

PCLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING AGENDA

6:00 PM May 21, 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. Manager Report – Margaret Holder, Youth Services
4. Public Comments – Limit to (3) minutes each (Total 30 minutes)
5. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Policy Committee 1/28/26
 - b. Special Called Meeting 2/12/26
 - c. Library Board Meeting 3/19/26
6. Library Director Report
 - a. Library Information
 - b. Financial Report
 - c. Foundation Report
 - d. Quarterly Statistical Report
7. Old Business
 - a. Discuss the process for receiving minutes before the meeting
8. New Business
 - a. Selection of Library Director Search Committee
 - b. Discuss and Possible Motion - Volunteer Policy
9. Meeting Adjourn

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

Margaret Holder | Youth Services Manager

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 outside, then head in 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 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!

Date	Library	Time	Location Address
Monday	Easley	10:00am	304 Biltmore Rd, Easley
	Pickens	2:30pm	Pickens Rec: 545 Sangamo Rd, Pickens
	Easley	6:00pm	304 Biltmore Rd, Easley
Tuesday	Central-Clemson	10:00am	105 Commons Way, Central
	Liberty	2:30pm	Liberty Rec: 318 W Main St, Liberty

UNEARTH A STORY™

Summer Reading Programs for Kids

Liberty programs will take place at the Liberty Rec Center and
Pickens programs will take place at the Pickens Rec Center.



SC AQUARIUM

Monday:	Tuesday:
10:00am Easley	10:00am Central
2:30pm Pickens	2:30pm Liberty
6:00pm Easley	

Inspiring kids to care for water, wildlife, and wild places. Featuring wild animals!



CRITTER KEEPER

Monday:	Tuesday:
10:00am Easley	10:00am Central
2:30pm Pickens	2:30pm Liberty
6:00pm Easley	

Live animal presentation featuring reptiles, insects, snakes, arachnids and more!



CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Monday:	Tuesday:
10:00am Easley	10:00am Central
2:30pm Pickens	2:30pm Liberty
6:00pm Easley	

Dinosaur themed story and imagination playground!



WHITE KNIGHT

Monday:	Tuesday:
10:00am Easley	10:00am Central
2:30pm Pickens	2:30pm Liberty
6:00pm Easley	

Jurassic Jake and his sidekick Gregory. Dino facts and interactive fun!

Easley Library: 304 Biltmore Road • Easley, SC
Central-Clemson Library: 105 Commons Way • Central, SC
Pickens Rec Center: 545 Sangamo Road • Pickens, SC
Liberty Rec Center: 318 W. Main Street • Liberty SC



TEA REX PARTY

Monday:	Tuesday:
10:00am Easley	10:00am Central
2:30pm Pickens	2:30pm Liberty
6:00pm Easley	

Fun-filled mash-up party. Games, crafts and a dance.



WILDLIFE GEEKS

Monday:	Tuesday:
10:00am Easley	10:00am Central
2:30pm Pickens	2:30pm Liberty
6:00pm Easley	

Live animal adventure including direct descendants from dinosaurs.



TIM SONEFELT

Monday:	Tuesday:
10:00am Easley	10:00am Central
2:30pm Pickens	2:30pm Liberty
6:00pm Easley	

Prehistoric Adventure packed with magic, puppetry and audience participation.



BRIGHT STAR THEATRE

Monday:	Tuesday:
10:00am Easley	10:00am Central
2:30pm Pickens	2:30pm Liberty
6:00pm Easley	

Step Back in Time with Dino Academy! Join Dr. Sarah Tops and her assistant Terri Dactyl.



ARCHAEOLOGY OUTREACH

Monday:	Tuesday:
10:00am Easley	10:00am Central
2:30pm Pickens	2:30pm Liberty
6:00pm Easley	

Learn about cave art with SCORR and experiment with drawing to tell a story about our past.



PICKENS COUNTY
LIBRARY SYSTEM

304 Biltmore Road | Easley, SC 29640
864-850-7077 • www.pcls.fyi



SUMMER READING June 2 - July 25

Complete activities to win prizes!

Easley

For this year's Summer Reading Program, you can read 10 books of your choice, complete 10 activities listed on this log, or do a combination of both to equal 10. After



completing our summer reading program, participants ages 17 and under will receive an Unearth a Story surprise pouch, as well as have their name entered into a drawing for more prizes. Adults who complete the summer reading program will receive a canvas tote bag. (while supplies last) and an entry into a drawing for prizes. See our website for a list of prizes.



Read 10 books, complete 10 activities, or do a combination of the two to equal 10. When completed, drop this log off at any PCLS location. For those on social media, post photos about your activities and use the tag #pickensreads.

Book Titles

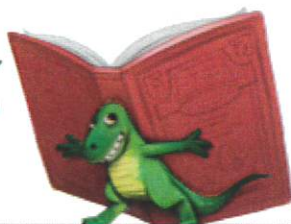
Activities

- Plant a flower, tree, vegetable, anything that will grow!
- Learn three facts about your favorite dinosaur.
- Visit a museum and learn about the past.
- Attend one of our Summer Reading performances or programs.
- Draw a picture of your favorite dinosaur.
- Create an original design for the PCLS Bookmark Contest.
- Donate to our back-to-school supply drive.
- Ask a family member to share a childhood memory.
- Find a rock outside and paint or decorate it.
- Plan a time capsule to be buried in your yard.



PICKENS COUNTY
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Easley, SC 29640
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Name _____

Under 18 (age _____) 18 and over

Email _____

Phone number _____

Grand Prize Drawing-August 3, 2026 @ 3:00pm

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

Prizes

- Upon completion, each participant will receive a surprise pouch, a dino egg to write their name on to be placed on the bulletin board, and a certificate.
- Greenville Drive (**game Sunday, August 9th**) and Triumph tickets (**game day Saturday, August 15th**)
- FREE milkshake from Zaxby's (limited supplies)
- FREE WHATABURGER, Jr. (limited supplies)
- FREE Joey meal from Outback in Easley
- FREE snow cone from The Backyard in Pickens
- FREE Italian Ice from Rita's in Easley
- FREE round of putt putt from 9 holes putt-putt located at The Market at the Mill
- FREE hotdog from The Sandwich Shop located at The Market at the Mill
- SRP bookmark
- SRP mechanical pencil
- Brag Tag
- Dino duck
- Shoe croc charm
- Grand Prizes for each age group:
 - 0-3 8-12
 - 4-7 13-17

Storywalks: What the Dinosaur's Did Last Night 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.

Past stats:

Kick-Off Stats	2022	2023	2024	2025
Easley	500	550	640	610
Pickens		255	339	200
Central	195	425	100	375
Liberty		57	85	100
Total	695	1,287	1,164	1,285

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Participants	804	972	982	1133	845	2041	2528	2219	2748	2262
Total Logs			N/A	N/A	N/A	3024	3723	3116	3530	4,589
Easley			577	634	336	859	913	858	1022	975
Central-Clemson			189	239	252	437	440	438	506	450
Pickens			152	161	226	398	311	309	528	523
Liberty			63	99	31	176	181	166	241	287
Camp iRock			N/A	N/A	N/A	166	255	290	420	
PCLS Staff			N/A	N/A	N/A	36	27	27	31	27
Daycares and Camps							386	197		
Adults (18+)			9		221	434	417	369	768	673
Under 18	804	972	972	1133	624	1560	2084	1823	1560	1589
Teens (13-17)	43	79	69	89	45	106	106	116	209	213
Tweens (8-12)	541	633	132	135	93	204	277	235	537	463
Kids (4-7)			501	487	213	747	588	579	568	568
Early Readers (0-3)	220	260	372	436	273	503	472	406	246	345
No Info						7	16			

Performer Stats	ES AM	ES PM	CC	PK	LB	Total
2019	1639	591	1086	939	405	4660
2022	602	624	350	390	235	2201
2023	1057	593	720	866	497	3733
2024	1107	794	805	1342	603	4651
2025	1108	995	851	1473	1057	5484
2026						

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.

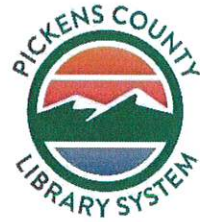
May 4th, Staff Day

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 Tuesdays from 5:00pm-6:00pm and Thursdays from 10:00am-11:00am. Call 864-850-7077 to reserve your space!



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

- a. Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm.

- b. Roll Call for the Record

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

- b. Accept Agenda as written

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. 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. Sams stated that if the Director has not heard of this, he does not see why it should be added.

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 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, this is not a difficult issue, there is the legal definition of prurient interest. If we want to have funding from the state, we have to certify that that we have a collection policy in place that corresponds to that proviso. Mr. Kilburn stated that the previous board did go ahead and signed and received funds, but that was also a contentious issue because of this very fact that the collection policy does not really address what was in the proviso which came later.

Mr. Kilburn went on to say “We're not talking about adults, we're talking about minors. So, there's a distinction between adults and minors, and the proviso says if we want to have funding from the state, which is about \$370,000 more or less, depending on what year, I guess we have to certify that there are no, that we have a collection policy in place that corresponds to that proviso. 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 period means, and you know it's in the law. We can look it up in the dictionary. It's in the obscenity law of 1615 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 us, 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 pure 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? Ms. Howard's response was "it took a while last time ... it's direct deposit ... they only do it once a month."

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 wanted to say that the hang up, I think, for me, is that, and I know, happy, 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 parent 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 no 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. The chair confirmed that the intent is to delay certification 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

URGENT - Policy Committee Meeting

January 28, 2026, 3:00 pm

Sarlin Community Library – Liberty, SC

15 S. Palmetto Street Liberty, SC 29657

Recommendations of Policies to bring to Library Board meeting on February 12, 2026

Meeting started at 3:01 pm. Ms. Pinkerton, Mr. Aiken, and Ms. Miller of the Policy Committee were in attendance. Dr. Wheeler, Mr. Sams and Mr. Parton were in attendance as well.

1. Motion to accept changes in Constitution Article V

Ms. Pinkerton explained that the phrase, "Secretary-Treasurer," in the Board of Trustees Constitution article V needs to be updated to separate the offices of Secretary and Treasurer and include the line "The Treasurer will work with the Director on the annual budget" explain what the Treasurer does. Ms. Pinkerton made a motion to accept the updates to Board of Trustees Constitution article V as written and bring them to the Board to vote on. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

2. Motion to accept changes in By-laws: Article IV & Article IX

Ms. Pinkerton explained that the phrase, "Secretary-Treasurer," in the Board of Trustees By-laws article IV needs to be updated to separate the offices of Secretary and Treasurer. Ms. Pinkerton made a motion to accept the update to the Board of Trustees By-laws article IV, as written, to separate the offices of Secretary and Treasurer and to update the dates in the By-laws article IX from July 1 to June 30 with the dates January 1 to December 31 to align with the board terms. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

3. Motion to accept Collection Policy with updated changes as written

Ms. Pinkerton made a motion to submit to the board the Collection Policy that was sent to the policy committee with the updated changes as written. Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Ms. Pinkerton called for the vote. The Director asked that there be discussion because she has questions. Ms. Pinkerton allowed discussion. The Director pointed out that the policy has an extra step that is not necessary. It says in the policy:

"The following criteria for children material will not be included in the Children (0-6 years of age)

Collection:

1. Adult nudity
2. Sexual descriptions
3. Vulgar language

**If material contains the above criteria, they should be moved to the next age group, which is the juvenile collection (7-12 years of age).

The following criteria for juvenile material will not be included in the Juvenile (7-12 years of age)

Collections:

1. Adult nudity

2. Sexual descriptions

3. Vulgar language

** If material contain the above criteria, they should be moved to the next age group, which is the Teen Collection (13-17 years of age)."

The Director stated that the criteria is the same for moving it from children to juvenile and from juvenile to teen. Ms. Pinkerton explained, "The only reason not to do that is because the vulgar language might not be as bad. Meaning, if it's in 0 to 6, I thought if it was like "darn" or something like that, it could be in the juvenile for 7 to 12 and instead of moving all the books, I thought I would leave some interpretation up to the library staff for that." The Director replied that we need specifics for the library staff.

Mr. Aiken agreed that both have the same criteria so they should just be moved to teens.

Dr. Wheeler offered a suggestion to have it say, "materials that are otherwise classified at a children's or juvenile level and contain the following content will be moved to the next higher level." The policy committee agreed.

The Director pointed out another thing that could be problematic from a legal standpoint is were it says, "For the purposes of this policy, and in conjunction with South Carolina Code of Law, Section 16-15-305, material is considered graphic content if a person applying contemporary community standards relating to the depiction or description of sexual conduct would find that the portion of material appeals to the prurient interest, and/or the material can be considered gratuitous sex because it involves descriptions or depictions of carnal detail of a sexual act or encounter." The Director said, "You talk about the law, but you changed the wording of the law, and I think that could be problematic. Because 16-15-305 is a criminal law for obscenity, and it says... "the average person applying contemporary community standards relating to the depiction or description of sexual conduct would find that the material taken as a whole..." is written in the law. In this policy, it says, "portions of the material" and I think if you're citing the law, you have to cite the law, you can't cite the law and change what the law says. Because this says "taken as a whole" is said repeatedly in the law. And in the policy, it says that you're judging it on "portions of materials." And you really have just substituted that, it says word for word in the law, but that you've substituted "portions of materials," where the law it says, "taken as a whole." And I think that could be problematic if you're citing a law, but you're changing the wording of the law." Dr. Wheeler agreed that the law is meant to be taken inclusively, not picking and choosing which parts of it you use. The Director pointed out that one of the options is to take it out, and one option is to change the wording.

Ms. Miller suggested that they don't reference the law. Ms. Pinkerton said, "The law was recommended to put in there like that, but I am okay as long as we keep the spirit." The Director asked, "who recommended it?" Ms. Pinkerton replied, "Several people have. The State Library Director has." The Director asked, "She recommended we put the law in there and say, "portions of materials"?" Ms. Pinkerton said, "That paragraph was hers." The Director responded, "That's interesting. Again, she has no liability, you all have the liability."

Ms. Pinkerton asked the policy committee if they should take that out or leave it in. Ms. Miller said, "Just take out that phrase. And just say, "for the purpose of this policy material is considered graphic content if:" Ms. Pinkerton suggested stating the law but not including the explanation of it. Ms. Miller said, "I actually feel comfortable just leaving it in if this is what Ms. Aiken [State Library Director] said and that's the part she gave you." Ms. Pinkerton suggested leaving the law in there and changing the word 'portion' to 'whole' or taking the law out and amending the policy later.

Mr. Aiken made the point that the community standards of the area from which the jury is drawn is what will determine the prurient appeal. Mr. Aiken said, "So in my mind, we could actually leave that in there, because you need to make sure that it's not quote, the law. Duly noted, if you're quoting verbatim law, it needs to be quoted verbatim, but if you're merely citing a law, it probably would have to be quoted verbatim. The Director clarified, "You're just quoting verbatim, except for that one very important part, that's why I think that could be dangerous."

The policy committee agreed to cite the law but not to quote it. Ms. Miller suggested the wording, "For the purpose of this policy, South Carolina code of law section 16-15-305 will be used as guidance."

Dr. Wheeler pointed out that the policy still violates the law because the language that follows uses the word 'contained' and the work has to be taken as a whole.

The Director pointed out that this is the criminal obscenity law and the bar for that is extremely high. The things that have been moved by the board and by library staff would not meet the standard for obscenity law. The Director said, "There is nothing that would raise to the legal standard of obscene in this library system. The people who published it would be in jail, the people who sold it to us would be in jail, etc.; the authors would be in jail. So, I'm just saying that is a high bar, and this is the obscenity law."

The Director explained that because the obscenity law is such a high bar, they need to know how to implement this policy. Staff will need specifics to know what to move and what not to move.

Ms. Miller stated, "This policy is extremely similar to many, many other counties in South Carolina because we've read them. There have been no lawsuits, no arrests, no problems except in Greenville. Yeah, because they started separating transgender issue books and we are not doing that. We're just saying age-appropriate, protect the minors." The Director responded, "When you say 'age-appropriate, protect the minors' you have to be very specific about what you want moved where." Ms. Miller replied, "As I said, there have been no other lawsuits with policies like this." The Director said, "Greenville has a lawsuit right now." Ms. Miller said, "What I just said, and we are not addressing those issues here. The Director said, "You're moving it based on content."

Ms. Miller stated, "We knew there was going to be disagreement about this. That's why we called this meeting. With the last time this policy was passed, we were not allowed to have any input whatsoever during a meeting like this. And it was passed in a rush. And so, we're taking our time this time; we want this policy passed. We're the majority. You know, we could sit here and talk about this for 5 more hours and still not agree."

The Director explained, "If you look in your guidebook from the state, policies usually come from staff and then go to the board. How it happened last time is staff developed a policy; we asked the chair and the vice chair to look at the policy. Managers throughout the library looked at the policy. There were several levels. And then it went to the state librarian, and she looked at the policy. Followed the policy, received the money. Because under that policy, we're still meeting the guidelines of..." Ms. Pinkerton interjected, "Okay, lets move on, so we're not here forever." The Director stated, "I just want it noted that I was trying to advise you and I was cut off."

Ms. Pinkerton clarified that the paragraph would read, "For the purpose of this policy, South Carolina code of law section 16-15-305 will be used as guidance."

The Director asked, "I just wanted to ask you, what is your vision for the implementation of this? Because you took out the publisher's age range... What is your understanding of how we would implement this? We would go through the books looking for these terms that are kind of broad?... Because we can't judge it on what you think is vulgar, whoever the staff person is judging that book has to make that decision." Ms. Pinkerton

added, "According to community standards, right?" The Assistant Director asked, "So what is the community standard?" Ms. Pinkerton stated, "Well, obviously sexual graphic and explicit material that is in for minors is a problem." The Assistant Director said, "I think that's vague, though." Ms. Pinkerton asked, "How is that vague? It says graphic depictions or descriptions of rape, pedophilia or incest. How is that vague?" The Assistant Director explains that everyone has a different idea of what is graphic.

The Director stated, "We have to implement this, so we need to know what your understanding is." Ms. Pinkerton said, "Then come up with ideas to help implement this, because what I'm saying is graphic depictions, if you look at the definition, it's pretty clear if there's rape, pedophilia, incest in there that's pretty clear."

Ms. Miller said, "I think a good place to start is to look back at the books that have been reconsidered and put back on the shelves for young adult. So, I think that's a perfect place to start."

Mr. Aiken made the point that library staff determine where the books go from the start and parents should make the determination of what their kids can and can't read, but if a parent doesn't know that this stuff is in the younger sections of the library then the community would have a problem with that.

The Director pointed out that we do determine where the books go based on the information that we have available when the books are being ordered and the remedy for that is the reconsideration process. The Director asked, "Are you expecting us to go through the books that are currently on the shelves and decide whether they need to be moved or not, because that is going to take a really long time? And are you expecting that we look through the books in their entirety when they come in to make sure that they're... because we can't do that. The remedy for that is the reconsideration policy." Ms. Miller replied, "It is going to take a while. And I think you start by saying all "and up" books go to the adult section or the young adult section." The Director said, "I thought we removed that." Ms. Pinkerton replied, "I did, because you said it was too confusing. See you guys keep telling us what's confusing and we change things to kind of meet the middle road so that it's not so confusing. And then when we put in specific criteria, then you say, well that's too vague also. So, please inform us what would make you come to the middle road here."

Ms. Miller stated, "And just because it's not in the policy, doesn't mean you can't common sense do it if it says "and up" it doesn't belong in the young adult, it belongs in the adult. The Director replied, "Some do, because some publishers, everything they create for teens is "and up" because adults may enjoy the book, and they're trying to sell it to as broad a range as possible." Ms. Miller responded, "But you know, you're supposed to be curating the books. You guys can make those judgements. The only thing we don't want is graphic sex in underage sections of the library. Protect minors." The Director replied, "Some parents are okay with that. I think you're stepping in for the parent." Ms. Pinkerton said, "But they can get permission." Ms. Miller said, "Then they can go to the adult section." The Director said, "But you're making parents that are okay with that go on a scavenger hunt to find books."

Ms. Pinkerton explained about a conversation they had last year, "You guys suggested that we need to, that the parents can be with the kids and walk through and look over the book and read the book." The Director said, "they should be." Ms. Pinkerton added, "They can do the same thing if they give permission to the adult section." There was discussion about the research done to review a book to add to the collection and if in that research a teen book is found to have graphic and mature themes, then the book would go into the adult section. The Director pointed out that this is the exception not the rule. Ms. Pinkerton said, "But we're trying to make a rule. So why can't the exception be to the rule that parents give permission for them to go see the books in the

adult section? Why can't that be the exception to the rule, meaning the books are moved up as rule and then parents are guiding their teenagers to be able to choose that section as the exception to the rule?"

The Director explained, "Because the way that we've done this new card, parents would have to give their children the option to check out in the adult section to get to the teen books, and it would be the majority of the teen books that I think, based on this, that we would be moving." Ms. Pinkerton replied, "So you're telling me that most of the teen books have sexual content in them that we have on the shelves?" The Assistant Director explained that almost any coming-of-age book, which is a very popular topic for teens books, because they are growing up, coming of age and everything is about relationships." Ms. Miller responded, "It can be about relationships with out having graphic sex." The Director replied, "It can, and there's some of that too. And that's where we need to find that line."

Ms. Pinkerton explained, "And by making specific things like this on here for the criteria, was also trying to stop some of the... the books that...if we used just the rating system, a good point was the "13 and up" "14 and up," then some of the good books that don't have this information, the graphic stuff in it, would be also moved. So, by moving to this, the collateral damage of those books would still stay in teens, because it's not just moving it up, if it has no sexual content and then it would stay in the teen area. So that is why it was moved to this, because it was very specific on the criteria for the materials. And now you're saying that we have a lot of books that have this... I don't even know the words to say...have some bad things in it." The Director said, "According to you they are bad." Ms. Pinkerton expressed that according to the director she would have to walk with her child through the library to make sure of the books that they are getting. The Director responded, "If that is how you choose to parent, yes." Ms. Pinkerton suggested putting a sign up that tells parents that some books may be graphic.

The Director again asked what the expectation for implementation is; if staff should focus on the books that are coming in or go through the whole youth collection. Because to do the whole youth collection, she will need to formulate a plan and pull resources to get this accomplished.

Mr. Aiken said that he feels a collection policy deals with the books we are collecting and bringing in. The Director asked if that means you don't think we should go through the whole collection. Mr. Aiken replied, "I'm not saying that they won't need to be dealt with."

There was discussion about the proviso being permanent law versus a yearly budget provision that could change or be completely pulled out next year.

Ms. Pinkerton asked if the library has received the first payment of state aid for this fiscal year. The Director pointed out that we have received it with the current policy we have in place right now and there was no further communication from the delegation. The library card policy and application require parental consent for minors, and parents must specify what sections their child can check out from. A minor has always had to have a parent sign them up for a library card. The Director said, "Now, whether their parent wants to stay with them in the library or send them to the library, that is the parents responsibility." Ms. Pinkerton said, "The parent does not know that all this stuff is in the library in the teen section." Ms. Miller stated, "That's been proven over and over again. The parents are ignorant."

Ms. Pinkerton expressed that she used to use the Pickens Library branch as a homeschooling resource for her son, but when she joined the library board and found out all this stuff, she was scared to use it.

The Director pointed out that there are thousands of people that use the teen section, who don't have a problem with it.

Ms. Pinkerton explained that they have to service the whole community and there are people in the community that are not happy with the selection in the teen section, so by keeping the old collection policy we are only pleasing some of the community not the whole.

The Assistant Director mentioned that if you're pleasing another part of the community, then you're going to make the other part of the community unhappy. Ms. Pinkerton replied, "But they can still get the book."

The Assistant Director stated, "Sund Vs city of Wichita Falls. The judge wrote, 'If a parent wishes to prevent her child from reading a particular book that parent can and should accompany the child to the library and should not prevent all children in the community from gaining access to constitutionally protected materials. Where First Amendment rights are concerned, those seeking to restrict access to information should be forced to take affirmative steps to shield themselves from unwanted materials. The onus should not be on the general public to overcome barriers to their access to fully protected information.'"

The Director explained, "If you want to move forward with this policy, I just need to know your expectations are for implementation. Do you want us to look through all the books and the books that are coming in?" Ms. Pinkerton said, "Yes."

Dr. Wheeler brought out that the way this collection policy is written to decide whether it meets that criteria, you would have to look through every children's, juvenile, and teen book in the library.

Ms. Miller stated, "I think it's the boards place to make the policy and it's the Director's place to come up with a plan of how she's going to implement the policy." The Director replied, "That's why I'm saying, what does it look like to you, so that so that I can implement a policy to make sure I know what your intention is."

The Assistant Director stated, "We're asking all these questions because we want to make sure that the policy is something that doesn't violate anybody's rights and that it is something that we can reasonably implement. That's why we're asking these questions and bringing up these cases. It's not because we want to sit here and argue about it. If we thought that this was legal or we wouldn't have any questions, then we wouldn't have any issues."

Ms. Miller asked, "If we're just moving the books, how are we violating anyone's rights?"

The Assistant Director replied, "Because you're segregating then based on the content, and there's been multiple cases about that."

Ms. Miller replied, "I'm still waiting to see a list of those cases." The Director mentioned that she sent a list to Ms. Miller in August, but she will send her another one.

Mr. Aiken made the point that every book in the library is categorized based off of content already. The Director pointed out that it's not only content, but also who they were written for.

The Director stated, "We are going to try to implement this to the best of our ability."

Ms. Miller stated that she knows this is hard for the Director because it goes against the way she's been running the library for years. The Director replied, "This goes against a lot more than that."

Ms. Pinkerton made a motion to accept the collection policy with the amendments to bring to the board. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Motion to accept Review of Material Policy with updated changes as written

The Policy Committee agreed upon the following amendments for the materials policy:

- Pg. 1 Para. 4 - "Pickens County community members can have (1) active Reconsideration Requests every (30) days"
- Pg. 2 #4 - "The Library Director will select (2) professional librarians to conduct an independent review of the library material. This individual shall consult and rely upon the standards stated in the board-

approved *Collection Policy*. The librarian will provide their individual recommendation to the Director, after reading the whole book and doing some research using expert sources and reviews. The director will consider this recommendation along with the *Collection Policy* and make final decision which will be emailed to the petitioner within (15) business days of receipt of their initial request. If additional time is needed the Director will notify the petitioner and the Chairman with anticipated new date.”

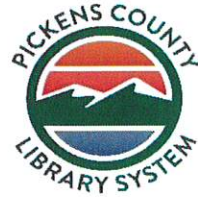
- Pg. 2 #5 - “Before the meeting at which the review will be discussed, the Library Board will be required to read the whole book”
- Pg. 2 #5 - “The Director will gather together all the information related to the request and send it to the Chairman of the Board, who will add the request to the next Board meeting that follows an intervening period of at least (30) days from the time the Chairman’s receipt of the information.”

Mr. Aiken made a motion to recommend the board accept the review of materials policy with the amended changes. Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Motion to table ALA – Library Bill of Right & Freedom to Read

Ms. Miller made a motion to table ALA – Library Bill of Rights & Freedom to Read. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting ended at 4:10 pm



PCLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

5:30 pm March 19, 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

(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 at 5:30 pm

a. Roll Call for the Record

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

b. Accept Agenda as written

Mr. Parton suggested swapping items 3 and 4 to better accommodate the board and the board clerk. There was no objection. Agenda approved with amendments.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Kilburn led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ~~4.~~ Approval of Minutes

- a. Library Board Meeting 1/15/26
- b. Policy Committee Meeting 1/22/26
- c. Budget Committee Meeting 1/23/26
- d. Redo- Policy Committee Meeting 1/28/26
- e. Special Called Meeting 2/12/26
- f. Special Called Meeting 2/24/26
- g. Special Called Meeting 3/6/26
- h. Special Called Meeting 3/10/26

Mr. Parton asked for any corrections to the minutes. Ms. Pinkerton gave corrections for the Policy Committee Meeting 1/22/26 to the board clerk. Mr. Kilburn asked to not approve the Special Called Meeting 2/12/26 so more information can be added, and he will give the board clerk a list of time stamps to review for additions to the minutes.

Mr. Parton asked for any other corrections. No additional corrections were given. All minutes except Special Called Meeting 2/12/26 were approved with corrections.

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

- 1. Jessica Beeman – spoke in favor of the library and her right to parent her children.

2. Karin Kirby - spoke in favor of the Central-Clemson library branch and the sense of community it has created.
3. Gus Edmundson – spoke against the collection development policy and requested his comments to be included in the minutes. (comments will be attached)
4. Kate Byrd – spoke against the boards recent actions and requested her comments to be included in the minutes. (comments will be attached)
5. Mae Anderson – spoke against the collection development policy.
9. Brittany Fowler - spoke against the major policy shift and the removal of the Library Director, Stephanie Howard.
10. Crystal Chappell – spoke about libraries assisting the community with literacy and supports parents right to decide what is appropriate for their children.
11. Virginia King – spoke about the Constitution and the First Amendment and the right to pray publicly in Jesus' name.
12. Austin Barker – spoke in favor of moving books based on community standards and volunteered to review books.
13. Wesley Wilson – spoke in favor of the collection development policy and agreed to having a volunteer committee to screen books.
14. Shelia D. Crawford – Spoke against firing the Library Director, Stephanie Howard and requested reinstatement of the Library Director, Stephanie Howard.

5. Library Directors Report

a. Sarlin Branch Manager Report

Beth Buchanan spoke about the large increase in visitors at the Sarlin Library branch. She mentioned how the Seed Library this year is on track to be the most successful year they've had and it is growing in popularity, quantity and quality and that this branch's seed library numbers are on par with some of the largest library systems in the state. The Passport and Notary services are also growing in popularity.

b. Library Information – Interim Director

Mr. Heimburger reported that this is his second day on the job and he has been reviewing the collection development policy and will give his observations in a future report.

The Assistant Director reported on the HVAC project finishing up and the renovation of the expansion spaces are going out for bid. The library purchased two new vehicles to replace the old vans for the courier route and community programs. She discussed the story walk project, funded by the Pickens County Roary Club and the Friends of the Library, will be installed by the end of June at the Pickens Doodle Trail. She reported the plans for programing this summer supporting the Pickens County 250 Committee and DAR. She spoke about the programs resuming and special programs coming up and preparations for the Summer Reading Program.

c. Financial Report

The Assistant Director reported that the library is slightly behind where we should be on our spending. Certain accounts are spent at the end of the fiscal year to allow for unexpected repairs that come up, like the furniture account and the computer replacement account. She is waiting to hear back from county about the credit that is in the computer replacement account. Mr. Kilburn asked for clarification on state funding paying for the two new vehicles. The Assistant Director will investigate that.

d. Foundation Report

The Assistant Director reported that 11 T-shirts have been sold and there are 24 T-shirts left. Dr. Wheeler asked about a plan to spend the Foundations \$79,000. Ms. Pinkerton stated that they do have a plan and they are currently working on raising more money.

6. Old Business

a. Amend Collection Policy to move only new material and use Reconsideration Policy for all other material– Discuss & possible motion

Dr. Wheeler made a motion to amend the collection policy criteria for children's juvenile and teen sections it will apply to new acquisitions and existing materials will be evaluated according to these criteria following the reconsideration requests. Mr. Sams seconded the motion. Mr. Kilburn suggested that they let the Interim Director have a chance to come up with an alternative implementation process before changes are made to the collection policy. Mr. Sams and Dr. Wheeler voted in favor of motion. Mr. Kilburn, Mr. Parton, Ms. Pinkerton, Ms. Miller and Mr. Aiken voted against the motion. Motion failed.

b. Continuation of Collection Policy – Discuss & possible motion

Ms. Pinkerton made a motion to continue the collection policy. Mr. Aiken seconded the motion. Mr. Kilburn expressed that we are going to continue the policy implementation with new guidance from the Interim Director. Mr. Kilburn, Mr. Parton, Ms. Pinkerton, Ms. Miller and Mr. Aiken voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Sams and Dr. Wheeler voted against the motion. Motion carried.

c. Certification form for State – Discuss & possible motion to sign

Mr. Sams made a motion to sign the certification form for State Aid. Dr. Wheeler seconded the motion. Ms. Pinkerton asked about the progress of the collection policy implementation. The Assistant Director stated that the 10 books on Rex Rice's list from last summer have been moved and staff have gone through over 800 books in the children's section. Mr. Kilburn suggested that they let the Interim Director have a chance to come up with an alternative implementation process and that they should not sign the certification form for State Aid. Mr. Sams explained that signing the certification form for State Aid is urgent because it needs to be spent before June 30th and some of the money has already been present in anticipation of this signing. Dr. Wheeler stated that there are no prurient materials in the library and there is no reason not to sign the certification form for State Aid. Mr. Aiken stated he is leery about saying that the library is in compliance yet. The Interim Director stated that in his observations over the last two days, he trusts the staff and on just the possibility that a few books have slipped through the cracks, he would not hesitate to sign the certification form for State Aid. He is not making a recommendation but just stating his own observation. Mr. Parton stated that he would like more books to be moved before we sign the certification form for State Aid. Mr. Sams, Dr. Wheeler, Ms. Miller and Mr. Aiken voted in favor of motion. Mr. Kilburn, Mr. Parton, and Ms. Pinkerton voted against the motion. Motion carried.

7. New Business

a. Discuss & possible motion of the minutes/changes and video of meetings

Mr. Kilburn would like to see the board go back to a summary type of minutes since we have video recording. Ms. Pinkerton asked if we could record all the meetings. The Assistant Director stated that you can just keep in mind that we pay for the service by the hour. She also mentioned that the Board Clerk would like to go back to summarized minutes. Mr. Sams made a motion to have all board meetings, special called meetings, and committee meetings video recorded. Dr. Wheeler seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Ms. Miller made a motion to have summarized minutes. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

b. Discuss & possible motion - Change meeting time back 6:00pm

Mr. Parton mentioned that the reason for the time change was to help the Interim Director with his travel time. Dr. Wheeler surveyed the audience and they prefer 6:00 pm. Ms. Pinkerton asked if the change would negatively affect the board clerk leaving at 6:30 pm. The Assistant Director stated that the board clerk, with the help of Ms. Miller's notes, would do the minutes from the video. Dr. Wheeler made a motion to change the meeting time to 6:00 pm. Mr. Sams seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

8. Executive Session

S.C. Code of Laws, Section 30-4-70 (A) allows closed meetings in limited instances if the presiding officer states the specific purpose of the executive session, including a description of the matter to be discussed while maintaining privacy of the identity of individuals or entities involved, and the decision to adjourn into executive session is voted on publicly.

a. Legal-Section 30-4-70(A)(2)

- **Discussion of attorney correspondence from Grove Ozment and legal advice regarding potential claims; discussion of potential retention of legal counsel.**

Mr. Aiken made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

9. ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS (as needed)

While the SC Freedom of Information Act allows for certain matters to be discussed outside the presence of the public, any votes on such matters can only take place once the Board has returned to public session.

Mr. Parton stated that there is no action needed after Executive Session, it was just discussion.

10. Meeting Adjourn

Mr. Aiken made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Kilburn seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Next Meetings: Regular Meeting: 6:00pm, May 21, 2026, at Hampton Memorial Library

Kate Byrd Pickens County, South Carolina March 19, 2026

Submitted to: Pickens County Library Board of Trustees **Re:** Public Comment — Regular Board Meeting, March 19, 2026
Submitted for inclusion in the official minutes

Good afternoon. My name is Kate Byrd. I am a resident of Pickens County, South Carolina. This statement is submitted for the public record to document ongoing governance failures by this board.

Good governance is transparent, deliberate, legally sound, and accountable to the public it serves. It is not reactive. It does not create the crises it then scrambles to manage.

By that standard, the actions of this board do not qualify. They do not even come close.

Since January 1st, this board has held ten meetings — six of them special-called, with just one opportunity for public input. Major collection and reconsideration policy changes were rushed through, ignoring nationally recognized professional standards and the federally recognized rights of patrons, going far beyond the stated aim of complying with a state budget proviso. The board ignored repeated warnings that these changes would disrupt services. When they did and programming was suspended, the public responded swiftly and severely.

In response, this board fired a highly respected Library Director — an Intellectual Freedom award winner and a native of this county — hired an interim director with no ties to Pickens County, physically present only two days a week, passing over a qualified assistant director who knows this community and its needs.

The chaos does not stop there. We see selective enforcement and sloppy, shifting agendas. We see a board inserting itself into operations it does not control. We see repeated FOIA concerns, from executive sessions held to discuss legal matters that didn't fall under FOIA law to last-minute agenda changes. And tonight, you are considering amending a collection policy passed just last month.

One has to wonder whether the board members responsible for this chaos have ever opened the *Reference Manual for South Carolina Public Library Trustees*. The boundaries of board authority are not ambiguous. They are written down.

The people of Pickens County deserve thoughtful, principled leadership. What this board has delivered is legally suspect, operationally erratic, and dismissive of professional expertise and public input.

Good governance is steady, lawful, and accountable.

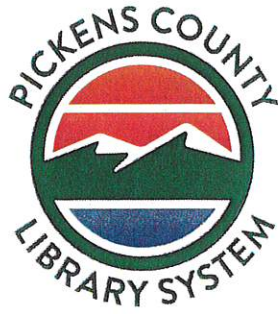
What we are witnessing is the opposite.

It is erratic. It is unnecessary. And it is embarrassing.

Thank you.

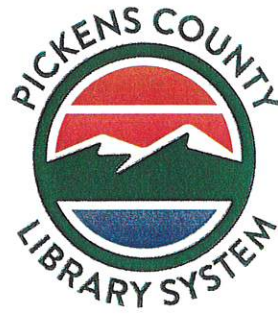
Gus Edmundson Public Comments

Tonight, the Board is attempting to finalize a policy that is as dangerous as it is onerous. Item 6.a on your agenda seeks to split our collection policy between 'current' and 'new' material. This is a distinction without a difference. Whether a book is old or new, this policy still seeks to move materials from their proper, professionally-vetted places into a '18-to-25 YA category that does not exist in library science. Chairman Parton recently admitted in a news interview that he believes this can be implemented because the librarians 'know what books have been challenged.' That is a stunning admission of a subjective standard. It confirms this isn't an objective system; it is a system designed to target specific titles based on the grievances of a vocal few. This policy remains too vague for anyone to follow consistently, and that ambiguity is exactly what makes it a 'Vagueness Trap' for our staff. The Board is being fed lies that Proviso 27.1 allows for the cherry-picking of passages to justify moving books. This is a legal delusion. I direct the Board to **S.C. Code 16-15-305**, which defines 'prurient interest.' The law is explicit: any determination of prurience **MUST** be made by judging **'the work taken as a whole.'** Subsection (D)—which mentions judging with reference to children—does NOT waive this requirement. Whether the audience is a child or an adult, the **Miller Test** is the constitutional floor. You cannot legally claim a book is prurient by looking at a 'snippet.' If you sign the State Certification tonight while maintaining a policy that ignores the 'taken as a whole' mandate, you are misrepresenting this county's compliance to the State Library. You are certifying a lie." "On March 10th, this Board voted to deny an employee grievance. That decision moved this conflict out of the library and into the legal system which will cost us taxpayers. By ignoring professional Master of library sciences standards in favor of a subjective relocation plan, you are creating a documented history of government overreach. We are seeing the legal fallout of these exact 'moving vs. banning' arguments in Greenville County right now. Federal courts do not view 'relocation' as a safe harbor for content-based discrimination. Every hour you spend defending a policy that ignores the state's own criminal code is potential money taken from the taxpayers to pay for a defense you will likely lose when we get hit with a lawsuit. Subjectivity is not a policy; it is a liability. We have seen this local debate devolve into personal attacks, baseless accusations of 'grooming,' and pedophilia and claims that those of us defending the law need 'mental help.' This vitriol is the greatest proof of why a subjective policy is a failure. When 'offense' is the only metric, it empowers the loudest and most aggressive voices to dictate what the rest of the county can read. We cannot let targeted baseless bullying replace the South Carolina Code. If this Board refuses to implement an objective, legally sound policy that adheres to the **'taken as a whole'** standard of S.C. Code 16-15-305, then you have failed your mandate as library board. My call to action to the the residents of Pickens County and County Council is this: If the Board will not return to objective professional standards and follow the law instead of playing puppet for a recognized extremist political group, the Council must move for a **Resolution of No Confidence**. We deserve a Board that follows the South Carolina Code, not one that ignores it to satisfy a local group with a dangerous and subjective policy. Young Adult is not 25. Subjectivity is not safety. Follow the law. Serve your community. Thank you.



Library Board Meeting – May 21, 2026 Director's Report

- PCLS has been the recent recipient of 2 grants.
 - A Dollar General Grant: \$2000 for large print juvenile fiction
 - A federal Library Services and Technology Act grant of \$2000 to cover the cost of Bright Star Theatre, which is a troupe that will be performing during this year's summer reading club.
- Actively working with several staff toward creating a parenting collection here at Easley and possibly at branch locations. We have shelving units on order as part of this project.
- Library staff have responded to 14 Requests for Reconsideration of Library Materials so far in 2026.
- I have done significant work toward implementing a collection development review process for books currently classified for teen and juvenile readers. Approximately 30 books have been reclassified as adult. This is in addition to books reclassified as a result of citizen Requests for Reconsideration.
- Financial Report
 - I don't have much to comment on concerning the financial report. We are in the last 6 weeks of the fiscal year. Cassie and I have begun looking at individual expense accounts that are currently under-spent to determine whether a budget transfer is warranted. Our goal is to have each expense category fully spent by June 20.
- Foundation Report
 - Sold: 1 leaf and 2 tee shirts. Bought a Square brand terminal for credit card purchases and donations
- Statistical Report
 - You will notice that a number of our statistical categories show a negative change when compared to last year's 3rd quarter. I'm not



too concerned about those lines that indicate single-digit decreases. Those activities that show double-digit decreases were likely affected by the staff shifting efforts from programming to collection policy implementation. The good news here is that, for the most part, staff have shifted back to prioritizing programming activities. I anticipate seeing improved results in our 4th quarter statistical report.

Pickens County Library System

FY26 Library Expenses

Original Appropriator Adjustments Revised Budget YTD Expended Encumbrances Available Budget % Used
83.3%

Library Staff

Salaries & Wages	\$ 1,892,796.00	\$ 16,643.00	\$ 1,909,439.00	\$ 1,598,210.57		\$ 311,228.43	83.7%
FICA	\$ 166,611.00	\$ 2,843.00	\$ 169,454.00	\$ 139,390.04		\$ 30,063.96	82.3%
Worker's Compensation	\$ 5,913.00	\$ 63.00	\$ 5,976.00	\$ 2,248.40		\$ 3,727.60	37.6%
Retirement	\$ 413,087.00	\$ 3,669.00	\$ 416,756.00	\$ 346,210.43		\$ 70,545.57	83.1%
Health Insurance	\$ 392,751.00		\$ 392,751.00	\$ 349,477.24		\$ 43,273.76	89.0%
Dental Insurance	\$ 8,316.00		\$ 8,316.00	\$ 7,954.60		\$ 361.40	95.7%
Life Insurance	\$ 306.00		\$ 306.00	\$ 291.69		\$ 14.31	95.3%
Overtime	\$ 25,750.00	\$ 1,642.00	\$ 27,392.00	\$ 31,088.39		\$ (3,696.39)	113.5%
PT Salaries & Wages	\$ 332,767.00		\$ 332,767.00	\$ 253,659.45		\$ 79,107.55	76.2%
Employee Benefits	\$ 1,300.00		\$ 1,300.00	\$ 450.00		\$ 850.00	34.6%
Retiree Insurance	no information					\$ -	
Retiree Insurance (Dental)	no information					\$ -	
	\$ 3,239,597.00	\$ 24,860.00	\$ 3,264,457.00	\$ 2,728,980.81		\$ 535,476.19	

Buildings & Grounds

Electricity & Heating Fuel	\$ 132,000.00		\$ 132,000.00	\$ 87,516.80		\$ 44,483.20	66.3%
Telephone	\$ 30,000.00		\$ 30,000.00	\$ 21,410.39	\$ 1,568.00	\$ 7,021.61	76.6%
Water & Sewer	\$ 20,000.00		\$ 20,000.00	\$ 9,347.96		\$ 10,652.04	46.7%
Security Monitoring Contract	\$ 1,777.00	\$ 89.00	\$ 1,866.00	\$ 1,865.52		\$ 0.48	100.0%
Pest Control Contract	\$ 2,500.00		\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,552.00	\$ 95.00	\$ 853.00	65.9%
Fire Alarm Inspection	\$ 1,892.00		\$ 1,892.00	\$ 1,513.20		\$ 378.80	80.0%
Fire Extinguisher Contract	\$ 3,700.00		\$ 3,700.00	\$ 1,321.49		\$ 2,378.51	35.7%
Repairs to Buildings & Grounds	\$ 75,000.00	\$ (2,189.00)	\$ 72,811.00	\$ 38,003.35	\$ 364.93	\$ 34,442.72	52.7%
Cleaning & Sanitation	\$ 20,000.00		\$ 20,000.00	\$ 15,924.32	\$ 2,376.19	\$ 1,699.49	91.5%
Property Insurance	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 1,161.00	\$ 40,161.00	\$ 40,161.22		\$ (0.22)	100.0%
Tort Insurance	\$ 35,600.00	\$ (2,418.00)	\$ 33,182.00	\$ 33,181.23		\$ 0.77	100.0%
Licenses	\$ 120.00	\$ 2,908.00	\$ 3,028.00	\$ 3,739.56		\$ (711.56)	123.5%
Permit Fees	\$ 900.00		\$ 900.00	\$ 880.00		\$ 20.00	97.8%
	\$ 362,489.00	\$ (449.00)	\$ 362,040.00	\$ 256,417.04	\$ 4,404.12	\$ 285,405.91	

GE565 Department Support		\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 487.76	\$ 16.43	\$ (4.19)	100.8%
GE566 Department Support		\$ 13,290.00	\$ 13,290.00	\$ 5,570.83		\$ 7,719.17	41.9%
GE569 Department Support		\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,206.85		\$ 793.15	80.2%
GE577 Department Support	\$ -	\$ 2,531.43	\$ 2,531.43	\$ 2,531.43		\$ -	100.0%
GE581 Department Support		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 318.43	\$ 166.11	\$ 1,015.46	32.3%
Friends Expenditure	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,648.13	\$ 1,235.22	\$ 116.65	97.7%
Library Misc	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 826.79		\$ 173.21	82.7%
	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 21,821.43	\$ 27,821.43	\$ 16,590.22	\$ 1,417.76	\$ 9,813.45	

Pickens County Library System

FY26 Library Expenses

% Used
83.3%

Original Appropriation

Adjustments

Revised Budget

YTD Expended

Encumbrances

Available Budget

% Used

Equipment & Contracts

Copier Contract	\$ 31,000.00		\$ 31,000.00	\$ -		\$ 31,000.00	0.0%
Software Contract	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 12,700.00	\$ 87,700.00	\$ 87,683.78		\$ 16.22	100.0%
Equipment Contract	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00	\$ 14,650.15		\$ 349.85	97.7%
Repairs to Equipment	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00	\$ -		\$ 1,000.00	0.0%
Computer Equipment	\$ 30,000.00	\$ (12,700.00)	\$ 17,300.00	\$ 16,110.31		\$ 1,189.69	93.1%
Rent (Rent Buildings - Equipment)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (1,000.00)	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	-
Office Furniture and Equipment	\$ 25,000.00	\$ (2,000.00)	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 5,175.79	\$ 15,904.14	\$ 1,920.07	91.7%
	\$ 178,000.00	\$ (3,000.00)	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 123,620.03	\$ 15,904.14	\$ 35,475.83	

Library Materials

County Funds (books)	\$ 140,000.00	\$ (6,000.00)	\$ 134,000.00	\$ 55,167.14	\$ 8,871.77	\$ 69,961.09	47.8%
State Aid (books)	\$ 329,445.00	\$ (47,519.00)	\$ 281,926.00	\$ 274,648.69	\$ 7,287.90	\$ (10.59)	100.0%
	\$ 469,445.00	\$ (53,519.00)	\$ 415,926.00	\$ 329,815.83	\$ 16,159.67	\$ 69,950.50	

Library Programming

Programming/Outreach	\$ 24,000.00		\$ 24,000.00	\$ 20,196.51	\$ 1,336.49	\$ 2,467.00	89.7%
Consulting & Contractual	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 15,852.00	\$ 35,852.00	\$ 8,837.58	\$ 12,084.35	\$ 14,930.07	58.4%
Food	\$ 700.00		\$ 700.00	\$ 620.69		\$ 79.31	88.7%
Training	\$ 2,459.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 8,459.00	\$ 8,422.35	\$ -	\$ 36.65	99.6%
Travel Expense	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,261.79		\$ 738.21	63.1%
Postage	\$ 4,000.00	\$ (250.00)	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,355.63		\$ 394.37	89.5%
	\$ 53,159.00	\$ 21,602.00	\$ 74,761.00	\$ 42,694.55	\$ 13,420.84	\$ 18,645.61	

Library Operations

Office Supplies	\$ 29,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 32,000.00	\$ 27,020.08	\$ 2,869.00	\$ 2,110.92	93.4%
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 1,590.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 1,840.00	\$ 1,792.69		\$ 47.31	97.4%
Safety Items	\$ 700.00		\$ 700.00	\$ -		\$ 700.00	0.0%
Fuel & Oil	\$ 3,000.00		\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,698.95	\$ -	\$ 1,301.05	56.6%
Credit Card Fees	\$ 1,800.00		\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,327.28		\$ 472.72	73.7%
Repairs to Vehicles	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,224.00	\$ 4,224.00	\$ 4,142.92	\$ 19.98	\$ 61.10	98.6%
Machinery & Equipment	\$ -	\$ 80,080.00	\$ 80,080.00	\$ 40,265.00	\$ 39,815.00	\$ -	100.0%
	\$ 38,090.00	\$ 85,554.00	\$ 123,644.00	\$ 76,246.92	\$ 42,703.98	\$ 4,693.10	

Pickens County, S.C.

YTD BUDGET REPORT FY26



FOR 2026 13

ACCOUNTS FOR: 01 GENERAL FUND	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANSFRS/ 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	1,598,210.57	.00	311,228.43	83.7%
01540 4012 FICA	166,611.00	2,843.00	169,454.00	139,390.04	.00	30,063.96	82.3%
01540 4013 WORKER'S COMPENSATIO	5,913.00	63.00	5,976.00	2,248.40	.00	3,727.60	37.6%
01540 4014 RETIREMENT	413,087.00	3,669.00	416,756.00	346,210.43	.00	70,545.57	83.1%
01540 4015 HEALTH INSURANCE	392,751.00	.00	392,751.00	349,477.24	.00	43,273.76	89.0%
01540 4016 DENTAL INSURANCE	8,316.00	.00	8,316.00	7,954.60	.00	361.40	95.7%
01540 4017 LIFE INSURANCE	306.00	.00	306.00	291.69	.00	14.31	95.3%
01540 4020 OVERTIME	25,750.00	1,642.00	27,392.00	31,088.39	.00	-3,696.39	113.5%
01540 4025 PT SALARIES & WAGES	332,767.00	.00	332,767.00	253,659.45	.00	79,107.55	76.2%
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	27,020.08	2,869.40	2,110.52	93.4%
01540 4110 POSTAGE	4,000.00	-250.00	3,750.00	3,355.63	.00	394.37	89.5%
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	1,261.79	.00	738.21	63.1%
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	1,698.95	.00	1,301.05	56.6%
01540 4190 CREDIT CARD FEES	1,800.00	.00	1,800.00	1,327.28	.00	472.72	73.7%
01540 4200 ELECTRICITY & HEATIN	132,000.00	.00	132,000.00	87,516.80	.00	44,483.20	66.3%
01540 4210 TELEPHONE	30,000.00	.00	30,000.00	21,410.39	1,568.90	7,020.71	76.6%
01540 4212 DATA LINE PHONE CHAR	.00	.00	.00	83.65	.00	-83.65	100.0%
01540 4220 WATER & SEWER	20,000.00	.00	20,000.00	9,347.96	.00	10,652.04	46.7%
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	1,552.00	95.00	853.00	65.9%
01540 4265 SOFTWARE CONTRACT	75,000.00	.00	87,700.00	87,683.78	.00	16.22	100.0%
01540 4266 EQUIPMENT CONTRACT	15,000.00	.00	15,000.00	14,650.15	.00	349.85	97.7%
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	-2,189.00	72,811.00	38,003.35	364.93	34,442.72	52.7%
01540 4290 REPAIRS TO VEHICLES	2,000.00	2,224.00	4,224.00	4,142.92	19.98	61.10	98.6%
01540 4400 FOOD	700.00	.00	700.00	620.69	.00	79.31	88.7%
01540 4430 CLEANING & SANITATIO	20,000.00	.00	20,000.00	15,924.32	2,376.19	1,699.49	91.5%
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	2,908.00	3,028.00	3,739.56	.00	-711.56	123.5%
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	8,422.35	.00	36.65	99.6%
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

FOR 2026 13

ACCOUNTS FOR: 01 GENERAL FUND	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANSFRS/ ADJUSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
01540 4650 CONSULTING & CONTRAC	20,000.00	15,852.00	35,852.00	8,837.58	12,084.35	14,930.07	58.4%
01540 4710 00128 PROGRAMMING/OUT	24,000.00	.00	24,000.00	20,196.51	1,336.49	2,467.00	89.7%
01540 4710 GE565 DEPARTMENTAL SU	.00	500.00	500.00	487.76	16.43	-4.19	100.8%
01540 4710 GE566 DEPARTMENTAL SU	.00	13,290.00	13,290.00	5,570.83	.00	7,719.17	41.9%
01540 4710 GE569 DEPARTMENTAL SU	.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	3,206.85	.00	793.15	80.2%
01540 4710 GE581 DEPARTMENTAL SU	.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	318.43	166.11	1,015.46	32.3%
01540 4780 BOOKS	140,000.00	-6,000.00	134,000.00	55,167.14	8,871.77	69,961.09	47.8%
01540 4783 00055 FRIENDS OF LIBR	5,000.00	.00	5,000.00	3,648.13	1,235.22	116.65	97.7%
01540 4789 LIBRARY MISC DONATIO	1,000.00	.00	1,000.00	826.79	.00	173.21	82.7%
01540 4790 BOOKS (STATE AID)	329,445.00	-47,519.00	281,926.00	274,648.69	7,287.90	-10.59	100.0%
01540 4810 COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	30,000.00	-12,700.00	17,300.00	16,110.31	.00	1,189.69	93.1%
01540 4820 OFFICE FURNITURE & E	25,000.00	-2,000.00	23,000.00	5,175.79	15,904.14	1,920.07	91.7%
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	3,574,449.05	94,011.81	775,188.57	82.6%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	4,346,780.00	96,869.43	4,443,649.43	3,574,449.05	94,011.81	775,188.57	82.6%
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,346,780.00	96,869.43	4,443,649.43	3,574,449.05	94,011.81	775,188.57	

Pickens County, S.C.

YTD BUDGET REPORT FY26



FOR 2026 13

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANSFRS/ ADJUSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
GRAND TOTAL	4,346,780.00	96,869.43	4,443,649.43	3,574,449.05	94,011.81	775,188.57	82.6%
** END OF REPORT - Generated by Cassie Hamilton **							



Foundation Donations

April 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 501(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 03/31/2026	\$79,400.85
Interest	\$0.00
Debits/Checks	\$645.21
Credit	\$196.78
Ending Balance as of 04/30/2026	\$78,952.42

PCLS Statistics FY26 - Quarter 3 (Jan-Mar)

	FY2025	FY2026	Change
Visitors	84,870	83,825	-1.23%
Active Users	113,823	118,194	3.84%
New Borrowers	1,113	1,014	-8.89%
Reg. Material Circulation	83,441	81,038	-2.88%
eBooks	13,131	12,775	-2.71%
eAudio	20,479	23,685	15.66%
eMagazines	4,956	5,964	20.34%
Kanopy	887	1,783	101.01%
Total Material Circulation	122,894	125,245	1.91%
Computer Users	4,484	4,437	-1.05%
Wireless Users	6,679	7,260	8.70%
Meeting Room Reservations	2,772	2,436	-12.12%
Meeting Room Attendance	9,305	15,856	70.40%
Programs - Children's Events	191	151	-20.94%
Programs - Teen Events	27	27	0.00%
Programs - Adult Events	143	137	-4.20%
Programs - Total Events	361	315	-12.74%
Programs - Children's Attendance	6,022	3,164	-47.46%
Programs - Teen Attendance	504	1010	100.40%
Programs - Adult Attendance	3,252	2,992	-8.00%
Programs - Total Attendance	9,778	7,166	-26.71%
Outreach - Children's Events	15	23	53.33%
Outreach - Teen Events	0	1	#DIV/0!
Outreach - Adult Events	30	15	-50.00%
Outreach - Total Events	45	39	-13.33%
Outreach - Children's Attendance	4,125	1,746	-57.67%
Outreach - Teen Attendance	0	202	#DIV/0!
Outreach - Adult Attendance	7,664	7,662	-0.03%
Outreach - Total Attendance	11,789	9,610	-18.48%

VOLUNTEER POLICY

Purpose: The Pickens County Library System encourages volunteers to supplement the efforts of paid library staff, to provide quality library services, and to provide a method for residents to support the library while performing a valuable community service.

1. A volunteer is a person who performs tasks for the Pickens County Library System without wages, benefits, or compensation of any kind.
2. Volunteers must have a Pickens County Library System card and their account must be in good standing.
3. Volunteers are recognized by the public as representatives of the library and should follow the same work, dress, and behavior policies as staff.
4. Volunteer status is solely at the discretion of the Pickens County Library System. Nothing in this policy creates a contract between the volunteer and the library or Pickens County. Both the volunteer and the library can terminate their association at any time, for any reason, without cause being stated.
5. All volunteers must complete a volunteer application and orientation before beginning to volunteer.
6. A background check must be passed in accordance with Pickens County Policies.
7. The Library will not ~~cannot~~ accept volunteers under the age of 16 **18**. ~~Volunteers under the age of 18 must have the consent of a parent or legal guardian and be directly supervised by a library staff member.~~
8. Volunteers will not conduct any financial or confidential transactions on behalf of the library.
9. The schedule of volunteer work hours is dependent upon the amount of work needed and the availability of staff to supervise.
10. The Pickens County Library System does not participate in court ordered community service.