Library Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 22, 2026
9:30 a.m. Meeting Room 2M.020
800 East Broad Street | Richmond, Virginia 23219

Board Members Attending: Malfourd "Bo" Trumbo (Chair), Peter Broadbent Jr., C. Paul Brockwell Jr., Preston Bryant Jr., Chelle Davis, Suzette Denslow, Carol Finerty, Betsy Fowler (Vice Chair), Samuel Hayes III, Barbara Vines Little, Shelley Murphy, Mary Prentice, Nancy Rodrigues and Blythe Scott.

Board Members Absent: Kimberly Dove

LVA Staff Attending: Dennis T. Clark, Librarian of Virginia; Meg Guthorn, Deputy State Librarian and Chief of Collections & Archives; Kim Armentrout, State Grants & Data Coordinator, Cindy Church, Continuing Education Consultant; Roger Christman, Governors' Records Archivist; Greg Crawford, State Archivist and Director of Government Records; Sarah Falls, Chief of Researcher Engagement; Angela Flagg, Chief Communications Officer; Daniel Hinderliter, Chief Operating Officer; Dale Neighbors, Interim Director of Special Collections; Diana Price, Chief of Library Development; Abigail Gump, Assistant Attorney General and Board Counsel.

LVA Foundation Board and Staff Attending: Pia Trigiani, President of the Board; Scott Dodson, Executive Director and Elaine McFadden, Director of Development.

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I. Call to Order and Welcome: Chair Trumbo called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and noted the presence of a quorum. He welcomed recent appointees to the Board, including returning Board member Barbara Vines Little and new member Nancy Rodrigues. He also introduced Kate Maxlow, Assistant Secretary of Education.

II. Approval of Agenda: Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the agenda.

III. Approval of April Library Board Meeting Minutes: Upon motion duly made and seconded, the April meeting minutes were approved with an amendment noted to correct the Legislative and Finance Committee section to reflect Mr. Bryant – not Mr. Prentice – delivered the report. Barbara Vines Little and Nancy Rodrigues abstained from the vote.

IV. Public Comment: There were no members of the public wishing to offer comments.

V. Report from Partner Organizations: Peter Broadbent provided a brief report on behalf of Conley Edwards, president of the Friends of the Virginia State Archives. He announced that Judy G. Russell will deliver the 26th annual Slatten Lecture on Nov. 7 and invited all to attend. Mr. Broadbent also reported that the Friends have continued to help the Library acquire local history and genealogical volumes. In total, they have expended $17,000 for more than 500 volumes. Mr. Edwards' written report also noted the induction of Peter Broadbent as a Fellow of the National Genealogical Society at that group's recent meeting.

VI. Committee Reports:

A. Collections & Archives Committee: Mr. Broadbent provided the Collections & Archives Committee report. State Archivist Greg Crawford provided an update on digital conservation projects associated with Virginia 250 and conservation efforts for Revolutionary War documents including the commission which investigated the burning of Norfolk, Virginia.

B. Government Relations & Finance Committee: Mr. Bryant provided a summary of the Commonwealth's budget development and current status. Dan Hinderliter shared the Library's Statement of Financial Condition. A brief period of questions and answers followed.

C. Library Development Committee: Ms. Fowler reported that the Committee reviewed, discussed, and voted to recommend several sets of technical or non-technical waiver requests and reported these motions to the full Board for consideration. She also noted a planned vote would not be taken on State Aid allotments due to the delay in the state finalizing its budget. She invited Kim Armentrout, State Grant & Data Coordinator, to present the waiver request motions on behalf of the committee..

1. Technical Waivers: Technical waivers are triggered by decreases in local expenditures due to normal business fluctuations. The committee approved technical waivers for following systems: Alexandria Library, Amherst County Public Library, Bland County Public Library, Buchanan County Public Library, Chesapeake Public Library, Clifton Forge Public Library, Culpeper County Library, Eastern Shore Public Library, Essex Public Library, Hampton Public Library, Heritage Public Library, Highland County Public Library, James L. Hamner Public Library, Lancaster Public Library, Madison County Public Library, Mathews Public Library, Pamunkey Regional Library, Rappahannock County Public Library, Richmond County Public Library, Roanoke Public Library, Smyth County Public Library, Washington County Public Library.

Hearing no questions or discussion, Ms. Fowler restated the committee motion and the board approved the technical waivers.

2. Non-Technical Waivers: The committee moved the following non-technical waivers by as individual motions. After a brief period of discussion, the Board unanimously approved the following motions non-technical waivers:

- A motion to extend the certification deadline for Halifax-South Boston Public Library Director, who is completing the degree program required.

- A motion to approve state aid waivers for the following systems who have not filed audits or financial reports, with the caveat that release of state aid be contingent on submission of all required statements: Amherst, Augusta, Blue Ridge, Buchanan, Caroline, Clifton Forge, Colonial Heights, Craig, Eastern Shore, Halifax-South Boston, Jefferson-Madison, King & Queen, Lancaster, Manassas Park, Pamunkey, Petersburg, Portsmouth, Pulaski, Radford, Richmond County, Roanoke city, Russell, Tazewell.

- A motion to approve nontechnical waivers for libraries that failed to meet the requirement of having two-thirds of their local operating expenditures from taxation or endowment: Heritage Public Library and Richmond County Library waivers approved with Five-Year Plans initiated for both; Radford Public Library waiver approved with existing Five-Year Plan.

The Board considered the Lunenburg Public Library's failure to meet several requirements to qualify for state aid and approved a motion finding that Lunenburg did not qualify for state aide. The Board was apprised of the various challenges, and members acknowledged that regretfully this is the action, while rare, is the best course it has to encourage positive progress toward meeting the state aid requirements.

Paul Brockwell shared the concern about FY27 state aid allotments needing to be expeditiously approved after the State Budget is finalized by the General Assembly and Governor. Given the composition of the Executive Committee includes many of the Public Library Development Committee members, Mr. Brockwell moved that the Board authorize the Executive Committee to approve the FY27 state aid allotments as soon as practical following completion of the state budget. The motion was seconded, and the Board approved it.

D. Researcher & Public Engagement Committee: Ms. Davis shared the Library's new part-time internship coordinator, Rachel Murphy-Weast, is supporting five summer interns from VCU, Hampton University, William & Mary, and Norfolk State University through mentoring, community building, and program assessment. She also noted that the Virtual Reading Room continues to receive strong patron feedback, expanding access for researchers who may not otherwise be able to visit Richmond.

E. Nominating Committee: Ms**.** Scott presented the slate of officers and executive committee members for 2026-27 and moved the Board's approval of the slate:

Board Officers:
Chair: Malfourd W. "Bo" Trumbo
Vice Chair: Elizabeth "Betsy" Fowler

Executive Committee Members: Paul Brockwell Jr. (Past Chair), Peter E. Broadbent Jr., Samuel Hayes III, and Blythe Ann Scott

Hearing no additional nominations or discussion, the Board approved the slate of officers and members of the Executive Committee.

F. Library of Virginia Foundation: Board President Pia Trigiani thanked Board members for their continued advocacy on behalf of the Library, announced the appointment of six new Foundation Board members effective July 1, and invited members to attend the annual 1823 Council reception that evening. Executive Director Scott Dodson reported that Foundation managed assets totaled approximately $11.66 million, with year-to-date net revenue of $937,196 as of May 31. All were encouraged to attend the Virginia Literary Awards on September 19.

VII. Report of the Librarian of Virginia: Mr. Clark provided updates on upcoming programming, staffing changes, strategic partnerships, and facility projects. He announced a September 28 event featuring David Brooks, focused on civic dialogue and presented in partnership with VCU. The program is the beginning of a new initiative created by the Baldacci gift to the Library of Virginia and VCU.

Mr. Clark shared staff updates, including Aubrey Hobby's new responsibilities as board liaison and Tracy Molnar's expanded responsibilities within the Office of Librarian of Virginia.

Updates were also provided on the State Records Center project, with shelving installation planned as the next phase. The renovation plans for 800 E. Broad Street are focused on creating flexible, modern spaces that better support current needs on the first two floors. The Board also discussed the availability of recordings for public programs.

VIII. Report of the Library Board Chair: Chair Trumbo provided remarks recognizing Board members Peter Broadbent, Preston Bryant, and Shelley Murphy for their years of service. He noted that although these members are transitioning from time as a member of the board, they will continue to support the Library and its mission.

IX. Report of the Executive Committee: The Board entered closed session pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(1), (A)(8), and (A)(11) to:

- *Discuss and consider the performance evaluation of the Librarian of Virginia;*
- *Consult with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring legal advice; and*
- *Discuss awarding or potential awarding of honorary degrees.*

The motion to enter closed session was approved by roll call vote: Ayes – Brockwell, Broadbent, Bryant, Canida, Davis, Denslow, Hayes, Little, Prentice, Rodrigues, Scott, and Trumbo; Nays – none; Abstentions – none.

Certification of Closed Session: The Executive Committee re-entered open session. Ms. Fowler moved, and it was seconded, that the Library Board certify by roll call vote that, to the best of each members' knowledge:

- *Only public business matters lawfully exempted from open business meeting requirements under this chapter, and*
- *Only such public business matters as identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were here, discussed or considered in the meeting.*

The motion to certify closed session was approved by a roll call vote: Ayes – Brockwell, Broadbent, Bryant, Canida, Davis, Denslow, Hayes, Little, Prentice, Rodrigues, Scott, and Trumbo; Nays – none; Abstentions – none.

Mr. Trumbo reported three motions from the Executive Committee:

1. **Librarian Performance Bonus:** Ms. Fowler presented a motion from the Executive Committee that the Library Board award Dennis Clark a 5% performance bonus pursuant to Section 4-6.01(D)(2)(b)(1) of the Appropriations Act, based on his highly favorable annual performance assessment. The Board unanimously approved the motion. The bonus is in addition to the salary listed in the Appropriations Act and will not be incorporated into the Librarian's base rate of pay.
2. **Librarian Employment Agreement and Foundation MOA**: Mr. Brockwell presented a motion from the Executive Committee that the Board authorize the Chair to begin negotiations with the Librarian and the Office of the Attorney General regarding renewal of the Librarian's employment agreement. The committee further moved that the Board authorize the Chair and Librarian begin discussions with board counsel, the President and Executive Director of the Library of Virginia Foundation regarding revisions to the Memorandum of Agreement between the Library and Foundation. The Board unanimously approved the motions.

3. **Honorary Patron of Letters Degree:** Mr. Broadbent presented a motion on behalf of the Executive Committee. He moved that the Board award the Patron of Letters degree to the individual discussed. The award will be presented during the Library's annual Literary Awards on Sept. 19. Hearing no questions or discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion with thanks to Mr. Broadbent for his outreach to this year's honoree.

X. Other Business and Adjournment: Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the proposed meeting dates provided in the board packet. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.