



Trustees Attending: Greg Brakebill - Board Chair, Dexter Stewart, Kyle Anderson, Dawn Reagan

Staff Attending: Dustin Goforth - BCPL Director, Anjanae Brueland - Deputy Director, Summer Dale

Visitors: Liz Schreck- Ocoee River Regional Library

Call to Order: Greg Brakebill called the Blount County Public Library Board to order on 13 January 2026 at 4:00 pm.

Review of Children's Collection Compliance

- Dustin Goforth confirms that the staff has completed a full review of the children's collection, which includes approximately 36,000 items.
- A template provided by the state was used and completed with the library's recommendations.
- The review focused on ensuring compliance with all state and federal law, including any recent executive orders outlining expectations of how federal funding should not include titles promoting gender identity.
- No items were found to be inappropriate based on the state's definition of obscenity, and circulation numbers were included in the review.

State and Federal Funding Usage

- There was some discussion related to the allocations of federal funding and the Library's overall budget. There were also questions about what grants come from federal and/or state funding. Dustin Goforth explained that state and federal funding is used for supplemental purchases of books and materials only, and Anjanae Brueland added that grants such as the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and the Technology Opportunities Program (TOP) grants provide additional funding for technology and classes.
- The Library's total budget for the year is \$2.892 million, with state and federal funding contributing minimally.
- Liz Schreck shared that the state allocation is just \$15,893.73, and federal funding is \$15,032.71.

Other Policy Considerations

- Dustin Goforth also mentioned the development of a new collection called the parenting collection that would allow books that may need to help parents find resources to discuss with their children.
 - Topics such as divorce, grief, parental incarceration, etc., would be more discoverable this way.
- Liz Schreck reminds the Board that, within BCPL's Collection Development policy, we have a Reconsideration of Library Materials form, through which concerned patrons may request that the Director reconsider an item in the collection.
- Dustin also reminded the board that BCPL requires a parent to be with a child at all times if the child is under 13 years old. The Library does not take the place of a parent. It is where people can learn, not where they are told what to learn.

Final Decision and Voting Process

- The board discusses voting on the findings at today's board meeting at 5:30 pm.
- Documentation must be submitted to the State by January 19, 2026.
- The board considers the possibility of accepting the staff's findings. Many are very comfortable with taking the staff's recommendation.



- The meeting is adjourned, and the board prepares for the next meeting to finalize the decision.

Respectfully submitted,
Summer Dale

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