



West Georgia Regional Library System Regional Board

MINUTES

March 29, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.

This meeting was held in person at
 124 W Chandler Street
 Carrollton, GA 30117

Trustees in Attendance:

- Mike McPherson (Carroll County) – Co Chair
- Tracy Crooks (Douglas County) – Secretary
- Tim Grizzard (Carroll County)
- Kathleen French (Douglas County)
- Karen Tarpley (Haralson County)
- Elaine Stokes (Paulding County)
- Katie Anderson (Paulding County)
- Pat Rakestraw (Paulding County)

WGRLS Staff in Attendance:

- Stephen Houser, Director

Absent:

- Denise Askin (Carroll County) – Chair
- Urshla Dowdy (Douglas County)
- Keri Perkins (Haralson County)
- Beth Hammond (Heard County)
- Rodney Kay (Heard County)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:14 a.m. by Mike McPherson, Co Chair.

Motion to approve agenda – Grizzard; Second - Crooks; No Discussion; MOTION APPROVED: Vote 8-0.

Askin	McPherson	Crooks	Grizzard	French	Tarpley	Stokes
ABSENT	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Anderson	Rakestraw	Dowdy	Perkins	Hammond	Kay	
YES	YES	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	

Motion to approve amended September 7, 2021 and the edited minutes for January 11, 2022 - Grizzard; Second - Tarpley; No Discussion; MOTION APPROVED: Vote 8-0.

Askin	McPherson	Crooks	Grizzard	French	Tarpley	Stokes
ABSENT	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Anderson	Rakestraw	Dowdy	Perkins	Hammond	Kay	
YES	YES	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

- Centralhatchee construction is almost complete; the final walkthrough is happening soon.
- We had a project for Douglas County on the capital projects list. It wasn’t approved this year, which is normal for the first year a project is on the list. WGRLS is looking for funding the building through SPLOST. Douglas County has also proposed a renovation project for the library in Douglasville to be on the SPLOST.
- WGRLS is working with the city regarding land for the Neva Lomason pavilion project, specifically the alley in between the owned pieces of land.
- The accessible door has been installed at Mt. Zion’s library. They are looking at upgrading the handrail on the stairs.
- Mr. Houser is talking with the Villa Rica Library manager about a future renovation.
- Mr. Houser shared photos of the Centralhatchee expansion. The library was expanded to 4,000 square feet, adding space for public programming.
- The state budget includes \$76,000 for LibTech funds for FY22. This year WGRLS will be able to spend it on staff technology, as well as technology used by the public. They also provided a \$5,000 cost of living (COLA) increase per state funded position at WGRLS; there are 11 state paid positions. The budget for FY23 hasn’t been announced, but it is expected the COLA will remain.
- The hotspots received via a grant have been sent to the participating libraries for circulation. Funding for the items has been extended, and WGRLS will apply for this future funding.
- The contract for the bookmobile is completed and it is expected by August.
- WGRLS has pushed its strategic planning to later in the year since the facilitator at GPLS has moved to a new position in Oregon, and since Mr. Houser would like to have the bookmobile operational before taking the next steps in the plan.
- WGRLS had a successful town hall meeting for staff, and will have another in May.
- Mr. Houser is working on the FY23 budget and will submit it in May.
- Discussions regarding fines free services are going positively.
- WGRLS is updating the courier code for the Neva Lomason library to make routing of items less confusing for staff. It previously had the same code as the regional office.
- PLAY cards for Haralson, Heard, and Paulding Counties are on schedule to be implemented in August. WGRLS is still in discussion with the school systems of Carroll

and Douglas counties and the city of Bremen. There was discussion on how the board members could help reach out to their local schools.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board went into executive session at 11:29am. Executive session ended at 12:10 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion about what needed to be covered, since some board members had to leave. Mr. Houser said the COLA increase needed to be voted on as per state requirements, but the remainder of agenda items could be tabled.

Motion to Amend the Agenda – Anderson; Second - Tarpley; No Discussion; MOTION APPROVED: Vote 8-0.

Askin	McPherson	Crooks	Grizzard	French	Tarpley	Stokes
ABSENT	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Anderson	Rakestraw	Dowdy	Perkins	Hammond	Kay	
YES	YES	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	

The first read of the Capital Assets Policy, the first read of the Independently Published Materials Policy, the second read of the Social Media Policy, and the second read of the Exhibits and Displays Policy were tabled.

Mr. Houser said the Douglas County MOU has increased from last year.

Motion to Approve Douglas County MOU – Tarpley; Second - French; No Discussion; MOTION APPROVED: Vote 8-0.

Askin	McPherson	Crooks	Grizzard	French	Tarpley	Stokes
ABSENT	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Anderson	Rakestraw	Dowdy	Perkins	Hammond	Kay	
YES	YES	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	

Motion to Approve the COLA – French; Second - Tarpley; No Discussion; MOTION APPROVED: Vote 8-0.

Askin	McPherson	Crooks	Grizzard	French	Tarpley	Stokes
ABSENT	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Anderson	Rakestraw	Dowdy	Perkins	Hammond	Kay	

YES	YES	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
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Motion to Table the Director’s Salary Increase Until the May meeting – Anderson; Second - Crooks; No Discussion; MOTION APPROVED: Vote 8-0.

Askin	McPherson	Crooks	Grizzard	French	Tarpley	Stokes
ABSENT	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Anderson	Rakestraw	Dowdy	Perkins	Hammond	Kay	
YES	YES	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	

Mr. Houser shared the Neva Lomason had two upcoming events that week: the installation of a new art exhibit, and the unveiling of the Leroy Childs memorial.

Motion to Adjourn – Anderson; Second - French; No Discussion; MOTION APPROVED: Vote 8-0.

Askin	McPherson	Crooks	Grizzard	French	Tarpley	Stokes
ABSENT	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Anderson	Rakestraw	Dowdy	Perkins	Hammond	Kay	
YES	YES	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	

The meeting was adjourned by Mike McPherson, Co-Chair, at 12:37 p.m.

Minutes taken by Stephanie Irvin, Deputy Director

Minutes reviewed by Tracy Crooks, WGRSL Regional Board Secretary