



Trustees Attending: Greg Brakebill, Stephanie Thompson, Dawn Reagan, Dexter Stewart, Becca Wolfenbarger, Richard Fogg, Robert White, Shawn Graham

Staff Attending: Anjanae Brueland - BCPL Interim Director, Summer Dale, Sara Corso, Rebecca Melvin, Penny Stewart

Visitors: Liz Schrek - Ocoee River Regional Library, Marcus Fitzsimmons - The Daily Times

Call to Order: Greg Brakebill called the Blount County Public Library Board to order on 18 March 2025 at 4:30pm.

Public Comment:

- The board heard comments from 1 member of the public.

Director Search Discussion

Becca Wolfenbarger made a motion to discuss the Blount County Public Library (BCPL) Director Search candidates. Richard Fogg seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Stephanie Thompson amended the original motion authorizing the Chairman or designee to work with the Blount County Human Resource office to negotiate a salary and employment contract for the new BCPL Director.

- Stephanie Thompson acknowledged the search committee's efforts, including Anna Graham, Judge David Dugan, Jesus Ortega-Valenzuela, Board members Richard Fogg, Dawn Reagan, and Becca Wolfenbarger, and Summer Dale, thanking them for their contributions.
- She also thanked the Friends, Government Officials, the staff, and Liz Schreck for their support and involvement.
- The Board discussed the final steps in selecting a new director.
- The Board reviewed the candidates, Dr. Rachel Linn and Dustin Goforth.
- The Board discussed the strengths and areas of concern regarding Dr. Rachel Linn.
 - Richard Fogg shared statistical data from the staff evaluations of Dr. Rachel Linn.
- The Board discussed the strengths and areas of concern regarding Dustin Goforth.
 - Richard Fogg shared statistical data from the staff evaluations of Dustin Goforth.

Shawn Graham made a motion to table the discussion of the candidates themselves and to bring this slate to the Board for a vote and selection of the new BCPL Director. Dexter Stewart seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Becca Wolfenbarger made a motion to call a plurality vote in order to select the new BCPL Director. Dexter Stewart seconded the motion. The motion carried.



- Summer Dale called for each Board member's vote:
 - Robert White voted in favor of Dustin Goforth.
 - Richard Fogg voted in favor of Dustin Goforth.
 - Becca Wolfenbarger voted in favor of Dustin Goforth.
 - Dexter Stewart voted in favor of Dustin Goforth.
 - Stephanie Thompson voted in favor of Dustin Goforth.
 - Greg Brakebill voted in favor of Dustin Goforth.
 - Dawn Reagan voted in favor of Dustin Goforth.
 - Shawn Graham voted in favor of Dustin Goforth.

Shawn Graham made a motion that based on the Board's plurality vote in favor of Dustin Goforth, the Board will extend an offer of employment to Dustin Goforth for the BCPL Director position, contingent upon successful HR negotiations. Dawn Reagan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- Dustin Goforth will be offered the BCPL Director position.

Important Dates:

Other Library Meetings

Blount County Commission Meeting – 17 April 2025, 6:30 pm – BC Courthouse

Blount County Friends of the Library – 22 April 2025, 4:00 pm – BCPL

Foundation for the Blount County Public Library – 17 April 2025, 8:00 am – BCPL

Maryville City Council - 6 May 2025, 7:00 pm – Maryville Municipal Bldg

Alcoa Board of Commissioners - 13 May 2025, 7:00 pm – Alcoa Municipal Bldg

Next Library Board Meeting – 20 May 2025, 5:30 pm – Sharon Lawson Room

Motion to Adjourn:

Dawn Reagan made a motion to adjourn the Special Called Meeting. Shawn Graham seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next Library Board meeting will be held on 15 April 2025 at 5:30 pm, in the Dorothy Herron Room preceded by a Special Called Meeting at 4:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Summer Dale