

**APPALACHIAN REGIONAL LIBRARY BOARD**  
**Board Meeting Minutes: January 22,2026 at 1 pm at Wilkes County Public Library**

**In attendance:** Jan Noffsinger, Karen Moll, Patty Swartzbaugh, Jennifer Chatham, Lori Allred, Camilla Lovette-Day

**Virtual attendees:** Suzanne Manners, Margaret Love, and Mary Stolberg

**Absent:** Kyle Hall, Natalie Harkey, Arnold Lakey, James Bumgardener

**Staff:** Tammy Holston, Laura McPherson, Monica Caruso, Russell Taylor

- I. Call to order
  - A. Time: 1:00 pm.
- II. Additions, deletions, and approval of agenda
  - A. Motion to approve: Karen Moll
  - B. Second: Camilla Lovette-Day
  - C. All approved
- III. Approval of September 2025 ARL Board minutes
  - A. Motion to approve: Camilla Lovette-Day
  - B. Second: Jan Noffsinger
  - C. All approved
- IV. Correspondence and communications
  - A. None
- V. Reports
  - A. County Librarians (see reports)
  - B. Regional Director (see report)
    1. Russell shared strategic plan proposals and feedback on these from the admin team (county librarians). The admin staff is recommending using ReThinking Libraries as a consultant for working on the 5-year plan. **Patty Swartzbaugh** motioned to approve the recommendation. **Jan Noffsinger** seconded the motion
    2. Russell asked the board to approve his request to work strictly in Ashe for the time needed to finalize the LSTA Planning Grant. **Patty Swartzbaugh** motioned to approve the request, and **Karen Moll** seconded the motion.
- VI. Unfinished Business
  - A. None
- VII. New business
  - A. None
- VIII. Reports of Standing Committees
  - A. Budget and Finance (see reports for details).
    - a) **Karen Moll** motioned to approve the finance report.
    - b) Second: Patty Swartzbaugh
    - c) All approved
  - B. Governance: The approval of the circulation policy was tabled until March 2026. Russell will post the revision to the website and let the board know when it has been posted.
  - C. Personnel: no business
- IX. Closed session

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1. **Karen Moll** motioned to go into closed session, and **Patty Swartzbaugh** seconded the motion. All approved.
2. **Patty Swartzbaugh** motioned to go back into open session and **Karen Moll** seconded the motion. All approved.
3. **Patty Swartzbaugh** motioned to accept the motion made during closed session, and **Karen Moll** seconded the motion. All approved.
4. **Patty Swartzbaugh** motioned to accept the closed session minutes from November. **Karen Moll** seconded the motion. All approved.

X. Adjournment

- A. Motion to adjourn: **Karen Moll**
- B. Second: **Patty Swartzbaugh**
- C. All approved
- D. Time: 2:55 pm

**\*§ 143-318.11.(a)(6)** To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee. General personnel policy issues may not be considered in a closed session. A public body may not consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, appointment, or removal of a member of the public body or another body and may not consider or fill a vacancy among its own membership except in an open meeting. Final action making an appointment or discharge or removal by a public body having final authority for the appointment or discharge or removal shall be taken in an open meeting.