

**Meeting minutes of the Tazewell County Public Library Board of Trustees
held at the Tazewell County Public Library, Tazewell Main Library 129 Main St.,
Tazewell, Va., June 26, 2025, at 3:30 p.m.**

Present: Regina Roberts, chair
Karel Ryan, vice chair
Patsy Murphy, trustee
Courtney Jennelle, trustee (Virtual)
Erica Galloway, TCPL Director
Jade Crabtree, TCPL Circulation Supervisor
Jane Sorensen, member of the public

1. CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Chair Roberts at 3:38 p.m.

2. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE AGENDA FORMAT

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: Vice Chair Ryan moved to move Friends of the Library Resolution to unfinished business as item b. Trustee Murphy seconded. With all in favor and none opposed, the motion passed.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Vice Chair Ryan moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Trustee Jennelle seconded the motion. With all in favor and none opposed, the motion passed.

Chair Roberts requested that Jane Sorensen's letter to the Board of Trustees be added to the minutes. Chair Roberts requested that her statement in response to the letter be recorded in the meeting minutes for record.

"The Board of Trustees is a volunteer board, I appreciate the letter Jane and as chair, I've been chair for several years now. I am a business owner and I am in healthcare and I have patients that I cannot always leave because they are connected to IV fluids and other types of medical things. So I have to wait for backup and a nurse to get on site because otherwise as a healthcare professional that is abandonment and that is a felony and that is a legal problem. I would like to say that I do the very best I can. I don't mean to inconvenience you, Jane or anyone else and if at any time the board would like to seek for a new chair due to us starting late from time to time, that is perfectly fine with me. I will serve as a

Trustee, but I appreciate the opportunity to serve and the flexibility that this board has as we move forward. We've accomplished a lot and we are very glad to have Jane come as a member of the public"

Chair Roberts opened the floor for comments or questions.

Sorensen said her letter was intended to ask about procedures for starting the meetings as close to time as possible. She did not intend to single out any Board member or to be accusatory. Sorensen mentioned that the public needs to know when and if there are going to be lengthy delays and if there are any procedures in place to get the meeting started if not all members are present.

Chair Roberts stated that she is in regular contact with Director Galloway and tries to keep her apprised of any delays in meeting arrivals. Vice Chair, Ryan can start the meetings in place of the Chair so that is Plan B. Trustees contact Galloway and with one another if they attend a meeting and the Board will not have a physical quorum.

Chair Roberts opened the floor for the other Trustees regarding meeting starting. After each member weighed in, it was decided to defer any motions or any further actions and adhere to Roberts Rules of Order for starting meetings.

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

A copy of the Director's Report was passed to each Trustee.

State aid allocations were approved, and Tazewell County Public Library's are roughly the same as it has been in previous years. The Tazewell County budget will be voted on during the June 27, 2025 Board of Supervisors meeting.

The Friends of the Library met on June 9, 2025 at the Tazewell Library. FOL is planning a large book sale in July to coincide with Main Street Moments. The FOL is coordinating with another local nonprofit to source new books for the sale. Tazewell County Public Schools is also volunteering a lift truck and several workers to help move materials.

The Tazewell library has experienced another leak, this time due to an HVAC. The county came and removed another light to prevent any electrical mishaps.

Richlands library is waiting for an elevator part. Assistant Director Wilkes spoke to Cornerstone and they are hoping to finish by July 10, 2025. Chair Roberts was able to visit the Richlands library and noted things yet to be completed. The handrail going to the 3rd floor still has not been completed and that must be completed before inspection. The elevator needs to be commissioned and that will not happen until the last inspection. Chair Roberts feels that the project is still a few weeks away from completion at best.

Director Galloway hit the highlights of our Summer Reading programs.

- Down on the Farm saw over 400 people
- Slime Lab drew 125 people into the Tazewell Library
- Petting Zoo's for Tazewell and Pocahontas to take place over 4th of the July weekend
- Snakes & More is always well attended

Chair Roberts asked about our partnership with Feeding Southwest Virginia. TCPL was unable to make it work this summer but does look forward working with them again.

The Law Library was discussed and Chair Roberts asked that it be added to next meetings agenda for further research and discussion.

Chair Roberts asked about the furniture (the County allotted \$5,000 with a \$5,000 match from the Foundation). Galloway arranged with the County to carry over those funds and they will be spend in Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT:

- a. As of May 31, 2025, the library had spent \$1,209,222.65, 92.27 % of the annual budget.
- b. As of May 31, 2025, the library had received \$8,443.57 in business services fines and fees.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Collection development policy review-start with Reconsideration of Library Materials section: Wilkes stepped into the meeting for this discussion. Each section will be read aloud and changes made and voted on.

Trustee Murphy made a motion to add the word “in” in front of removing in the first paragraph. Vice Chair Ryan seconded the motion. With all in favor and none opposed, the motion passed.

Discussion of second paragraph was had.

The rewritten second paragraph reads as follows: Formal procedures for review and reconsideration of materials are available to residents of Tazewell County who hold a valid Tazewell County Public Library card. No challenged materials, which have been duly selected, will be removed from the library’s collection except upon recommendation of the Library Director. If appealed, the matter will be considered by the Library Board of Trustees. This policy only applies to Tazewell County Public Libraries. Tazewell County Public Library cannot remove materials from other libraries within the HAL Consortium.

Vice Chair Ryan to accept the paragraph with reflected changes. Trustee Murphy seconded the motion. With all in favor and none opposed, the motion passed.

Discussion of paragraph three was had.

The rewritten third paragraph reads as follows: The Library will only consider two requests within a three-month period from first submission date.

Discussion of paragraph four was had.

The rewritten fourth paragraph reads: The Library will decide to remove, retain, or reclassify the material and/or purchase an alternative titled to provide a balanced viewpoint or opinion.

b. Friends of the Library Resolution: Tabled for next meeting.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

11. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

12. ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn the meeting by Trustee Murphy with a second by Vice Chair Ryan. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 17, 2025, at 3:30 p.m. at the Bluefield Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Jade Crabtree, TCPL Circulation Supervisor

Tazewell County Public Library Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting

June 26, 2025

Tazewell Main Library

Tazewell, Va.

3:30 p.m.

MEETING MATERIALS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- 1. Agenda**
- 2. Final Minutes of May 22, 2025**
- 3. Director's Report**
- 4. Sorensen Letter**

2950 Witten Valley Road
Tazewell VA 24651

April 28, 2025

Tazewell County Public Library Board of Trustees
Tazewell County Public Library
Tazewell, VA 24651

Dear Trustees:

I have been attending the Board of Trustees meetings, in person or virtually, for about two years now, and I appreciate how welcoming the Board has been. It is important for community members to be able to attend and participate in these meetings, as I plan to continue to do.

Over the last 6 months, several Board meetings have started late (one half hour or more) or been cancelled and rescheduled on the day of the meeting or after a prolonged delay in the start of the meeting. I realize that all Trustees are volunteers, and I appreciate your willingness to serve. However, community access/participation in meetings requires a dependable meeting schedule. Anyone attending the meetings is also volunteering his/her time. So, I am sending this letter as a request that a more public-friendly method for getting meetings started and determining when meetings need to be rescheduled be implemented.

Sincerely,



Jane Harold Sorensen