



**State Library Board
Meeting Minutes**

Date: November 20, 2025
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Location: Virtual and in-person at 1500 Senate Street

Board Member Attendance:

Ms. Deborah Hyler, Member	Present
Ms. Anna Claire Dando, Chair	Present
Ms. Loretta Green, Member	Present
Ms. Jennifer Cunningham, Member	Absent
Ms. Andrea Kelly, Vice Chair	Absent
Mr. Mark Herring, Member	Present

Other Attendees: Ms. Charlotte Dunn, SCSL; Ms. Faith Line, APLA; Ms. Breanne Smith, SCSL; Mr. Chris Yates, SCSL

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. An announcement was made that Leesa Aiken was anticipated to return from leave in mid-December.

A. Board Business and Approval of Minutes

Anna Claire Dando made a motion to approve the following items: the minutes from the July 24, 2025, Board Meeting; the notes from the September 25, 2025, Board Meeting; the updated telecommuting policy; and the updated employee handbook. Mark Herring seconded the motion, and all board members present approved the afore-listed items.

B. Director Report

1. Agency Administration

- a. Chris Yates announced that the Kasemake Preservation Machine would be delivered December 1, 2025. It consisted of two units to construct archival boxes for delicate materials: one to measure items to be boxed, and another to cut out the boxes. Purchasing the machine is a cost-effective measure given how expensive it is purchase pre-made archival boxes. Three engineers will be traveling from the United

Kingdom in December to put together the machine and train select staff on how to use it. Having the machine will benefit the State Library's collection by protecting and preserving older and delicate items for years to come.

b. SCLENDS Update

1. Mr. Yates stated that during the previous week, Greenwood County Library migrated successfully to the SCLENDS consortium. Saluda County Library will migrate to SCLENDS on December 10th.
2. All eight libraries in the Palmetto Consortium will join SCLENDS in Summer 2026. The current plan is that they will go live with SCLENDS in August next year.
3. Of the forty-two public library systems in state, thirty library systems will be SCLENDS. Mr. Yates extended his thanks to Faith Line for providing training to Greenwood and Saluda Counties.

c. Building Update

1. Windows: Breanne Smith updated the Board on the window replacement project. The State Library building is owned by the Department of Administration, and while there have been challenges, everything has gone as smoothly as possible, given the scale of the project. The project is anticipated to end in late January 2026. For safety and noise reasons, administration has closed the lobby as needed; however, the State Library remains open for on-demand services.
2. Ms. Smith also updated the Board on the electrical upgrade project. The main switchboard was replaced Thanksgiving Day weekend.

2. Partnerships

- a. The State Library has continued its partnership working with Historic Camden promoting SC250. Staff who worked to digitize the Eli Kershaw ledger owned by Historic Camden were invited to the opening of the Sheheen Colonial Artisan Center, where they also promoted the State Library's Digitization Department.
- b. The State Library is making plans to promote Revolutionary War Day in March 2026 with the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room & Military Museum, as a part of SC250. Multiple state agencies will also be promoting this day.
- c. The State Library had a very successful social media campaign during Native American/Indigenous Peoples Heritage Month. There was a 400% increase in impressions and engagements. In the future, the Library hopes to partner with other groups and organizations to expand its collection offerings.

3. Personnel

- a. The State Library currently has the following open positions: SCLENDS Coordinator.
- b. Zach Lukemire was hired as the new Director of Library Services. Anna Brannin was hired as the new Youth Services Consultant.

4. Events

- a. Recent:
 1. The State Library partnered with the SC250 Commission on a children's activity booklet, which was distributed at the South Carolina State Fair this year. Most of the information came from Discus and StudySC, both State Library resources. The booklet is also available through the State Library's website.
 2. In September, librarian Melanie Griffin gave a webinar titled "Discover the State Library: Civic Engagement with Your SCSL Library Card" showed the different print and digital resources available through the State Library. A themed display on the 1st floor also showcased many of the print resources as well.
 3. In September, librarian Dawn Mullin gave a webinar titled, "Grants Research: Finding a Funder for Your Nonprofit Organization" this fall. Mr. Yates stated that these webinars are extremely popular; 200 people signed up for this webinar alone! The State Library has a subscription to Foundation Director; additionally, every public library has this resource available to them on-site. Ms. Mullin has provided trainings to all public libraries in the state so that patrons may avail themselves of this valuable resource.
 4. In September, the State Library hosted a program titled, "FOIA in Action with Paul Bowers." Mr. Bowers educated attendees on their civic rights and how to make FOIA requests.
 5. In October, librarian Hannah Majewski gave a webinar titled, "From Colony to Community: Three Centuries of South Carolina Culture." She provided an overview of SC culture—from the Revolutionary War up to the present day.
- b. Upcoming:
 1. "Grant Writing: Creating a Winning Proposal" on November 14, 2025

5. Public Libraries

- a. The statewide public library survey infographic has been distributed; the State Library's graphic designer is currently working on the county-level infographics. These infographics are an effective way to show the impact of state aid to public libraries. Mr. Yates mentioned that these infographics will also be available on the State Library's website.
- b. Planning has begun for the third annual Directors' Summit, which will occur in March 2026. It will provide public library directors across the state with an excellent opportunity to meet, discuss, and network amongst each other, as well as

provide great mentorship opportunities for newer directors. It will be held at Hickory Knob State Park in McCormick, SC. The current agenda includes speakers Alpha Dunbar (from the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission) and David Moore (an architect with twenty years of experience designing libraries).

- c. Chesterfield County still has a vacancy for its library director position; however, there is an interim director in place.

C. APLA Report

Tomorrow, Faith Line will meet with fellow APLA members at the headquarters location of the Spartanburg County Public Library, which recently re-opened after an expansive addition. She stated that APLA will be asking the Legislature for a minimum of \$200,000 in state aid per public library system, which is especially needed to keep small and rural libraries afloat.

Ms. Line emphasized the importance of the Directors' Summit as a great networking opportunity for fellow public library directors to learn from one another.

This is Ms. Line's last meeting as the APLA representative as she is retiring after December 31st.

D. Finance

The budget is on target with nothing of merit to note. Mr. Herring inquired if the budget includes salaries and requested a grand total of the State Library's budget at a future point.

E. Adjournment

Ms. Dando moved to adjourn the board meeting at 11:14 a.m. Mr. Herring seconded the motion. All board members present were in agreement.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 22, 2026.