

Minutes

South Mississippi Regional Library

September 16, 2025

The South Mississippi Regional Board met at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday September 16, 2025, in the Genealogy Room at the Columbia Marion County Public Library. Present were Mrs. Jinger Cole, Chair, Mrs. Sharon Dungan, Mrs. Patricia Norris, Ms. Na'Chel Shannon, Library Director, and Summer Slocum to take minutes of the meeting.

Mrs. Norris called the meeting to order with prayer.

Old Business: Ms. Shannon presented the FY 2025-2026 proposed budget, explaining strategic adjustments to better support the library system. She relocated the salary budget surplus to the Materials budget to allow for more resources and upgrades for the library system. She explained that the Bassfield branch is in need of updated technology equipment, and the youth area in the Prentiss location needs updated furniture, such as bean bags and a study table. She also allocated some of the surplus to the Programming and Traveling budget.

Mrs. Norris moves that all SMRL employees should get at least a \$0.25 increase in pay for the FY 2025-2026. The board requested Ms. Shannon to reflect the recommended salary changes in a revised budget draft and to revise figures based on salary changes and total operating expenses for the FY 2024-2025.

Mrs. Cole moves to approve the budget contingent upon these changes. Mrs. Dungan first. Mrs. Norris seconded. Budget approved with the pending changes.

Mrs. Duncan moves to approve a minimum increase across the board of \$0.25 for the FY 2025-2026. Mrs. Norris first. Mrs. Hurst seconded. The pay increases were approved, ensuring that each employee will receive at least \$0.25 increase.

Mrs. Cole moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Dungan seconded. Meeting adjourned. The Board will meet again before the end of September to approve the final budget.