

Board of Trustees Meeting
January 22, 2026, 4:15 PM

Lexington Public Library
138 S. Main Street, Lexington, VA

Present: Harper Donahoe, Bob Kramer, McKinley Williams, Alexandra Brown, Mary Jo Brinkley, Sherri Wheeler, Steve Webb, Terry Ammons, Pete Pitard, Ann Adams, Julie Goyette, Lisa Packer

Absent: Leece Bachman, Sharyn Billings

Call to Order, Approval of agenda: Harper Donahoe, Chair
Pete motioned.
Terry seconded.
All were in favor.

Approval of the Minutes:

Harper Donahoe made a motion to approval November meeting notes with the addition of Ann Adams on the list of those not present in the November meeting. Steve Webb motioned to make the change, Ann Adams seconded, and all the board approved.

Mission Moment with Christie Gearhart, Circulation System Manager

Christie gave the board an overview of the Fairfield lockers located in the rescue squad building installed in 2022. There are twelve lockers both small and large to accommodate backpacks, books, and other materials. The process works similarly to another branch requesting materials. The patron places a hold designating the Fairfield locker as the pickup location. The item is pulled and delivered by couriers Monday through Thursday to the lockers. The patron is notified through email and can scan their library card, which opens the locker, and the item is checked out. There is also a return bin at the same location. There have been ninety holds satisfied and patrons report they are convenient and easy to use. The purchase of the lockers was made possible with the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

The Board discussed an unsigned letter from a group of Rockbridge County residents expressing a need for a library branch in Fairfield. Efforts have been made to reach the Presbyterian Church that currently hosts The Community Table meals, Campus Kitchen from Washington and Lee, and a food exchange for the community. The board discussed contacts, locations, a basic budget, and what is involved in moving forward with plans. A short summary of past efforts was outlined.

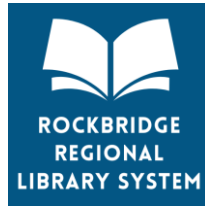
Bath Friends of the Library: Pete Pitard gave an update on the Friends of Bath Library.

Terry Ammons gave the board updates and picture renderings of the new desk in Bath. They will continue to add a self-checkout, ensuring it is ADA accessible with sufficient storage.

There is an upcoming event hosted by the Friends of Bath Library in February for Love Your Library Month. There will be an open house on February 14 from 12 -3 PM with refreshments. Shane Clarke, Technology Coordinator, will assist patrons with technology. Axel, the Bath axolotl, has grown almost three times the size she was in November when she arrived. The library pet, sponsored by the Friends, continues to be a draw for the extended community.

Public Comment: The library had two comment cards to read. Sherri read the first; the library is such a welcoming place for this community.

Then board member Alex read the second, Shane is a great help thank you for employing him!



Questions regarding board packet: There were no questions or comments about the packet.

Discussion and announcements:

- Joint budget meeting with Rockbridge, Lexington, and Buena Vista
- Unsigned letter to board of trustees and foundation board

CLOSED SESSION:

Harper made a motion to go into closed session as permitted by Code of Virginia 2.2-3711(A) (1) for the purpose of evaluating the performance of the library director. Terry seconded and all were in favor.

Time into Closed Session: 4:52 PM

The board approved the evaluation presented and a four year contract for the library director unanimously.

Harper moved that the Rockbridge Regional Library Board of Trustees return to open session. Terry seconded.
The board approved.
None opposed.

Time out of Closed Session: 5:22 PM

Harper made a motion that the Board certify that, in the closed meeting just concluded, to the best of each member's knowledge, nothing was heard, discussed, or considered except the matter or matters (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in closed session and (2) lawfully permitted to do so discussed as exempt from open meeting requirements under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of information Act cited in that motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Yays: Harper Donahoe, Bob Kramer, McKinley Williams, Alexandra Brown, Mary Jo Brinkley, Sherri Wheeler, Steve Webb, Terry Ammons, Pete Pitard, Ann Adams

Opposed: None

Time of certification of roll call vote: 5:22 PM

Note: Any member of the public body who believes that there was a departure from the requirements of (1) and (2) above shall so state prior to the vote, indicating the substance of that departure that, in his or her judgement, has taken place. The statement shall be recorded in the minutes of the public body. Virginia Code Section 2.2-3712.

Adjournment: 5:23 PM

The next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2026 in the boardroom at the Rockbridge Regional Library in Lexington.