

Marion County Library Board Meeting Thursday,
June 12, 2025 – 4:30 pm
Marion County Public Library

In attendance:

Seleta Rogers, Chair
Debby Ford, Secretary
Roger Presnell, Treasurer
Cindy Haulk

Also: Alan Harkness, Director, CVL
Katie Burnett, Assist. Director of Public Services, CVL
Bailey Carter, MCPL Branch Manager
Lizette Cruz, Administrative Specialist

- I. Call to Order
Chair Rogers called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM
- II. Public Comment
There was no Public Comment
- III. **Approval of the minutes from October 10, 2024**
Chair Rogers asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2025, meeting. The motion was made by Ford to accept the minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Haulk. Passed unanimously by Rogers, Ford, Presnell and Haulk.
- IV. Treasurer's Report
Manager Carter covered the 4th Quarterly Financial Review for 2024-2025. Everything is trending under budget for everything except for supplies. Toner has gotten much more expensive.
- V. Director's Report
Director Alan Harkness presented the director's report. In January, the CVL held a systemwide library board training. Board members from all four boards attended along with a sizable number of staff. It was such a success that Director Harkness plans to have another meeting next year.

An executive order issued by the current administration likely will eliminate the Institute of Museum and Library Services affecting 5.1 million worth of federal funding to the Georgia Public Library Service. This will affect PINES, internet services across all Georgia libraries not covered by e-rate and eliminate library services for the blind. CVL has budgeted for FY26 to compensate for this loss of funding.

Director Harkness introduced the new Assist. Director of Public Services, Katie Burnett. CVL has hired a company to work on a new strategic plan for CVL. 4,000 people attended the Columbus Children's Book Festival on May17th.

- VI. Local Library Report
Manager Carter gave her local library report. Manager Carter handed out statistics comparing 2023-2024 to 2024-2025. Statistics are up across the board in circulation, new library cards, social media, and patronage. Summer reading has begun. The CVL minute reading goal is two million twenty-five minutes. The Marion County Public

Library's individual goal is 1827 books read in honor of the year the Marin County was founded.

This summer there are several programs for the public including entertainers Shana Banana, and Didgeridoo Down Under. The Marion Library will also be having a Juneteenth Celebration, an art program collaboration with the Columbus Art Museum, and mental wellness collaboration with the Pastoral Institute, along with regular programming such as Story Time and Family Film Fridays.

VII. Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business

VIII. New Business

i. Change the cost of photocopies from \$0.20 to \$0.10.

Manager Carter wishes to change the cost of photocopies from \$0.20 to \$0.10 to align with the cost of photocopies across the rest of the CVL system. The Marion County Library Budget can handle the reduction in price. A motion was made by Ford to change the cost of photocopies from \$0.20 to \$0.10. Motion was seconded by Haulk. Passed unanimously by Rogers, Ford, Presnell and Haulk.

ii. Proposed Budget for FY26

A motion was made by Haulk to approve the proposed Budget for FY26 as presented. Motion was seconded by Presnell. Passed unanimously by Rogers, Ford, Presnell and Haulk.

iii. Roof Repair Proposal

Manager Carter presented three bids from contractors to repair a leak in the roof of the Marion County Public Library. After some discussion, Presnell made a motion to accept the bid from MJR Solutions for \$2,932.74, as they did a thorough evaluation of the condition of the roof. Motion was seconded by Ford. Passed unanimously by Rogers, Ford, Presnell and Haulk.

iv. LTC Grant

A motion was made by Ford to accept the Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities Grant for \$20,000 awarded to the Marion County Public Library. Motion was seconded by Haulk. Passed unanimously by Rogers, Ford, Presnell and Haulk.

IX. Chair Report

Chair Rogers did not have a report.

X. Board Education – None

XI. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will take place on October 9, 2025.

XII. The meeting was adjourned at 5: 39 PM