

Minutes
Blue Ridge Regional Library Governing Board
Bassett Branch Library
June 18, 2025

Board members Rebecca Adcock, Margaret Caldwell, Rives Coleman, Lora Mahaffey, Greg Peitz, Harry Rhett, and Donata Worrell attended.

Also attending were Director Rick Ward, Administrative Assistant George Gutshall, Bassett Branch Manager Karen Barley, and future Trustee Hannah Vinova.

Board members Yluelhaldi Rose, Lewis Turner, and Sherry Vestal were unable to attend.

Call to Order:

Board Chair Rebecca Adcock called the meeting to order at 12:04 and welcomed those in attendance.

Minutes:

On a motion by Margaret Caldwell, seconded by Greg Peitz, the minutes from the May 22nd meeting in Martinsville were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

George Gutshall reviewed the library's financial report.

A discussion of the budget increase of 5% that was factored in the upcoming budget determined that the localities will only be increasing their contribution by 3%. Since the current budget projection is for a 5% increase for salaries for staff, on a motion by Lora Mahaffey, seconded by Margaret Caldwell, the increase for staff would be reduced to a 3% raise. The motion passed by a majority vote with Greg Peitz voting nay.

On a motion by Margaret Caldwell, seconded by Lora Mahaffey, the report was approved unanimously.

Committee Reports:

There were no committee reports.

Old Business:

Concerning the Bassett Expansion Project, Margaret Caldwell, on behalf of the Steering Committee, reported the May 31st BINGO fundraiser brought in \$4,705 and the next BINGO will be held on August 2nd at the Bassett Event Center.

Board Chair Rebecca Adcock reported that our ARC grant application had been turned down and that she, Director Rick Ward, and Community Development Director Rebekah Morgan from the WPPDC discussed a CDBG Planning grant application for a strategic plan for the library system.

New Business:

On a motion by Donata Worrell, seconded by Margaret Caldwell, the board voted unanimously to approve the current five-year plan with revisions to be made later.

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

Donata Worrell moved that the board enter closed session, Rives Coleman seconded, and the board entered closed session with Greg Peitz recusing himself from the meeting.

Donata Worrell moved that the board leave closed session, Lora Mahaffey seconded, and the board left closed session.

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

On a motion by Lora Mahaffey, seconded by Rives Coleman, on a majority vote, the board selected Melissa Chapman as the Interim Director for when Director Rick Ward retires with Greg Peitz voting nay.

Friends Report:

There was no Friends report.

Director's Agenda:

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

Board Chair Rebecca Adcock notified the board that there will be a retirement party for Director Rick Ward on Monday, June 30th, from 12 – 3 at the Martinsville Library.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Lora Mahaffey, seconded by Margaret Caldwell, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30.

Recorder
Rick Ward

Yluelhaldi Rose
Secretary