

Jefferson-Madison Regional Library

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APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 22, 2026 MEETING OF THE LIBRARY'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TRUSTEES PRESENT

President Aleta Childs (Nelson)
Meredith Cole (Charlottesville)
Tony Townsend (Albemarle)
Michael Powers (Albemarle)

Vice President Brandy Polanowski (Louisa)
Martha Ledford (Greene)
Peter Morville (Albemarle)
Anne Hemenway (Charlottesville)

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Jennell Lynch (Charlottesville)

OTHERS PRESENT

David Plunkett, Library Director
Sierra Nafziger, Collection Specialist
Maxwell Colvin, Business Manager

Krista Farrell, Assistant Library Director
Zaharra Colla, JMRL/NAACP Intern

CALL TO ORDER, REMOTE PARTICIPATION CONFIRMATION, & DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library's (JMRL) Board of Trustees was convened on Monday, June 22, 2026 at 3:00 PM, at the Northside Library (705 West Rio Rd, Charlottesville, VA 22901), and live streamed using videoconferencing software. (A recording of the meeting is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2KbywQk2KHw>.)

Trustee Townsend moved that Trustee Anne Hemenway's request to attend today's meeting of the JMRL Board remotely from North Carolina due to a personal matter, specifically travel, be approved. Motion passed unanimously. Trustee Ledford moved to approve the minutes for the May 18, 2026 Board Meeting as written. Motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Director Plunkett introduced Zaharra Colla, JMRL/NAACP Intern, who has been working at the Central Library this summer. Director Plunkett also introduced Maxwell Colvin, JMRL's new Business Manager. No public comments.

TRUSTEE CONTINUING EDUCATION

NA

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AND REPORTS

1. Nominating Committee Report

Trustee Morville reported that Trustee Polanowski expressed interest in being Board President and Trustee Ledford expressed interest in being Vice President for FY27. The Board will vote on FY27 Board Officers in New Business.

2. Policy Committee Report

Trustee Powers reported that the Policy Committee met prior to the Board meeting and discussed a group of thematically related policies related to Board governance: Policies 1.2 (Jefferson-Madison Regional Library Board of Trustees), 1.22 (Board Goals and Planning), 1.26 (Procedures at Board Meetings), 1.262 (Public Hearings), 1.27 (Board Meeting Minutes), 1.28 (Policy Manual Changes). The Policy Committee also discussed an update to Policy 1.261 (Public Comment at Library Board Meetings) and the replacement of current Policy 1.2 with new Policy 1.2 (JMRL Board Governance).

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Potential First Reading on Removal of Policies 1.2 (Jefferson-Madison Regional Library Board of Trustees), 1.22 (Board Goals and Planning), 1.26 (Procedures at Board Meetings), 1.262 (Public Hearings), 1.27 (Board Meeting Minutes), 1.28 (Policy Manual Changes), Updates to Policy 1.261 (Public Comment at Library Board Meetings), and Replacement of Current Policy 1.2 with New Policy 1.2 (JMRL Board Governance)*

Policies 1.2 (Jefferson-Madison Regional Library Board of Trustees), 1.22 (Board Goals and Planning), 1.26 (Procedures at Board Meetings), 1.262 (Public Hearings), 1.27 (Board Meeting Minutes), and 1.28 (Policy Manual Changes) will be presented to the Board next month for a potential vote of removal. Policy 1.261 (Public Comment at Library Board Meetings) and the new Policy 1.2 (JMRL Board Governance) will be brought to the Board next month for a second reading and potential vote.

2. *FY27 JMRL Budget Adoption*

Trustee Cole moved to accept the adopted FY27 JMRL Budget as is before the Board. Motion passed unanimously.

3. *Updated JMRL Policy 4.225 Circulation Fines and Fees Adoption*

Trustee Morville moved that the Board accept the Circulation Fines and Fees effective July 1, 2026 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

4. *Updated JMRL Pay Scale Adoption*

Director Plunkett presented to the Board the FY27 Pay Scale, which included a 5% increase already worked into the FY27 Budget. Trustee Ledford moved that the Board adopt the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library Pay Scale as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. *JMRL's Fine Free Public Relations Program*

Director Plunkett updated the Board on JMRL's Fine Free Public Relations Program to let the public know that JMRL will be going fine free starting July 1, 2026.

2. *Library Director's Prioritized FY27 Goals*

Director Plunkett presented to the Board the JMRL Director's Prioritized Goals for FY27, which include: 1) Continue work of advancing JMRL's compensation plan, with the cooperation of JMRL's funding partners. 2) Lead JMRL's participation in the Central Library Renovation Architecture and Engineering project. 3) Plan to replace JMRL's Bookmobile. Discussion ensued. The Board added a fourth goal for the Library Director for FY27: Implement and develop an Artificial Intelligence JMRL Procedure. Trustee Ledford moved that the Board accept the Goals as proposed and amended for the Library Director. Motion passed unanimously, with Trustee Townsend abstaining.

3. *Vote on FY27 Board Officers*

Trustee Morville proposed that Trustee Brandy Polanowski serve as President and Trustee Martha Ledford serve as Vice President of the JMRL Board of Trustees for FY27. Proposal passed unanimously, with Trustee Powers abstaining.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Plunkett reported that JMRL's Bookmobile will need to be replaced soon. The Friends of the Library Board met last week and voted to transfer \$100,000 to the Bookmobile Fund at the CACF. Director Plunkett reported that the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County are working on a memorandum of understanding of project management for the Central Library Renovation Project. The language is currently unclear on who will be responsible for the costs of helping JMRL move/relocate during the renovation to maintain library services. JMRL currently has 5,500 Summer Reading signups. Over 3,000 patrons attended Summer Reading Kickoff events. Director Plunkett shared that the VLA Trustee and Friends Forum is available for all Board and Friends of the Library Trustees for training. Director Plunkett announced that he would be away next week and the latter half of the following week.

OTHER MATTERS

NA

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Possible future agenda items include a Continuing Education on Notary Services, a second reading on new Policy 1.2 (JMRL Board Governance), an annual update on JMRL's Employee Handbook, and Committee Assignments set by the Board President. The next Board Meeting will be July 27, 2026 at the Northside Library.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Townsend moved to adjourn the June meeting of JMRL Trustees at 4:21pm. Motion passed unanimously.