



**Trustees Attending:** Greg Brakebill, Shawn Graham, Robert White, Dawn Reagan, Dexter Stewart, Kyle Anderson, Kathleen Christy, Richard Fogg

**Staff Attending:** Dustin Goforth - Library Director, Anjanae Brueland, Summer Dale

**Visitors:** Liz Schrek - Ocoee River Regional Library, Vandy Kemp - Friends of the Blount County Public Library

**Call to Order:** Greg Brakebill called the Blount County Public Library Board to order on 16 September 2025 at 5:30pm.

**Approval of Minutes:** Dexter Stewart made a motion to approve the 19 August 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting minutes. Shawn Graham seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

**Public Comment:**

- The Board did not hear any comments from members of the public.

**Report of Board of Trustees Chair by Greg Brakebill:**

- Greg shared that he is planning to attend the Trustee Workshop on September 25th.
- He will continue to meet with Dustin, Vandy, and Trevis to make sure they're all working as a team.
- Strategic Plan consultant, Maelea Galyon, has been hired.

**Report of Blount County Public Library Director by Dustin Goforth:**

- Dustin passed out an update on his accomplishments thus far.
  - His focus is on reshaping rather than just listening.
  - He has been developing some exciting ideas that he has introduced to the Admin Planning team and staff.
    - He hopes to share these strategic directions with the Board at October's meeting, which will focus on branding, direction, training, and advocacy.
    - encourage one voice
- Directors Report
  - Dustin shared that the Library App will be changing soon due to Capira no longer supporting our ILS.
    - Zoe Ballew, our Online Services Coordinator, has been developing a rollout strategy.
  - Dustin also shared his excitement for the Fall Festival and other events planned for this Fall.
  - The monetary donation in memory of Carol Thomas is being used for a system that will help extend the life of our books. We are very grateful to the Thomas family.
  - Dustin explained that General Services/Facilities has finished repairing our ceiling, and no materials were lost.



- o Deborah Dean will be installing 2-4 cattails in the Shakespeare Garden. The Master Gardeners are excited about this prospect.
  - Mrs. Dean will have sole liability if anything happens to this art display.
- o Dustin is working on the Public Library Survey, which details every aspect of the library.
- o The Library currently has 12 student interns.

**Financial Report, Anjanae Brueland:**

- There was a discussion on the Financial Report.
- Please email any questions you may have to Anjanae prior to the Board meeting.
- Anjanae highlighted two items trending higher than normal: food supplies and utilities.

**Report of Foundation Board, Trevis Gardner:**

- Trevis Gardner was not in attendance.
- This Friday, Greg and Dustin will attend the next Foundation Board meeting.

**Report of Friends of the Library, Vandy Kemp:**

- Vandy explained that the Friends have five book sales per year.
- The September sale broke \$18,000, and the Friends sold over 11,000 books.
- The sales have generated 80-85 new members.

**Report of Ocoee River Regional Library, Liz Schreck:**

- The Ocoee River Regional Library Report and the READS FY 2025-26 Data Statistics were distributed by email prior to the meeting.
- Liz Schreck shared updates from the Regional Library via Zoom.
- The Public Library survey is due by the end of September. Following this, edit checks will be conducted in October. The information gathered will then be forwarded to the State Data Coordinator for additional review and eventually submitted to the Federal level.
- The Trustee Workshop will be on 9/25 at the Art Circle Public Library.
- Liz reminded the Board to complete their Trustee Certification program. Please let Liz know if you would like to be registered.

**Policy Formatting Changes Proposal by Board of Trustees Vice Chair, Richard Fogg:**

- Richard had submitted some suggested changes to the policies' formatting.
- Greg proposed a Work Session at the next Board meeting at 4:30pm.

Kyle Anderson made a motion to set a scheduled work session to discuss the policy reformatting and the Code of Ethics policy for the Blount County Public Library Trustees on October 21st at 4:30pm. Dawn Reagan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Old Business:**

- The **Code of Ethics Policy** was discussed.



- Tabled until next meeting

- The **Rules of Conduct Policy** was discussed.

Robert White made a motion to approve the Rules of Conduct policy. Dawn Reagan seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

- The **Circulation of Library Materials Policy** was discussed.

Richard Fogg made a motion to approve the Circulation of Library Materials policy. Dawn Reagan seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

- The **Building Closure Schedule** was discussed.
  - Dustin expressed his gratitude to the Board for allowing the staff to have input.

Richard Fogg made a motion to approve the Building Closure Schedule. Dexter Stewart seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

#### **New Business:**

- The **Public Use of Children's Area Policy** was presented.
  - The discussion was tabled until the next meeting.
- The **Bookmark Cafe Employee Health Policy and Contract** was presented.
  - Discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

#### **Additional Closing Comments:**

- Richard will attend the next Friends meeting, Greg will attend the Foundation meeting, Dawn will attend the Blount County Commission meeting, and Dextar will attend the Alcoa Commissioners meeting.

#### **Important Dates:**

##### Other Library Meetings

Blount County Commission Meeting – 18 September 2025, 6:00pm – BC Courthouse

Blount County Friends of the Library – 23 September 2025, 4:00pm – BCPL

Foundation for the Blount County Public Library – 19 September 2025, 8:00am – BCPL

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

Alcoa Board of Commissioners - 14 October 2025, 7:00pm – Alcoa Municipal Bldg

Next Library Board Meeting – 21 October 2025, 5:30pm, Sharon Lawson Room



**Motion to Adjourn:**

Kyle Anderson made a motion to adjourn. Dexter seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next Library Board meeting will be held on October 21st at 5:30pm, in the Sharon Lawson Room. Additionally, there will be a Work Session held on October 21st at 4:30pm in the Sharon Lawson Room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Summer Dale