

**Minutes of WFPL Board of Governance
Regular Board Meeting
Monday, January 26, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
Pensacola Library
239 N Spring St
Pensacola FL 32502**

Board Members:

- Kenneth “Blaine” Wall, Chair
- John Bullock, Vice Chair
- Liza Campbell, Member
- Joyce Hopson, Member

County Administration:

- Wesley Hall, Assistant County Administrator

Library Administration:

- Christal Bell-Rivera, Interim Director
- Tricia Sheridan, Director’s Aide

Absent:

- None

I. Call to Order

- Dr. Wall called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.
- Proof of Publication was received.
- Quorum was met.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

- Dr. Wall led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

III. Public Forum

- No members of the public signed up to speak.

IV. Approval of the Agenda

- Prior to the meeting, Dr. Hopson’s shared with the Chair her email had not been working and subsequently missed meetings. Dr. Wall made a motion to rescind

the vote to remove Dr. Hopson made at the special meeting held on January 13, 2026. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

V. Approval of Minutes

- Mr. Bullock made a motion to approve the special minutes for January 13, 2026. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

VI. Chair's Report

- Dr. Wall shared that the county HR department informed him by email that one of the candidates accepted a position elsewhere. The total candidate pool is now at five. Dr. Wall forwarded the email from HR to the other members.

VII. Branch Manager's Report

- No report was given.

VIII. Interim Director's Report

- Interim Director Christal Bell-Rivera stated her written report was included in the packet.
- Mr. Bullock asked about the termination of Insignia. Interim Director Bell-Rivera stated the county has approved the termination of Insignia and the change to TLC. She has moved forward with the termination and conversations have been had with both vendors. Insignia understood and committed verbally and in writing. There is no appearance that there will be an issue with Insignia. She also added the library's hardware and software will now be with one vendor.
- The financial report reflects a new revenue line of \$4000.00 noted as a donation from Fred Levin Festival for books. Dr. Wall asked if late fees are being written off or still reflected. The Interim Director responded that she didn't think we would make a blanket waive but that some fees have been waived because we couldn't collect. Payments late fee/fines will resume once TLC is online.
- There is nothing out of the ordinary for the expense report. The postage is off due to the ILL changes. Interim Director Bell-Rivera stated we are behind on our spending with the book budget. We had a meeting with staff this week to come up with a plan on how to move forward and get it moving along.

IX. New Business

- Discussion regarding the Privacy Policy. Mr. Bullock made a motion to approve with changes. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- Discussion regarding the Right and Responsibilities Policy. Mr. Bullock stated he would approve the policy but would like the issue of firearms to be drawn to the attention of the Escambia County, County Commissioners. Interim Director Bell-Rivera shared that the law has changed, and the library is not an exception to the law. Seeing a gun openly carried will require a lot of people to have a new mindset about firearms. Mr. Bullock made a motion to approve the policy with changes. Dr. Hopson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Discussion regarding the Meeting Room Policy. Interim Director Bell-Rivera stated that the value the library offers for a free meeting space in the community is high. Ms. Campbell made a motion to approve the policy with changes. Mr. Bullock seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

XI. Old Business

- Dr. Wall stated a special meeting will be held for the first round of interviews on Monday, February 2, 2026, at the county building on the 4th floor. Questions will be asked by the HR personnel. Another special meeting will be held to meet and discuss who will advance to the next round of interviews.
- A member of the public, Robin Rehsard, requested to speak and was granted permission by the board chair. She stated, as a former board member, she has been contacted by concerned members of the public. Cautions the staff and board to ensure the process is fair, open and correct. What the board allows today will set precedent for the future, so ensure transparency prevails in this process.
- Board Chair encouraged anyone who has concerns to reach out to the board and let the board know their concerns. He is open to feedback; encouraged the public to attend the interviews and provide feedback.

XII. New Business

- Dr. Wall inquired about the boiler problems. Interim Director Christal Bell-Rivera stated more parts are on order, but we have had heat.
- Dr. Wall asked about the status of adding new members to the board. Interim Director Bell-Rivera stated she had not received any notification from the City of Pensacola who they have selected to fill the seat. Normally, at this time, when we are creating the agenda for the commissioners to make their selection, we work hand-in-hand to add the city selection on it for the county

to acknowledge the city appointee. So, we will be reaching out to the city anyway to get the name. She reassured the Chair that it would be done before the March meeting.

XIII. Next Meeting

- The next special board meeting will be held on Monday, February 2, 2026, 9:00 a.m. at:

Ernie Lee Magaha Government Building
4th Floor, Room 0605
221 Palafox Place
Pensacola FL 32502

- XIV. Adjournment – Mr. Bullock made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Hopson seconded the motion. Dr. Wall adjourned the meeting at 4:53 p.m.