

Georgia Public Library
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Library Trustees
Nicole Jamison, Chair
Debbie Mann, Vice Chair
Kollene Caspers, Secretary
Terry Cleveland, Treasurer
Craig Volatile-Wood, Trustee

Georgia Public Library Special Trustee Meeting: 2026 Budget
Wednesday, November 12, 2025 4:45pm
Location: Georgia Public Library

MINUTES

Trustees Present: Kollene Caspers, Terry Cleveland, Debbie Mann, Craig Volatile-Wood
Staff Present: Bridget Stone

1. Call to order: 4:50pm
2. Additions, deletions, or changes to the Agenda:
 - T. Cleveland requested to add the an Executive Session, starting immediately, to discuss Personnel/Hourly Wage Increase.
3. Executive Session
Vice Chair Mann would entertain a motion to enter into executive session to discuss Personnel/Hourly Wage Increase for an employee, which premature disclosure or discussion may be detrimental to the board in itself and/or individuals involved.

Motion to Move into Executive Session at 4:53pm

Motion made by T. Cleveland, Seconded by C. Volatile-Wood

Voting Yea: D. Mann, K. Caspers, T. Cleveland, C. Volatile-Wood

Vice Chair Mann would entertain a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the above with Library Director B. Stone under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(A) of the Vermont Statutes.

Motion to invite B. Stone to join the Executive Session

Motion made by C. Volatile-Wood, Seconded by T. Cleveland

Voting Yea: D. Mann, K. Caspers, T. Cleveland, C. Volatile-Wood

Motion to Exit out of Executive Session at 5:12pm

Motion made by T. Cleveland, Seconded by C. Volatile-Wood

Voting Yea: D. Mann, K. Caspers, T. Cleveland, C. Volatile-Wood

Action taken out of Executive Session:

Motion to increase the current salary of Mindy Grange from \$15.50 per hour to \$19 per hour and to increase her hours to twenty-five hours per week.

Motion made by Vice Chair Mann, Seconded by C. Volatile-Wood

Voting Yea: D. Mann, K. Caspers, T. Cleveland, C. Volatile-Wood

4. 2026 Budget Discussion

- T. Cleveland shared budgeting documents with the Trustees.
- Trustees participated in budget discussion of existing line items. Budget documents included potential raises for the Library Director and staff, but the focus of the meeting was on Operational Expenses.
- The Selectboard has requested the GPL budget for a 3.5% target increase in all areas but salaries and benefits.
 - GPL's Operating expenses in 2025 was budgeted at \$20,545.00
 - A 3.5% increase to this budget in 2026 would be \$21,264.08
 - The proposed 6.84% increase in 2026 would be \$21,950.08
- Discussion was had about the possibility of adding another full-time library position and the salary, benefits and tax costs associated with a full-time hire; as well as if there was enough work to warrant another full-time employee.
- The Trustees discussed how a large increase in the 2026 budget would be received by the Georgia community if there would also be a bond for the library renovation project.
- More information on the renovation and potential bond will be discussed at the next regular meeting.

5. Adjourn

C. Volatile Wood made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:12pm.

Voting Yea: D. Mann, K. Caspers, T. Cleveland, C. Volatile-Wood