

**Putnam County Library
Board of Trustees Minutes
May 12, 2026**

Board of Trustees members in attendance: Bryan Payne, Drew Binkley, Pat Phillips, Cindy Putman, and Daniel Rader IV

Putnam County Library staff in attendance: Brian Page, Carol Teeters, Spencer Traut, and Kathryn Wisinger

Falling Water Regional Library staff in attendance: Matt Kirby

- I. Call to Order: Board Vice Chair Bryan Payne presided in the absence of the Board Chair. The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m. Danny Rader moved to amend the agenda to add the following items to New Business: 1) add another signer for the checking account, and 2) call a special Board meeting June 2 for the sole purpose of considering applications for the position of Board Trustee to be recommended to the Putnam County Commission. This motion was seconded by Cindy Putman and approved unanimously.
- II. Approval of the Minutes: Danny Rader moved to approved the minutes of the February meeting, seconded by Pat Phillips and approved unanimously.
- III. Treasurer's Report: Director Kathryn Wisinger reported that the fiscal year ends on June 30. Discussion followed noting that some line items still had significant funds remaining. The juvenile books line will have additional expenditures prior to the summer reading program and funds from the facilities line have been held to purchase items needed related to the current expansion project. Danny Rader moved to approve the Treasurer' Report seconded by Drew Binkley and approved unanimously.
- IV. Public Comment: Before opening public comment, Vice Chair Bryan Payne reminded those assembled that when recognized they were to announce their name and that each would have 3 minutes to speak with public comment not to exceed thirty minutes. The following individuals were recognized: Christine Rosenow, Jack Gill, and Stacye Choate.
- V. Old Business: Following further review of the Inclement Weather Policy the following sentence was added to the policy, "In the event of a tornado watch or warning, the library will remain open as a designated safe space, regardless of operating hours, when conditions safely permit staffing and access." Discussion ensued regarding who alerts the public that the library is open as a safe space. Director Kathryn Wisinger reported that Putnam County EMA communicates that information to the public. Danny Rader requested an addition to the policy stating that the Library Director is authorized to make any necessary decisions related to opening the library during a severe weather event. Danny Rader moved to approve the revised policy with the addition, seconded by Pat Phillips and approved unanimously.
- VI. New Business
 - A. Proposed Budget: Director Kathryn Wisinger reported that the increase in health insurance for county employees will be covered by Putnam County.

There were no changes to the budget presented in February. Danny Rader moved to approve the budget, seconded by Drew Binkley and approved unanimously.

- B. Additional signer on checking account: Director Kathryn Wisinger noted the need for an additional signer on the checking account. Discussion ensued. Danny Rader moved that a Board Resolution be written naming Vice Chair Bryan Payne as an authorized signer on the library checking account, seconded by Drew Binkley and approved unanimously.
 - C. Special called June Board Meeting: The deadline for applications for Board of Trustee is June 1 with terms for 2 current Board members expiring June 30. Drew Binkley moved to have a Special Called Board Meeting on Tuesday, June 2 for the purpose of reviewing applications for Trustee and recommending applicants to the Putnam County Commission for approval. If a quorum is not present the meeting should take place on June 8, 2026 at 12:00 p.m. Danny Rader seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.
- VII. Director's Report: Kathryn Wisinger presented the construction timeline for the library expansion. Construction began on March 19, 2026 and the anticipated completion date is November 1, 2026. Current challenges presented by the construction are parking and the book drop. Circulation numbers have dropped in Cookeville as a result of the construction, however, circulation has increased at Algood in response. Digital circulation in READS and Hoopla have remained steady. Additional funds have been added to READS. Summer Reading Program begins May 28. Landscaping improvements are being made at the Monterey Branch and in Cookeville.
- VIII. Falling Water River Regional Library Report: Matt Kirby reported that an average of 10,000 digital items are circulated per month at Cookeville. The Library Services Agreement will be sent to all libraries in June and will be due July 1, 2026. The Maintenance of Effort will be due August 1, 2026. Legislative updates were provided for HB 2449 which would require all libraries to have a reconsideration of materials policy. It was noted that the Putnam County Library System already has this in place. HB 2616 would amend the state's open meetings law to authorize city councils, school boards, and other government governing bodies, including library boards to conduct confidential meetings to discuss and interview candidates for management roles without requiring public notice. Only members of the governing body, relevant staff, and applicants themselves may be present in private sessions.
- IX. Friends of the Putnam County Library: No report
- X. Adjournment: Danny Rader moved to adjourn, seconded by Pat Phillips. The meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.