

Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Library Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 27, 2026 - 6:00 pm
Cusseta-Chattahoochee Public Library

In attendance:

Chair Amanda Hollomon
Vice Chair Tanya Jones
Treasurer Christina Young
Linda Englebert
Charlotte Richards
Teresa Williams

Also, staff members:

Branch Manager Mallie Brossett
Director Alan Harkness
Assist. Director for Public Service Katie Burnett
Administrative Specialist Lizette Cruz

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hollomon at 6:01 PM.

II. **Approval of the Minutes**

Chair Hollomon asked for a motion to approve the minutes from November 18, 2025. Young made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Englebert seconded the motion. Unanimously approved by Hollomon, Englebert, Jones, Richards, Williams, and Young.

III. Public Comment

There were none.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Branch Manager Brossett gave the Treasurer's Report. She went over the Quarterly Financial Review which shows the balance as of January 20, 2026. She also informed the board that she will need to adjust the budget. When she was first hired, there was no real budget, so she gave her best guess at what the expenses relative to income would be. She has a better grasp of the actual expenses and would need to present an adjusted budget to the board for approval. After some discussion it was decided that Manager Brossett may present the adjusted budget at the next board meeting for approval.

V. Director's Report & Local Library Report

Director Alan Harkness presented the director's report. Each board member received a copy of the new winter guide featuring the library system wide program *Food & the Soul of America*, that will be running from January until April 2026. Every branch will hold events featuring award winning culinary authors, chefs and interesting culinary based activities honoring the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America through food. He invited every board member to spread the word and invite family and friends to the events across the branches. He also pointed out the information in the guide on the upcoming Columbus Children's Book Festival in May.

The State congress is in session, and it is time for the yearly MR&R grant requests to come before them. The Stewart County Library Board has decided to postpone the request for the state renovation grant for another year as they work on raising the funds needed for the requested local match. Last year laws trying to hold librarians responsible for materials checked out by children failed by a narrow margin however these same laws will be up for a vote again this year at the state level. Director Harkness will keep the board informed of any progress regarding these worrisome law proposals.

Director Harkness will be holding the system wide Library Board Training again this Saturday, January 31, 2026, from 9 AM until noon. There will be over 30 board members and staff participating this year.

VI. Local Library Report

Branch Manager Brossett gave the Local Library Report. CCPL had 44 children, not including several babies, attend this year's visit with Santa. The CCPL also participated in a local Christmas Parade with a float and provided reindeer games for the Latavia's Closet Christmas Party.

CCPL has several new programs in the works for 2026 including a new adult movie club and trivia program, Family Fun Take & Make packages and Family Group Activities. CCPL participated in an event with the Pastoral Institute organized by Family Connections. 12 attendees attended the session at the library while the session leader joined by zoom. The session leader plans to come in person for the next session due to the great response. CCPL will also host a program from Historic Westville Village. In April, CCPL will host a Community Baby Shower. There will be different vendors presenting community services for parents with children 5 and under, including the Dept. of Health mobile, Family Connections, the Chattahoochee Valley Imagination Library, and Latavia's Closet. Bluey will also be there for family pictures.

CCPL continues to collaborate with the local HeadStart and preschool. Board member Richard's PreK class will be visiting the library this Friday. Last week CCPL hosted the Word Olympics at the local elementary school with six classes from kindergarten, 1st grade, and 5th grade. There were more than 60 children participating. CCPL is preparing plans for summer reading. The theme is "*Unearth the Story.*" Designing a material/culture/history program with the support of Historic Westville to teach how society understands history through historical artifacts. CCPL is also planning a big Juneteenth party with possible catering provided by Sweet Potato Heaven. The Junior Historical Society will be making posters about local history.

Manager Brossett gave an update on the instrument installation in the children's garden. The purchase is still on hold until the CCPL can be issued a debit card. There are some technicalities with the bank account which necessitate approval from the regional VP and County Clerk approval before she can be issued a card to make this purchase. She will keep the board updated.

VII. Unfinished Business: there was none.

VIII. New Business

i. **Welcome new board member**

Chair Hollomon welcomed new board member Charlotte Richards.

ii. Vote on expenditure of up to \$250 to repair 2D printer and buy filament.

After some discussion Englebert made the motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$250 to repair 2D printer and buy filament. Richards seconded the motion. Unanimously approved by Hollomon, Englebert, Jones, Richards, Williams, and Young.

IX. Chair's Report: Chair Hollomon did not have a report.

X. Board Education: None

XI. Next meeting date: April 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:22 PM