

## **Shelbyville Bedford County Public Library Board December 2nd, 2025**

**Board Members present:** Ralph McBride, Shay Maupin, Mark McGee, Brent Pewitt, Michelle Hasty, Bonne Belden, Dr. Gerald Martin, Betsy Noel and Jennifer Templeton. Also present: Margaret Petty – Library Director and Kate Huddleston – Regional Director. Not present: John Boutwell and Vida Vanatta.

### **Called to Order**

Ralph McBride called the meeting to order at 1:06PM with a quorum of nine (9) members.

### **Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board**

No report.

### **Approval of Minutes**

All approved.

### **Treasurer's Report**

All approved.

### **Regional Libraries' Report**

Kate Huddleston shared that The Tennessee Commission for the United State of America Semi quinentennial has opened the portal for the second round of recipients. That deadline is January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026. With the end of the year approaching, budget conversations should start to happen at the beginning of next year! Huddleston reminded the board that a link to the trustee certification site is in the email she sent. She closed her report by sharing, Kate Smith is hosting CSLP 2026 Summer Reading Manual webinars every other Monday.

### **Old Business**

Margaret Petty passed out policy handbooks to each board member. She encouraged us all to review them – starting out with the sections regarding vacation, sick leave and compensatory time policy – and to take notes and jot down concerns if we have them.

### **New Business**

Discussions about Secretary of State Tre Hargett's letter is making waves again! Hargett has requested libraries across the State to perform reviews over their juvenile children's section. Once the initial review was complete, the Board of Directors were to do their own review of said books. Jamie Ritter hosted a series of webinars to answer questions any library staff or board members had. The final report will need to be provided to the Tennessee State Librarian and Archivist office by January 19, 2026. Margaret noted that at SBCPL, the young adult section is

considered for anyone 13 and up. She also shared, that if a child wants to check out an adult book – they can. SBCPL cannot stop a child from checking out a book, no matter what section it is in. All board members agreed that it is the parent’s responsibility to monitor what their child is reading and checking out at the library. One board member voiced their concern that the capital is trying to put that responsibility on the library (and board members) when it shouldn’t be.

There were several books that Emilee’ pulled from the shelves and had the potential to raise some concerns. Board members were given the chance to review those during the meeting. After several minutes of discussing, a motion was raised.

Bonne Belden made a motion to restore the children’s books back to the location(s) in the library and not to censor them. Jennifer Templeton seconded. All approved.

### **Friends of the Library**

Funds raised for SBCPL were around \$6,000. Petty can give us exact numbers if they’re requested.

### **Personnel Committee**

Linda Lamb offered to help the staff if scheduling conflicts come up and they get in a bind.

### **Community Relations**

No report.

### **Property Committee**

The Makerspace Room now has lighting, thanks to David Deason! That cost was around \$700 and paid for by the grant.

### **Librarian’s Report**

David McGee, with Firstbank, has requested the board to make a motion for 3 board members to be over the line-of-credit account.

Jennifer Templeton made a motion that Shay Maupin, Ralph McBride and Margaret Petty be approved to sign off on the checks, etc. for the line of credit account. Bonne Belden seconded. All approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:04PM.

Shay Maupin | Treasurer/Secretary