



# **MCMINN COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD**

## **BYLAWS**

### **ARTICLE I NAME**

This organization shall be known as the MCMINN COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD, located in McMinn County, Tennessee, established by the County of McMinn, according to the provisions of Title 10 of the Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA) 10-3-101 and 10-3-103, and exercising the powers and assuming the duties granted to it under said statute.

### **ARTICLE II OBJECTIVE**

This Board is organized to foster and promote library development in McMinn County. The public libraries under the auspices of the Board are Calhoun, E.G. Fisher, Englewood, and Etowah/Carnegie. The Board is responsible for the division and distribution of the allocation of funds from McMinn County. The Board recognizes and will abide by the American Library Association Freedom to Read Statement and the American Library Association Public Library Trustee Ethics Statement.

### **ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP**

This Board shall consist of nine members and shall be composed of both men and women.

Six of these members shall be appointed by the McMinn County Commission, representing Calhoun, Englewood, Etowah/Carnegie, and Niota municipal areas. Three members are appointed by the Athens City Council in accordance with the Public Library Laws of the State of Tennessee. In accordance with TCA 10-3-103, not more than one (1) official each of the county or city governing bodies shall serve on this Board. The members shall serve without salary for terms of three (3) years. Directors may not serve more than two consecutive full terms. In case of resignation, a new member shall be appointed to fill the unexpired term and may then complete two (2) additional three-year terms.

Any member absent from three (3) consecutive meetings may be asked to resign.

### **ARTICLE IV OFFICERS AND DUTIES**



## MCMINN COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD

### BYLAWS

The election of officers shall be held at the time of the regular meeting in May of each year.

Minutes of all meetings shall, at a minimum, indicate Board members present, all items of business, all motions and the results of all votes taken. Current Board Minutes shall be retained in the E.G. Fisher Public Library for public review.

Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the chairperson or may be called at the written request of four (4) members, for the transaction of business as stated in the call for the meeting. Except in cases of emergency, at least five (5) days' notice shall be given. In no case may less than a forty-eight (48) hour notice be given.

A quorum at any meeting shall be a simple majority of the Board, and no meeting will be considered held without the necessary quorum.

All meetings shall be held in compliance with Tennessee's Open Meetings Law (TCA 8-44-101 through 8-44-108).

The Library Board is subject to governmental immunity and the limits of liability for negligent acts or omissions of its members as provided by the Tennessee Governmental Tort Liability Act, at Tennessee Code 29-20-101 et seq. Generally, Board members are immune from suit arising from the conduct of the affairs of the Board, except for conduct which amounts to willful, wanton, or gross negligence pursuant to Tennessee Code 29-20-201.

*Robert's Rules of Order*, revised, will be used to conduct meetings. Failure to follow such rules does not invalidate an otherwise legitimate action of the Board.

#### **ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES**

The Chairperson shall make appointments to committees as necessary. These committees shall make reports and recommendations to the McMinn County Library Board at the Board meetings.

No committee shall have other than advisory powers.

#### **ARTICLE VII DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



# MCMINN COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD

## BYLAWS

Board members may not, in their private capacity, negotiate, bid for or enter into a contract with any of the libraries.

A Board member shall withdraw from Board discussion, deliberation and vote on any matter in which the Board member, an immediate family member or an organization with which the Board member is associated has a substantial financial interest.

A Board member may not receive anything of value that could reasonably be expected to influence his or her vote or other official action.

A Board member may not serve on the Executive Committees of both the McMinn County Library Board and any Friends of the Library organization.

### ARTICLE X GENERAL

Following the establishment of a quorum, an affirmative vote of the majority of all of the Board present at the time shall be necessary to approve any action before the Board.

The Chairperson may vote upon, may make a motion or second a proposal before the Board.

Any visitor who wishes to speak during Public Comment should inform the Chair they wish to be heard and the Chair must recognize the speaker. The Chair may establish a three-minute time limit for each speaker so recognized.

Any of these Bylaws may be changed, amended, or repealed at any regular meeting by a majority present, provided such changes are included in the published Agenda for that regular meeting.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees of the McMinn County Library Board on the 22 day of May, 2025.

*Tyler L. Boyd*

Secretary