

**Library Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting
March, 12th 2026 @ 1:00 PM
Bay County Public Library
Meeting Room**

Members in Attendance:

Gerry Wilson: Bay County Commissioner Raffield, District 1
Crystal Grey-Hewett: Bay County Commissioner Moore, District 4
Fran Davis: Liberty County Commission

Members Absent:

Kendall Middlemas Henley: Bay County Commission, District 2
Jean Campbell: Bay County Commissioner Crosby, District 3
Jeff DiBenedictis: Bay County Commissioner Pease, District 5
Mary Gibson: Gulf County Commission

Library Staff in Attendance:

Robin Shader: Library Director
Ashley Burlon: Community Relations & Marketing Coordinator
Logan Clampitt: Administrative and Financial Manager
Tania Watts: Head of Youth Services

Call to Order: Fran Davis called to order at 1:00 pm. A quorum was not present.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of Minutes: Due to no quorum being present, the minutes cannot be approved.

Old Business:

- a) Gulf County Library Hours Update
Robin explained that Gulf County library hours have returned to having both libraries open on Saturday. This was requested by Gulf County. The staff is struggling to provide adequate staffing levels after losing an 8 hour position.

New Business:

- a) Review Computer & Internet Use Policy
Robin requested this item be moved to the next meeting.

Director's Report:

- a) Library Highlights
Robin stated that library usage is increasing overall. Interlibrary loan service has resumed. The Friends of the Bay County Public Libraries earned \$4,400 from the Jane Austin fundraiser and was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the St Joe Community Foundation. Joel Schubert has been promoted to County Manager, replacing Bob Majka. A new assistant county manager should start soon. We ordered 19 Career Online High School scholarships with the \$25,000 that Jeff Benedictis donated from the Edward F. Hickey Jr. Trust. Fran asked if there is an age limit, and Robin said that the minimum age is 19 but there is no upper limit. We are partnering with Parks & Recreation for movie nights at Bay County's Harder's Park. Library staff is currently working on our FY27 budget due March 30th.

The group discussed the material reconsideration process. Robin said the county attorney suggested changing the process to only have staff do the initial review, and the LAC would do the appeals. Pros and cons were discussed. Children's access to library materials was also discussed. Robin explained that a child under the age of 16 needs a parent to sponsor their card and is responsible for fees. Once the child has a card, they can check out whatever they want. Robin said that parent can choose to keep control of the card or can simply use their own card to borrow books for their children. Parents have the choice. Fran mentioned that every point in the policy will eventually come down to the parent.

Tania Watts, Head of Youth Services, answered questions about how external book reviews are used in the book selection process and how decisions are made about which section of the library a book will be placed.

b) Program Updates

Ashley talked about National Library Week and the little events that will be going on during the week, like "Find the Flamingo" giveaways, and Gulf and Liberty County will also be doing programs during National Library Week.

Board Comments/Announcements: None.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 pm.

Next regular meeting: May 21, 2026, 1 pm.