

Minutes
Blue Ridge Regional Library Governing Board
Ridgeway Branch Library
March 18, 2026

Board members Rebecca Adcock, Rives Coleman, Twyla Dillard (attended via Zoom), Christopher Gardner, Charisse Hairson, Monica Hatchett (attended via Zoom), and Lori Hundley attended.

Also attending were Director Melissa Chapman, Administrative Assistant George Gutshall, Program Coordinator Leandio Gravely, and Branch Manager Tammy Cope.

Donata Worrell and Hanna Vinova were unable to attend.

Call to Order:

Board Chair Rives Coleman called the meeting to order at 3:12 pm and welcomed those in attendance.

Minutes:

On a motion by Rebecca Adcock, seconded by Lori Hundley, the minutes from the February meeting in Ridgeway were approved unanimously.

Public Comment:

No public comment.

Treasurer's Report:

George Gutshall reviewed the library's financial report.

February was a calm month. We received all of our significant revenues for the quarter so we remain in positive territory. Some of the large expenditures are e-rate consulting fees, annual dues for VLA, NMS Imaging for support of Patrick's microfilm, and Comfort Systems for repair on the Martinsville reheat boiler. We do have an outstanding invoice from Comfort Systems for the Ridgeway heat pump repair. George Gutshall expects that we will begin to spend more money on books in the coming months.

Charisse Hairston moved to accept the treasurer's report with Rebecca Adcock seconding. The treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Building and Grounds Committee:

Martinsville chiller: Rives Coleman has been playing phone tag with Rob Fincher. He has scheduled a meeting with him on Friday, March 20th. He plans to present the list of repairs at Martinsville that Melissa Chapman and George Gutshall compiled earlier. He wants Robb Fincher to tell the City Council privately before the formal ask. Based on previous meetings at City Council, Rives Coleman is aware that there is not as much money in the pool at the city.

Bassett: The foyer roof at Bassett Branch leaked on March 16th due to the storms that day. Melissa Chapman reached out to Service Roofing for an estimate of the repair. Rives Coleman stated that he would like to reach out to a roofer he knows to look at the foyer roof in Bassett. Melissa Chapman agreed and Rives will reach out to him.

Collinsville: Collinsville has a roof leak that is affecting their patron bathroom. Rives Coleman reached out to Mason Davis about this so Mason Davis is aware of the leak. The lease for Collinsville expired at

the end of January so we are month-to-month with Mason Davis. Rives is looking to see if he could find a lawyer to serve on the library board so we do not have to ask Bill Kirby to do work on the library's behalf.

The board expressed interest in possibly moving Collinsville Branch to a new location as the lease has expired. Both Lori Hundley and Christopher Gardner express their concern over Collinsville's circulation numbers and that it is not a kid-friendly area. Christopher Gardner would like for the Collinsville Branch to be in a better location. Rives Coleman stated that he could look into other locations that are vacant to move Collinsville Branch, but expressed that some of the vacant properties may be in disrepair. He also reiterated that the current rent rate for Collinsville is very good. Other possibilities were floated about relocating Collinsville Branch including moving to King's Mountain Road, but were tabled for the moment.

Rebecca Adcock reiterated the need for a strategic plan. The library board speculated about resource allocation and potential consolidation. Charisse Hairston asked about the current strategic plan and Melissa Chapman responded that the board recently approved a revision of the 5 year plan which expires in 2028. Rebecca Adcock stated the need to have an outside organization work with us on a strategic plan, but had not been able to secure funding for it. Many on the board feel that the library should have some footprint in the eastern side of Henry County, possibly a bookmobile. Rebecca Adcock will look into finding an outside organization to help us develop a community engagement plan.

Old Business:

Social Media: Melissa Chapman stated that the branches had Facebook pages in the past. After deliberation, Rick and the library board decided to pull all the pages into the main page. Rebecca Adcock disagreed with this and stated the Rick Ward made the decision himself. Melissa Chapman replied that she believed that they were consulted, but will investigate.

She also expressed concern that each branch having their own Facebook page may spur competition and possible hostility between the branches. She also had reservations about the work load it would add to branch managers as each branch would need to post 3-5 times a week to maintain an active page and the additional workload on top of ADA compliance would stretch the branches thin.

Rebecca Adcock reiterated that the individual Facebook pages would help people find programs easier, i.e. they would only have to go to their branch Facebook page to find programs. Christopher Gardner speculated that the individual branch Facebook page might help Collinsville and would help the branches. Monica expressed concern that the website and Facebook page is not in ADA compliance and does not advise that we consider additional Facebook pages until they are in compliance.

Leandio Gravely expressed his belief that the library's website is the hub and Facebook is primarily a tool for the library. The library wants its users to access the website and the website does have pages tailored the individual branches with branch specific information including programming, hours, etc. ALA recommends that libraries use social media as a bridge the library's website; it showcases all of the e-resources we offer.

The library system will be rolling out an online registration available via the website. This new system should be a smooth process and make it easier for our users to register from programs. This system will provide a centralized place to track events and etc. Lori Hundley inquired about reports for online registration and Leandio replied that we should be able to do it with the new system.

Charisse Hairston asked about the age range of our users as younger people do not go to website, they go to social media. She reiterated that, to bring younger people into the library, you need more social media. Monica also stated that, while she understands the importance of the library's website, it would be difficult to integrate the website into social media. She recommended that we look into heat mapping for our website.

Melissa Chapman stated that she understood the desire for each branch to have their own Facebook page, however our Facebook pages have to be archived for FOIA requests. Our currently plan can cover the branch Facebook pages, but the price jumps to archive any more social media accounts. This would mean that the library could not have other social media accounts.

Monica Hatchett asked that the PR committee meeting before the April meeting to discuss social media.

New Business:

Fundraising for Bassett: Discussion about fundraising ideas for the Bassett Expansion will be delayed until the April meeting.

Friends Report:

The Friends of the Library will have a book sale on Saturday, March 28th from 9:30 am to 2 pm. If you have any kids books to donate, please bring them to the Martinsville Library. The Friends are always accepting donations.

Director's Agenda:

Melissa Chapman referred the board members to the director's report in the board packet. She mentioned that she will be speaking to the Henry County Board of Supervisors later in March and will present at Patrick County Board of Supervisors and Martinsville City Council in April.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Rebecca Adcock, seconded by Christopher Gardner, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15.

Recorder
Melissa Chapman

Monica Hatchett
Secretary