

Madison County Library
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes (final)
April 15, 2026

Attending: Charles Carter, Ruth Harbin Miles, Mary Anne Hankla, Cheryl Yowell, Diane Heckel, Gary Jones, Bonnie Utz, Sam Cate, Molly Walters, Kate Rakowski, Jill Quinley, Nancy Sharman, Steve Shilan

Opening:

Diane called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

Steve moved and Cheryl seconded to approve March 25, 2025 minutes. All in Favor.

Treasurer's report: Gary

- BOS called Bonnie and Gary for a meeting regarding the financing/classification of independent libraries like ours in the Virginia Code.
 - There is a rule on the books from the early 70s that declares us the official library of the county.
 - They also wanted to cut raises down to just the COLA raise of 3% not the 5% that we wanted but otherwise funded the rest of our budget.

Library expansion/Elevator -

- Dave Puckett spoke about the status of the elevator project on his end.
 - He has spoken to 3 contractors.
 - He has touched base with the building department regarding permits and zoning.
 - A professional cost estimator could be a good idea but isn't required.
 - Choosing a process for selecting a general contractor is necessary.
 - The GC would have some subcontractors for electric, construction, and other miscellaneous items.
 - This could be an interview/selection process or opening for bids.
 - The open bidding process requires more documents and specificity.
 - Any contractor needs to be Class A and have appropriate bonding capacity.
 - He detailed the timeline and process of how the project would move forward.
 - Any contractor selected would give us a detailed schedule of items and timeline and we would pay as they go.
- The board needs to decide:
 - If we will go with a selection process or open bidding.
 - Whether we want a cost estimator.
- Cheryl and Charles met with Jonathon and got a bid from him but will hold off on the board seeing it so he can put his bid in with other GCs when the time comes.
- Ruth moved that we go forward with an open bid process needing the more detailed set of drawings from Dave. Molly seconded. Kate opposed. All others were in favor.
 - Discussion ensued about the relative merits of each process.

- The entire board was unanimous about not needing a cost estimator.

Old business

- The 250 committee would like books about the family history of our area.
 - The celebration will be July 2nd.
 - The committee will power wash the gazebo for this.
- At the May meeting we will discuss the potential plans for the basement and hopefully make a decision on which layout we prefer.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, May 20, 2025 at 7 PM.

Kate moved and Molly seconded to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.