

**Northeast Regional Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 10:00 AM – Toccoa-Stephens County Public Library**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Linda Erbele at 10:00 AM.

The new Board member, Judy Holloway from White County, was recognized.

Present: Rabun County: Jan Timms, Pat Stueck; Stephens County: Lynn Cox, Russell Wash; White County: Linda Erbele, Chairperson Northeast Georgia Regional System, Judy Holloway, Annette Dixon; Habersham County: Wanda Dunn, Secretary; Delana Knight, Director Northeast Georgia Regional System.

3. General reports and discussions:

Public Service Activity and Technical Services Report: The chart showed the change in public service activity year-to-date, January 1, 2026 to March 31, 2026. With the exception of Physical item circulation, which is down by 0.3% (last quarter -1.4%), all statistics showed increased usage. The Technical Services Report showed a positive year to date net change of 297 of items to our FY2026 collections with a total of 6,860 additions and 6,563 deletions. Our system processed 72 Interlibrary loans in FY2026 (loans to and from Non-PINES libraries).

Bookmobile: Circulation, patron registrations and programming from the bookmobile were included in the Public Activity Report and account for 963 circulations, 10 new patrons, and 3,955 patrons attending programs in Q3. Additionally, 286 books have been added to the bookmobile collection this quarter. This quarter the Bookmobile traveled 1,400 miles for an average of 467 miles per month. The oil was changed and tires rotated on April 14, 2026.

The Bookmobile shelving has been repaired with an affordable option. We purchased locking e-tracks and heavy shelf brackets from Amazon for \$669.58 with installation by GPAW'S Mobile RV Service for \$1,050 for a total cost of \$1,719.58.

4. New Business

A. Minutes – February 3, 2026

A motion to accept the February minutes was made and approved.(Cox, Stueck)

B. Cumulative FY2026 Report, January 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026

A motion was made to accept the Cumulative FY2026 Report, January 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026

Miscellaneous income included telecom reimbursement (VoIP, DeepFreeze, LibData), Toccoa partnership, Toccoa employee health insurance premium, reimbursements for materials and technology, and Georgia Public Library Service (GPLS) broadband reimbursement.

NEGRLS's Cash Balance as of March 31, 2026, was \$208,091.82. We did not have a balance update on the CD opened on October 10, 2025 at First Citizens Bank. It had a starting balance of \$213,662.82 at 3.5% for 12 months. The checking account at Traditions Bank for the Bookmobile had a balance of \$88,172.00 as of March 31.

A motion was made to accept the Cumulative FY2026 Report, January 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026. (Timms, Wash)

C. Affiliate Library Quarter 3 Cash Fund Balance Report

A motion was made to accept the Affiliate Library Quarter 3 Cash Fund Balance Report. (Timms, Stueck)

D. Closed Session: Personnel Committee Report of Director's Annual Performance Evaluation

At 10:14 AM a motion was made to go into Executive Session. (Timms, Stueck)

At 10:28 AM a motion was made to go out of Executive Session. (Cox, Stueck)

A motion was made to accept the Evaluation Report for Director Knight. (Stueck, Timms)

E. FY2027 Budget and Salary proposals

- The budget included a significant increase to telecommunications costs due to a new internet service provider which will require fiber build out to each library and the regional offices, and the purchase of new phones. After an e-rate discount of 90%, the cost to build fiber to each location is \$4,535.30 and to purchase new phones (no e-rate discount) is \$6,750.00 for a total cost of \$11,285.30. Director Knight added additional funds to this line item in case Kinetic does not complete their work by July 1. In that case, the region will have to pay PointBroadband for month to month service with no discounts.

A motion was made to accept the Operation Budget for FY 2027. (Timms, Stueck)

A motion was made to give all regional office employees a 3% increase for FY2027, with an additional 2% merit increase to the Director's salary, for a total increase of 5% to the Director's salary. (Timms, Cox)

A motion was made to accept the Bookmobile Budget for FY 2027. (Timms, Dixon)

F FY2027 Signature Authority

A motion was made to give John McConnell Signature Authority. (Timms, Dixon)

A motion was made to give Delana Knight Signature Authority. (Stueck, Timms)

G. Vote on FY27 slate of officers (Assume office July 1, 2026)

A motion was made to accept the FY 2027 slate of officers. (Stueck, Timms)

President: Linda Erbele

Vice President: Lynn Cox

Secretary: Wanda Dunn

The next Regional Library Board meeting will be Tuesday July 28, 2026.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.

A vote to approve the minutes will be taken at the July 28, 2026 Regional Library Board meeting.