM DESCRIPTION
Total 4430	-	-	19,483	20,000	20,000	10,000	
4621 PROPERTY INSURANCE							
Total 4621	-	-	40,161	39,000	42,500	42,500	
4622 TORT INSURANCE							
Total 4622	-	-	33,181	35,600	37,380	33,109	
4624 LICENSES							
Total 4624	-	-	3,740	120	120	120	ELEVATOR LICENSE
4625 PERMIT FEES							
Total 4625	-	-	880	900	900	900	
4630 RENT-BUILDINGS, EQUIPMENT							
Total 4630	-	-	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	RENTAL ITEMS COVERS THE COST OF TEMPORARY TABLES, CHAIRS, AND OTHER ESSENTIAL ITEMS NEEDED FOR LARGE LIBRARY EVENTS, PROGRAMS, OR COMMUNITY GATHERINGS. ENSURING A SAFE AND COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR PARTICIPANTS.
4640 TRAINING							
				-	900	900	STAFF MEMBER, OCTOBER 2026, COLUMBIA SC SCLA CONFERENCE - SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION THE STATE'S PREMIER PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING LIBRARIANS, LIBRARY STAFF, AND ADVOCATES. PROVIDES STATEWIDE-FOCUSED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ADDRESSING CURRENT ISSUES, TRENDS, AND CHALLENGES FACING SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES. STAFF WILL GAIN NEW STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING LIBRARY SERVICES, ENHANCING PATRON ENGAGEMENT, AND STRENGTHENING LOCAL ADVOCACY. STAFF MEMBER, OCTOBER 2026, COLUMBIA SC

**PICKENS COUNTY
BUDGET ANALYSIS REPORT**

01540 COUNTY LIBRARY	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 Y.T.D.	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 REQUEST	FY 2027 FINAL	ITEM DESCRIPTION
				-	300	300	SCLA CONFERENCE - SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. THE STATE'S PREMIER PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING LIBRARIANS, LIBRARY STAFF, AND ADVOCATES. PROVIDES STATEWIDE-FOCUSED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ADDRESSING CURRENT ISSUES, TRENDS, AND CHALLENGES FACING SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES. STAFF WILL GAIN NEW STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING LIBRARY SERVICES, ENHANCING PATRON ENGAGEMENT, AND STRENGTHENING LOCAL ADVOCACY. 300 ALL STAFF - VIRTUAL THE TLC CORPORATION VIRTUAL USERS CONFERENCE OFFERS FOCUSED TRAINING ON OUR INTEGRATED LIBRARY SYSTEM. ATTENDEES WILL LEARN BEST PRACTICES, NEW FEATURES, AND UPCOMING SOFTWARE ENHANCEMENTS. TRAINING WILL IMPROVE STAFF EFFICIENCY, EXPAND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE, AND SUPPORT MORE EFFECTIVE USE OF OUR ILS TO ENHANCE SERVICE. 1,500 ETHAN CASHWELL, OCTOBER 2026, LOCATION TBD THE ASSOCIATION OF BOOKMOBILE AND OUTREACH SERVICES (ABOS) CONFERENCE TRAINING FOCUSES ON EFFECTIVE OUTREACH STRATEGIES, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, AND INNOVATIVE SERVICE MODELS. THIS TRAINING WILL PROVIDE STAFF WITH PRACTICAL TOOLS AND ACTIONABLE IDEAS OUR OUTREACH LIBRARIANS CAN IMMEDIATELY APPLY TO EXPAND SERVICES AND STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT. 1,840 STEPHANIE HOWARD, SEPT 16-19 2026, MONTGOMERY ALABAMA SPONSORED BY THE ASSOCIATION FOR RURAL AND SMALL LIBRARIES (ARSL) THE CONFERENCE OFFERS SPECIALIZED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR LIBRARIES OPERATING WITH LIMITED BUDGETS, SMALL SPACES, AND MINIMAL STAFFING. SESSIONS EMPHASIZE CREATIVE SCALABLE SOLUTIONS ALONG WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION. ATTENDANCE WILL EQUIP THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR WITH STRATEGIES TO STRENGTHEN OPERATIONS, OPTIMIZE RESOURCES, AND ENHANCE COMMUNITY-CENTERED SERVICES. THIS TRAINING DIRECTLY SUPPORTS LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE IMPROVEMENTS ACROSS THE LIBRARY SYSTEM. 825 MARGARET HOLDER, MAY 2026, LOCATION TBD

PICKENS COUNTY BUDGET ANALYSIS REPORT

01540 COUNTY LIBRARY	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 Y.T.D.	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 REQUEST	FY 2027 FINAL	ITEM DESCRIPTION
				-	2,000	2,000	THE LIBRARY JOURNAL AND SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL PUBLIC LIBRARY YOUTH SERVICES LEADERSHIP SUMMIT BRINGS TOGETHER YOUTH SERVICES PROFESSIONALS AND LIBRARY LEADERS TO EXPLORE EMERGING TRENDS AND HIGH-IMPACT PRACTICES IN CHILDRENS AND TEEN PROGRAMMING. PARTICIPATION WILL HELP THE YOUTH SERVICES MANAGER APPLY CUTTING EDGE, RESEARCH BASED APPROACHES TO PROGRAMMING AND LEADERSHIP, STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY IMPACT, AND SUPPORT PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE OF THE YOUTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT.
				-			CASSIE HAMILTON, JUNE 2027, MINNEAPOLIS MN
				-			THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION SPONSORS THIS INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED CONFERENCE. THE LARGEST GATHERING OF LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS IN THE WORLD. THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR WILL BE PROVIDED WITH ADVANCED TRAINING IN LIBRARY LEADERSHIP, EMERGING TRENDS, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES, AND OPERATIONAL AND POLICY BEST PRACTICES. INSIGHTS GAINED WILL SUPPORT SYSTEM-WIDE PLANNING.
				-	759	759	EMILY GILSTRAP, NOVEMBER 2026, CHARLESTON SC
				-			YALLFEST IS AN ANNUAL YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE CONFERENCE THAT FEATURES PANELS, KEYNOTE TALKS, AND INDSTRY UPDATES ON CURRENT AND EMERGING TRENDS IN YA FICTION. ATTENDING WILL BENEFIT OUR TEEN SERVICES STAFF MEMBER BY STRENGTHENING COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT SKILLS - ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR OUR TEEN BOOK BOX PROGRAM- IMPROVING OUR SELECTION OF NEW AND HIGH INTEREST TITLES, AND SUPPORTING MORE RELEVANT AND ENGAGING PROGRAMMING FOR TEENS. THE EVENT ALSO PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES TO COLLABORATE WITH FELLOW YOUTH SERVICES PROFESSIONALS AND BUILD CONNECTIONS THAT WILL ENHANCE LIBRARY SERVICES FOR TEENS.
Total	4640		8,422	2,459	9,024	(5,024) 4,000	
4650 CONSULTING & CONTRACTUAL				-	16,450	16,450	SUMMER READING PERFORMERS ADULT AND CHILDRENS/YOUTH

**PICKENS COUNTY
BUDGET ANALYSIS REPORT**

01540 COUNTY LIBRARY	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 Y.T.D.	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 REQUEST	FY 2027 FINAL	ITEM DESCRIPTION
					2,300	-	FUNDS FOR SUMMER READING PERFORMERS AND PROGRAMMING SUPPORT ENGAGING, EDUCATIONAL, AND ENTERTAINING EVENTS THAT ENCOURAGE READING AND LITERACY AMONG CHILDREN, TEENS, AND ADULTS, HELPING THE LIBRARY FULFILL ITS MISSION TO PROMOTE COMMUNITY LEARNING AND ENRICHMENT.
							BLUE LION
					150	150	AV RECORDING AND LIVE STREAM LIBRARY BOARD MEETINGS
					60	60	FACEBOOK SPONSORED POSTS
							COMMUNITY ADVERTISING FOR PROGRAMS AND EVENTS
							AZALEA FESTIVAL
					5,000	-	FESTIVAL FEE
							ATTORNEY FEES - LIBRARY BOARD
							FUNDING FOR ATTORNEY SERVICES PROVIDES LEGAL SUPPORT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CURRENT COUNTY ATTORNEY, ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS WHILE SUPPORTING SOUND DECISION-MAKING AND RISK MANAGEMENT FOR LIBRARY OPERATIONS.
					1,000	-	STAFF DAY TRAINER
							FUNDS FOR A SPEAKER AT THE YEARLY STAFF DAY TRAINING PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, MOTIVATION, AND EXPERT INSIGHT TO ENHANCE STAFF SKILLS, TEAMWORK, AND ENGAGEMENT.
Total 4650	-	-	23,526	20,000	24,960	16,660	
4710 PROGRAMMING/OUTREACH					24,000	24,000	PROGRAMMING AND OUTREACH FUNDING
							FUNDING FOR SYSTEM-WIDE AND OUTREACH PROGRAMMING SUPPORTS LIBRARY EVENTS, EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS ACROSS ALL LOCATIONS, ENSURING ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY PROGRAMS THAT PROMOTE LITERACY, LEARNING, AND CONNECTION FOR PATRONS OF ALL AGES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY
Total 4710	-	-	23,972	24,000	24,000	24,000	
4780 BOOKS					145,000	125,000	CIRCULATING MATERIALS

PICKENS COUNTY BUDGET ANALYSIS REPORT

01540 COUNTY LIBRARY	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 Y.T.D.	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 REQUEST	FY 2027 FINAL	ITEM DESCRIPTION
Total 4780	-	-	89,792	140,000	145,000	125,000	FUNDING FOR CIRCULATING MATERIALS SUPPORTS THE PURCHASE AND MAINTENANCE OF BOOKS, MEDIA, AND OTHER LIBRARY ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR PATRON CHECKOUT, ENSURING A DIVERSE, UP-TO-DATE COLLECTION THAT MEETS THE EDUCATIONAL, RECREATIONAL, AND INFORMATION NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY.
4783 FRIENDS OF LIBRARY EXPENDITURE							
Total 4783	-	-	4,970	5,000	5,000	5,000	
4789 LIBRARY MISC DONATIONS							
Total 4789	-	-	885	1,000	1,000	1,000	
4790 BOOKS (STATE AID)							
Total 4790	-	-	281,101	329,445	362,006	362,006	
4810 COMPUTER EQUIPMENT							
				-	22,000	22,000	AWE COMPUTER REPLACEMENT SCHEDULE FUNDING FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF AWE CHILDREN'S COMPUTERS ENSURES THAT YOUNG PATRONS HAVE ACCESS TO SAFE, FUNCTIONAL, UP-TO-DATE TECHNOLOGY FOR EDUCATIONAL AND LITERACY PROGRAMS.
				-	2,000	2,000	PR AND MEDIA FUNDING FOR PR AND MEDIA EQUIPMENT SUPPORTS THE LIBRARY'S EFFORTS TO PROMOTE PROGRAMS, SERVICES, AND EVENTS THROUGH PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION CHANNELS.
				-	4,000	4,000	PUBLIC AND STAFF COMPUTER REPLACEMENT
				-	2,000	2,000	SOUND EQUIPMENT, SPEAKERS WIRING, ETC.
Total 4810	-	-	16,110	30,000	30,000	30,000	HAMPTON LIBRARY INTERCOM SYSTEM UPDATES
4820 OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIP							
				-	8,000	8,000	FURNITURE REPLACEMENT PLAN - HAMPTON

**PICKENS COUNTY
BUDGET ANALYSIS REPORT**

01540 COUNTY LIBRARY	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 Y.T.D.	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 REQUEST	FY 2027 FINAL	ITEM DESCRIPTION
				-	10,000	10,000	FURNITURE REPLACEMENT PLAN - CENTRAL/CLEMSON FUNDING FOR FURNITURE REPLACEMENT SUPPORTS A PLANNED, SYSTEMATIC SCHEDULE TO REPLACE ITEMS AT EACH LIBRARY BRANCH THAT CAN NO LONGER BE PROFESSIONALLY CLEANED OR REPAIRED, ENSURING SAFE, FUNCTIONAL, AND COMFORTABLE SPACES FOR STAFF AND PATRONS WHILE MAINTAINING A HIGH-QUALITY LIBRARY ENVIRONMENT.
				-			FURNITURE REPLACEMENT PLAN - PICKENS FUNDING FOR FURNITURE REPLACEMENT SUPPORTS A PLANNED, SYSTEMATIC SCHEDULE TO REPLACE ITEMS AT EACH LIBRARY BRANCH THAT CAN NO LONGER BE PROFESSIONALLY CLEANED OR REPAIRED, ENSURING SAFE, FUNCTIONAL, AND COMFORTABLE SPACES FOR STAFF AND PATRONS WHILE MAINTAINING A HIGH-QUALITY LIBRARY ENVIRONMENT.
				-	6,000	6,000	FURNITURE REPLACEMENT PLAN - LIBERTY FUNDING FOR FURNITURE REPLACEMENT SUPPORTS A PLANNED, SYSTEMATIC SCHEDULE TO REPLACE ITEMS AT EACH LIBRARY BRANCH THAT CAN NO LONGER BE PROFESSIONALLY CLEANED OR REPAIRED, ENSURING SAFE, FUNCTIONAL, AND COMFORTABLE SPACES FOR STAFF AND PATRONS WHILE MAINTAINING A HIGH-QUALITY LIBRARY ENVIRONMENT.
				-			FURNITURE REPLACEMENT PLAN - LIBERTY FUNDING FOR FURNITURE REPLACEMENT SUPPORTS A PLANNED, SYSTEMATIC SCHEDULE TO REPLACE ITEMS AT EACH LIBRARY BRANCH THAT CAN NO LONGER BE PROFESSIONALLY CLEANED OR REPAIRED, ENSURING SAFE, FUNCTIONAL, AND COMFORTABLE SPACES FOR STAFF AND PATRONS WHILE MAINTAINING A HIGH-QUALITY LIBRARY ENVIRONMENT.
Total 4820	-	-	21,080	25,000	25,000	(12,500) 12,500	
TOTAL COUNTY LIBRARY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 892,135	\$1,107,183	\$ 1,174,182	\$ 1,016,367	

PICKENS COUNTY BUDGET ANALYSIS REPORT

01540 COUNTY LIBRARY	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 Y.T.D.	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 REQUEST	FY 2027 FINAL	ITEM DESCRIPTION
PERSONNEL SERVICES	-	-	2,901,557	3,239,597	3,466,219	3,414,493	
SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	-	-	261,347	363,990	371,400	245,080	
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	-	-	356,824	413,748	440,776	409,281	
OTHER	-	-	281,569	329,445	362,006	362,006	
TOTAL COUNTY LIBRARY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,801,297	\$ 4,346,780	\$ 4,640,401	4,430,860	57 + 2010

PCLS Statistics FY26 - Quarter 4 (Apr-Jun)

	FY2025	FY2026	Change
Visitors	92,629	94,897	2.45%
Active Users	115,086	119,096	3.48%
New Borrowers	1,362	1,247	-8.44%
Reg. Material Circulation	92,942	89,310	-3.91%
eBooks	12,998	12,833	-1.27%
eAudio	22,217	24,827	11.75%
eMagazines	4,772	6,191	29.74%
Kanopy	1,300	2,289	76.08%
Total Material Circulation	134,229	135,450	0.91%
Computer Users	4,424	4,401	-0.52%
Wireless Users	7,136	7,434	4.18%
Meeting Room Reservations	2,497	2,492	-0.20%
Meeting Room Attendance	23,736	28,480	19.99%
Programs - Children's Events	171	170	-0.58%
Programs - Teen Events	42	33	-21.43%
Programs - Adult Events	156	139	-10.90%
Programs - Total Events	369	342	-7.32%
Programs - Children's Attendance	8,824	9,134	3.51%
Programs - Teen Attendance	1542	1598	3.63%
Programs - Adult Attendance	4,248	8,119	91.13%
Programs - Total Attendance	14,614	18,851	28.99%
Outreach - Children's Events	27	20	-25.93%
Outreach - Teen Events	1	0	-100.00%
Outreach - Adult Events	40	23	-42.50%
Outreach - Total Events	68	43	-36.76%
Outreach - Children's Attendance	1557	4114	164.23%
Outreach - Teen Attendance	10	0	-100.00%
Outreach - Adult Attendance	65780	64519	-1.92%
Outreach - Total Attendance	67347	68633	1.91%

PCLS Statistics FY26 - Yearly Totals

	FY2025	FY2026	Change
Visitors	341,287	347,027	1.68%
Active Users	115,086	119,096	3.48%
New Borrowers	4,824	4,537	-5.95%
Reg. Material Circulation	361127	325940	-9.74%
eBooks	50638	50337	-0.59%
eAudio	79597	93344	17.27%
eMagazines	16104	22723	41.10%
Kanopy	3482	7324	110.34%
Total Material Circulation	510948	499668	-2.21%
Computer Users	18,687	17,903	-4.20%
Wireless Users	29,227	28,781	-1.53%
Meeting Room Reservations	10,451	10,054	-3.80%
Meeting Room Attendance	46,163	82,520	78.76%
Programs - Children's Events	680	658	-3.24%
Programs - Teen Events	126	152	20.63%
Programs - Adult Events	592	587	-0.84%
Programs - Total Events	1,398	1,397	-0.07%
Programs - Children's Attendance	24,281	22,904	-5.67%
Programs - Teen Attendance	2,466	4,319	75.14%
Programs - Adult Attendance	15,225	19,735	29.62%
Programs - Total Attendance	41,972	46,958	11.88%
Outreach - Children's Events	67	101	50.75%
Outreach - Teen Events	4	9	125.00%
Outreach - Adult Events	137	97	-29.20%
Outreach - Total Events	208	207	-0.48%
Outreach - Children's Attendance	16,927	15,293	-9.65%
Outreach - Teen Attendance	3,906	8,713	123.07%
Outreach - Adult Attendance	107,552	106,523	-0.96%
Outreach - Total Attendance	128,385	130,529	1.67%



Foundation Donations

June 2026

The mission of the Pickens County Library System Foundation is: To solicit, accept, and acquire donations of public/private funds and properties in order to promote, support, and enhance the programs, services, and the future of the Pickens County Library System.

The Pickens County Library System Foundation is a non-profit organization under Internal Revenue Code Section 50 1(c)3.

Donor Tree Leaves & Upgrades Sold Thus Far

Items Remaining

Family Donor Leaves (\$150) – 362	138 (of 500 total)
Children’s Donor Leaves (\$150) – 159	140 (of 300 total)
Contributor Stones (\$1000) – 12 (Sold Out)	0 (of 12 total)
Acorns (\$250) – 11 (Sold Out)	0 (of 11 total)
Magnolia Flowers (\$250) – 9 (Sold Out)	0 (of 9 total)
Pinecones (\$250) – 7 (Sold Out)	0 (of 7 total)
Large Cloud with Bird (\$5,000) – 2	1 (of 3 total)
Small Cloud (\$200) – 1 (Sold Out)	0 (of 1 total)
Sun (\$10,000) – 0	1 (of 1 total)

Foundation Banking Account

Beginning Balance as of 05/31/2026	\$78,874.42
Interest	\$0.00
Debits/Checks	\$0.00
Credit	\$17.66
Ending Balance as of 06/30/2026	\$78,892.08

BIDDING SCHEDULE

Project: Hampton Memorial Library Renovation
Delivery Method: Design–Bid–Build
Architect: Bidding Administration on behalf of Owner

KEY DATES (AT A GLANCE)

Bid Documents Issued: Thursday, July 23, 2026
Last Day for RFIs: Friday, August 7, 2026
Final Addendum Issued: Monday, August 10, 2026
Bid Opening: Friday, August 14, 2026

DETAILED BIDDING SCHEDULE

Date	Milestone / Activity
Thursday, July 23, 2026	Bid Documents Issued / Advertisement for Bids – First Publication
Tuesday, July 28, 2026	Voluntary pre-bid and site visit
Friday, August 7, 2026	Deadline for bidder RFIs
Monday, August 10, 2026	Final Addendum if required
Friday, August 14, 2026	BID OPENING
August 15-21, 2026	Protest Period