

**Minutes**  
**Blue Ridge Regional Library Governing Board**  
**Martinsville Library**  
**June 18, 2024**

Board members Rebecca Adcock, Margaret Caldwell, Rives Coleman, Karen Despot, Lora Mahaffey, Greg Peitz, Lewis Turner, Sherry Vestal, and Donata Worrell attended.

Also attending were Director Rick Ward and Administrative Assistant George Gutshall,

Board members Felita Claybrooks and Yluelhaldi Rose were unable to attend.

**Call to Order:**

Board Chair Margaret Caldwell called the meeting to order at 11:59 and welcomed those in attendance.

**Minutes:**

With one revision, on a motion by Lora Mahaffey, seconded by Greg Peitz, the minutes from the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting in Ridgeway were unanimously approved.

**Financial Report:**

George Gutshall reviewed the library's financial report.

He reported that we should be able to pay for the new sign in Bassett, the batteries for the computer system backup, and the renovation of the Martinsville bathrooms from funds in the current fiscal year and not take it out of the unallocated account at the City.

On a motion by Greg Peitz, seconded by Sherry Vestal, the board voted unanimously to pay for the bathroom renovations at the Ridgeway branch from the Ridgeway capital accounts in the amount of \$14,500.

On a motion by Lora Mahaffey, seconded by Karen Despot, the financial report was approved unanimously.

**Committee Reports:**

Rives Coleman reported for the Facilities Committee that the Ridgeway bathroom renovations had been completed and the Martinsville bathrooms would be next.

**Old Business:**

There was a lengthy discussion on the upcoming budget and Greg Peitz made a motion "that for the 2024-25 BRRL Budget, allocation to the category of 'Other Operating Expenses' is increased by 10% over the 2023-24 Budget." which was seconded by Lewis Turner. The motion was defeated with two Aye votes – Peitz, Turner; six Nay votes – Adcock, Caldwell, Despot, Mahaffey, Vestal, Worrell; and one abstention – Coleman.

On a motion by Rives Coleman, seconded by Sherry Vestal, the board approved the FY2024-25 Budget on a 7 – 2 vote. Voting Aye – Adcock, Caldwell, Coleman, Despot, Mahaffey, Vestal, Worrell. Voting Nay – Peitz, Turner.

**New Business:**

There was a discussion on the library contributing to the repair/replacement of the A/C at the Patrick County branch. A motion to deny the request was made by Lewis Turner, seconded by Greg Peitz, and was defeated on a 2 – 5 vote with two abstentions. Voting Aye – Turner, Peitz; voting Nay – Adcock, Caldwell, Despot, Mahaffey, Worrell; Abstentions – Coleman, Vestal. On a motion by Rives Coleman, seconded by Sherry Vestal, the board agreed to table the discussion and decide after more information was obtained about the details of the proposed project.

On a motion by Margaret Caldwell, seconded by Rives Coleman, the board agreed to table approving the Five-Year Plan for the upcoming year.

Due to time constraints, the board agreed to table a discussion on the proposed amendment to the By-Laws and Policies.

**Closed meeting under § 2.2-3711(A)(1) for discussion of personnel matters.**

Rives Coleman moved that the board enter closed session, Karen Despot seconded, and the board entered closed session. Greg Peitz recused himself from the closed session.

Rives Coleman moved that the board leave closed session, Rebecca Adcock seconded, and the board left closed session.

All board members certified that the board discussed only the business for which they entered closed session.

**Friends Report:**

There was no Friends report.

**Director's Agenda:**

Director Ward referred the board to the printed director's report.

Since the July meeting is scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup> and the Director was going to be out of town, the board decided the meeting will be moved to July 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment:**

Rives Coleman moved that the meeting be adjourned at 1:42, Rebecca Adcock seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Recorder  
Rick Ward

Yluelhaldi Rose  
Secretary