

**Burke County Library
Board of Trustees Special Called Meeting
August 28, 2025**

The Burke County Library Board of Trustees met in the Board Room on Thursday, August 28, 2025. The meeting was called to order by William Tinley at 5.34 p.m. Present at the meeting were: Jackie Payton, Amanda Ham, Terri Lodge Kelly, Karen Reeves, William Tinley, and Gwendolyn Jackson Lisa Cucci (via phone).

William Tinley stated The Burke County Library Board and several county commissioners met with the Jefferson County Library Board and Christina Shepherd, Director of the Jefferson County Library System, to discuss the possibility of Burke County Libraries joining the Jefferson County Library System.

Following the joint discussion, the Jefferson County Board convened separately and declined the proposal to merge with Burke County Libraries.

Terri Lodge Kelly informed the board that, according to Merv Waldrop, Burke County Libraries will receive \$ 1 million to operate independently. She noted that this option would require the hiring of a director with the appropriate degree to oversee all three Burke County Libraries.

Ms. Kelly also inquired whether the libraries, if operating independently, would continue to participate in the Georgia PINES system. Amanda Ham confirmed that as long as state funding is received, Georgia PINES membership would continue.

A motion was made by William Tinley for Burke County Libraries to join with Warren County and Lincoln County Libraries to form a Regional Library System. The motion was seconded by Lisa Cucci (via phone). The motion carried with a vote of 3–2.

The meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.