



**State Library Board
Meeting Minutes**

Date: March 28, 2024
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Location: 1500 Senate St.

Board Member Attendance:

Ms. Alanna Wildman, Chair	Present
Ms. Deborah Hyler, Member	Present
Ms. Anna Claire Dando, Member	Present
Ms. Loretta Green, Member	Present
Ms. Jennifer Cunningham, Member	Absent
Ms. Andrea Kelly, Member	Absent
Mr. Mark Herring, Member	Present

Other Attendees: Ms. Leesa Aiken, SCSL, Ms. Breanne Smith, SCSL, Laurel Sharp, APLA

Board Business and Approval of Minutes

1. Motion: Anna Claire Dando made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2024 board meeting. Loretta Green seconded the motion; all present approved the minutes.
2. Alanna Wildman will resign from the board effective May 15, 2024.

II. Director Report

Agency Administration

1. Aiken discussed the State Library budget requests for the FY5 Legislative Session. The State Library is asking for \$200,000 for digitization, \$983,000 in salary, and a .25 increase to State Aid to County Libraries.
2. Aiken discussed her recent meeting with the K-12 Principals committee.
3. Leesa Aiken and Chris Yates, Deputy Director, recently attended Library Legislative Day in Washington D.C. Aiken and Yates met with members of Congress and staff. Aiken discussed a State Library resource, Newsbank, and 40 staff members signed up for SC State Library cards. Ralph Norma's Chief of Staff expressed interested in visiting the State Library for a tour. Joe Wilson and Lindsey Graham's office plan to visit as well.

4. The State Library recently conducted an IT phishing attack simulation with Soteria, a cyber security company. This simulation was coordinated by the Department of Administration. The State Library was in the top 25% of state agencies that met the requirements.
5. The State Library was the recipient of a Francis Keppel Award for public library survey data.
6. The State Library has issued 500 new library cards in the last two months.

Partnerships

1. The State Library continues to partner with the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism on the Check Out SC Backpack Program. SCDPT has increased the amount of passes they are giving to the State Library from 50 to 750. The State Library plans to create maps of the state parks that are overlaid with maps of public library locations.
2. The Talking Book Services department has been working on an outreach video in partnership with ETV.
3. The South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs featured Talking Book Services in a recent episode of their popular News Minute series.

Projects/Programs

4. Talking Book Services has been working to increase outreach over the past year. These efforts have paid off with an increase in Talking Book Services users.
5. Talking Book Services was recently featured on the ETV television show "Carolina Classrooms" in their accessibility episode.
6. The State Library is currently offering an institutional library grant program to institutional libraries throughout the State. The grant money will be used to purchase new materials for the libraries.
7. The Talking Book Services Art Gallery will take place in April. Winners are selected based on age group and one State Librarian Award is awarded.
8. Discus has recently added ChiltonLibrary to the electronic resources collection. This resource is available to individuals as well as public libraries. The State Library hopes to partner with technical schools to promote this resource for students studying the automotive industry.
9. The State Library will be purchasing a new piece of preservation equipment. This piece of equipment makes custom sized preservation boxes. The State Library is focusing on companies with technicians that are in the United States.
10. Aiken will be asking for additional positions in the next legislative cycle.
11. The South Carolina Center for the Book has been working on a number of events including cultural events and author talks.

Personnel

12. The State Library has the following open positions: Discus Customer Support Specialist, Administrative Assistant, Digitization Specialist, and Director of Public Services.
13. The State Library has hired two new employees. Casey Stoudemayer is the new Statewide Services Coordinator and Brianna King is the new Federal Documents Librarian.

Upcoming Events

14. The State Library Annual Read-In will take place on April 11, 2024.
15. The Talking Book Services Art Gallery Awards Ceremony will take place on April 25, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

Public Libraries

16. The State Library recently hosted a Library Director Summit with 39 of the 46 counties being represented. Aiken wanted to address several trends that have been happening in public libraries in recent years. Topics covered included: finances, political systems, building community, participating in APLA, human resources, job postings, capacity and self assessment, and boards. An architectural firm came and spoke. Participants were given a tour of the new Dorchester Library.
17. Pickens County Library has been facing issues with county council. Pickens Library has \$2 million dollars in the county bank account that the county refuses to release. The library has several unfinished areas that can't be completed until the money is released. The County Building Maintenance Manager is now over the library project.
18. Saluda County is facing challenges with a county council chairperson. There is no current library director. The board is working to increase the salary in hopes of finding a director.
19. Williamsburg County library is facing financial issues. There is a \$247,000 deficit from last year that was owed by the county. There is \$600,000 currently missing in the county. The county is only giving the library \$50,000 of funding at a time.
20. There are director vacancies in Saluda and Calhoun.

III. APLA Report

APLA has not met since Faith Line took over as SCSL liaison. Members have been talking with legislatures about increasing State Aid funding.

IV. Finance

Aiken discussed the financial report. The budget is on target for this time of year, with nothing of merit to highlight.

V. Adjourn

1. Alanna made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Loretta Green seconded the motion and all approved. The next meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2023