

Williamson County Public Library
1314 Columbia Ave., Franklin, TN 37064

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Thursday, January 15, 2026 at 4pm
In Franklin

Trustees Attending: Gerry Suchomski, Delois Bratton, Terri Hood, Janine Moore, Chip Ramsay, Laurel Aiello, Mindy Tate, Jessica Robb.

Trustees Absent: Brian Beathard.

Others Attending: Director Jessica Jeffers, Assistant Director Amanda Jones, Friends of the Library Vice-President Susie Wilcox, Administrative Assistant Amber Hart, HBM Consultants Stephanie Shook and Mackenzie Marinelli.

Others Absent: Foundation President Clay Perry, Buffalo River Regional Assistant Director Anne Osborne.

Mr. Suchomski, chair, called the meeting to order at 4:01pm.

- I. Citizen Communication
There was no citizen communication.
- II. HBM Architects, LLC
Consultants from HBM shared slides of the floor plan and layout of the Bethesda branch. The square footage of the library portion of the building is just under 5,000. There will be a drive-up book drop. The mayor is still reviewing the exterior plan of the building, so drawings were not included in the presentation. The consultants provided samples of flooring, paint colors, laminates, and acoustic tiles. The color scheme is warm, wooded, earth tones throughout. The teen area will feature more vibrant color accents.
Ms. Jeffers shared that the projected opening date is early 2027. More information will be shared with the public when an opening date is confirmed.
- III. Friends Update & Foundation Update
Friends Update: Ms. Wilcox shared that the Main Friends are working toward having all of their documents digitized. Their 2026 meeting and book sale schedule has been finalized and approved. They are hoping to do more book sale promotions in places such as schools and retirement facilities. At book sales, they will now have volunteers who will box and

carry purchased books to cars if a customer needs. Ms. Wilcox shared that the flooring in the annex will need to be replaced in the coming months. In December, the Friends of the Library presented a check to the library for \$66,000.

Friends Update: Mr. Suchomski shared that the Fairview Friends of the Library have their Board meeting this Saturday, January 17.

Foundation Update: Ms. Moore spoke on behalf of the Foundation. If anyone needs LOL fundraiser event invitations, please see Ms. Moore. She shared details of the annual event for the newer trustees who were unfamiliar.

Ms. Jeffers shared that a patron recently donated \$25,000 donation to the library through the Foundation. The donation will be put toward renovations or building projects as needed.

IV. Items for Approval

A. Minutes

The November meeting minutes were provided in the packet for Board members to review.

Ms. Tate moved to approve the minutes.

Ms. Hood seconded.

The minutes were approved with a vote of 8-0.

B. Financial Statement

The current Year-to-Date financial statement was provided in the packet for Board members to review. A copy of January 2025 Year-to-Date financial statement was also included in the Board packet for comparison.

Ms. Moore moved to approve the financial statement.

Ms. Bratton seconded.

The financial statement was approved with a vote of 8-0.

C. Resolution

The Resolution Appropriating and Amending the 2025-2026 Library Budget by \$85,276.16 – Revenues to Come from Donations and Contributions was provided to the Board in the packet.

Ms. Tate moved to approve the Resolution.

Ms. Hood seconded.

The Resolution was approved with a vote of 8-0.

V. Decision/Discussion Items

A. Capital Projects/Operational Budget

Ms. Jeffers reviewed the Capital Budget Requests for fiscal years 2027-2031, which was provided in the Board packet. The dates of the

projects are not fixed, but do serve as placeholders to ensure the projects budgeted for. Meetings with the county mayor and the county budget director occur in March and April.

Ms. Moore moved to approve the Capital Budget Requests.

Ms. Tate seconded.

The Capital Budget Requests was approved with a vote of 8-0

Ms. Jones reviewed the Operations Budget for fiscal year 2027, which was provided in the Board packet. Ms. Jones spoke to budget items marked as either increasing or decreasing in 2027. An increase in the Library Books/Media line is indicated in order to direct more funding toward digital materials.

Ms. Tate moved to approve the Operations Budget.

Ms. Hood seconded.

The Operations Budget was approved with a vote of 8-0.

Ms. Jeffers spoke to the three New Position Requests for fiscal year 2027 included in the packet. There will be a need for a fourth position when/if the Nolensville branch is expanded. That position is not included in the Board packet as it is unknown at this time if that will be a need in 2027.

Ms. Moore moved to approve the New Position Requests.

Ms. Robb seconded.

The New Position Requests were approved with a vote of 8-0.

B. College Grove Study Committee Meeting Update

The Committee provided a written update from their meeting, which was included in the packet.

Ms. Jeffers shared that she had spoken with the director of Parks & Recreation regarding a new branch in College Grove. The director believes there will be room for a new library and will talk with the developer to put a hold on some of the land specifically for a new library. Ms. Jeffers will follow up and advise the Board of any developments on this potential project.

C. Secretary of State Directive – Children’s Book Collection

A memo from the Book Review Committee Recommendations was included in the packet. The committee read and reviewed identified book titles based on a letter received from the Secretary of State. The memo will be forwarded to the regional library and then forwarded to the Secretary of State. The Board thanked Ms. Jeffers for handling the request by the Secretary of State well.

D. Other Discussion Items

No other discussion items.

VII. Reports

A. County Commissioner

Commissioner Beathard was absent. No report was given.

B. Buffalo River Regional Library

Ms. Osborne was absent. She sent a report, which was distributed at the Board meeting.

C. Other Libraries

Ms. Moore will attend the next Brentwood Library Board meeting and will report any updates at the next WCPL Board meeting on February 19.

D. Director

Ms. Jeffers provided a report, which was included in the Board packet. She shared additionally that the American Heart Association has gifted the library with ten blood pressure monitor kits for patrons. The monitors are currently being cataloged. The items can be checked out for three weeks. One kit will go to the Fairview branch along with a small blood pressure monitor stand. The monitors will roll out on February 9 and will coincide with Heart Healthy Month.

The library received a \$5000 donation from A Vintage Affair, which will likely go toward purchasing acoustic tiles for the study rooms, book club kits, and/or display furniture on the first floor. Ms. Jeffers and the Special Collections staff will be attending the African-American Heritage Society's Black-Tie Gala, where the library will be receiving an award. The details of the award have not been shared.

Summer Reading Program planning is underway. The Youth Services manager and staff are working on programming for all branches. The Youth Services manager will be attending the PLA Conference in April, thanks to funding from the Friends of the Library.

E. Board Chair

Mr. Suchomski shared that he enjoyed attending the annual Staff Day on December 12, 2025.

Adjournment

Mr. Ramsay moved to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Hood seconded and all approved.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 4:00 pm in Franklin.

Administrative Assistant Amber Hart took the minutes, and the Board's Leadership Team reviewed them.

Laurel Aiello

Public Comment: A public comment sign-up sheet is provided for persons wishing to speak on agenda items. Please sign in with name and address prior to the commencement of the meeting.