

Stewart County Library Board Meeting – Summary of Minutes
May 1, 2025 – 2:00 pm
Parks Memorial Public Library

In attendance:

Amy Stankus – Chair
Bobbi Boynton – Vice Chair
Crystal Townsend – Secretary
Carmen Coy
Gussie Thomas
Susan Ramsey

Also: Alan Harkness, Director, CVL
Katie Burnett, Assist. Director for Public Services, CVL
Doris Spinks-Russell, Parks Branch Manager, CVL
Lizette Cruz, Administrative Specialist, CVL

- I. Call to order: Chair Stankus called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM
- II. Chair Stankus asked the board to review the minutes from the February 13, 2025, meeting. Boynton made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, and Coy seconded the motion. The vote in favor was unanimous by Stankus, Boynton, Townsend, Coy, Ramsey, and Thomas.
- III. Public Comment: There were no public comments.
- IV. Treasurer's Report
Branch Manager Doris Spinks-Russell presented the treasurer's report. The ending balance in the bank account on March 30, 2024, was \$24,274.29. As of today, there is \$24,174.29. All revenue and expenses are on track for the FY25 year.
- V. Director's Report
Director Alan Harkness presented the director's report. Senate Bill 74 did not pass the house which is good news for Georgia libraries. The Parks Memorial Project was not approved by the state in this budget year. The CVL will apply again next year. House Bill 516 allowing library board members to attend the meetings by zoom has passed and is now awaiting the governor's signature.

Funding from the federal government for public libraries is continuing in most states now except for three targeted states. Since these funds, which mostly pay for internet services are distributed on monthly basis, the CVL is budgeting as if that money will not be distributed in case future funding is suspended. CVL wants to assure that services to the public are not disrupted.

Director Harkness invited all board members to attend the Columbus Children's Book Festival on May 17th, 2025. This year the guest authors and illustrators are Lauren Tarshis, Sherri Duskey Rinker, Alan Gratz, and Yesenia Moises.

- VI. Local Library Report

Manager Spinks-Russell presented the local library report. May 3rd Parke Memorial will be throwing a Kick-off Party for the Summer Reading program. On May 10th, the Georgia Agricultural Department will be hosting a mobile classroom from 2-4 PM. May 15th is the Official launch of the Stewart County Book Club. On May 26th, the Chief of EMS will be teaching a class on how to use the AED.

VII. Unfinished Business

Susan Ramsey will officially resign from the board at the end of this meeting. After some discussion, it was agreed to ask Jennifer Boling if she would return to the board. If she agrees the board will vote on her appointment at the next board meeting.

VIII. New Business

i. Approve the projected budget for FY26.

Coy made a motion to approve the projected budget for FY26. Ramsey seconded the motion. The vote in favor was unanimous by Stankus, Boynton, Townsend, Coy, Ramsey, and Thomas.

IX. The next Stewart County Library Board meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM.