



**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 18, 2023**  
**9:00 AM**

The October 18, 2023, special called meeting of the Alabama Virtual Library Council was called to order at 9:07 AM by Council Chair, A. P. Hoffman.

Minutes were prepared by Cristin Dillard, Council Secretary.

Minutes approved as official: February 7, 2024.

**Members in Attendance (Quorum established)**

Kimmetha Herndon, ACHE  
Cristin Dillard, ALSDE  
Susanne Estes, ALSDE  
Chantae Calhoun, ACCS

Nancy Pack, APLS  
Amy Henderson, APLS  
Ronnie Smith, APLS  
Bill Paine, ASA

**Guests in Attendance**

Jessica Everingham, Alabama Public Library Service and member of AVL Budget Committee

1. **Call to Order:** Council Chair, A. P. Hoffman, called the special called meeting to order and confirmed a quorum was established by conducting a roll call for attendance.
2. **Welcome:** Council Chair, A. P. Hoffman explained the purpose of the special called AVL Council meeting was to discuss and approve the FY25 budget proposal.
3. **New Business:**
  - a. **FY25 AVL Budget Proposal:** The budget committee drafted a proposed budget for FY25 that will be submitted by the fiscal agent, Alabama Public Library Service. See [Attachment B](#) for the proposed budget.
    - i. **Motion:** Chantae Calhoun made a motion to accept the FY25 Budget Proposal as presented by the AVL Budget Committee.
      1. Kimmetha Herndon second the motion.
      2. Discussion: Nancy Pack asked why the AVL Council was asking for a 5.2% increase; A. P. Hoffman explained the budget committee consulted Cary Hill to reach this number. The AVL Council asked for a 6% increase in the FY24 Budget Proposal. Nancy Pack provided insight to legislative outlook for this upcoming legislative season noting she had spoken with legislators within the last week that are over important committees and budgets for education and libraries. Susanne Estes asked if any of these legislators had previously been allies of libraries and the AVL Council, and Nancy Pack responded yes. Nancy Pack noted the sentiments from conversations with legislators and the current climate that libraries may be targets or any other organizations or agencies that support children, specifically supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts. Kimmetha Herndon redirected the conversation back to the budget asking if the legislators' or governor's response to the budget was no will they just not fund? Kimmetha Herndon went on to



ask if AVL might have to justify what is in the collection. Nancy Pack mentioned the potential legislation may be similar to Louisiana and Mississippi; Jessica Everingham (visitor) added Texas. Nancy Pack explained EBSCO had to change content indexed for Mississippi. A. P. Hoffman redirected the conversation to the budget noting that 5% has been a standard amount of increase to expect not only from the budget request but from vendors for costs of materials; this increase has been pretty consistent. A. P. Hoffman also noted if the AVL Council does not request an increase, then there will be no expectation for the legislature to increase the budget. A. P. Hoffman asked Jessica Everingham (visitor) of the budget committee, if AVL received level funding could it sustain its current level of resources? Jessica Everingham (visitor) responded, "No," and explained if databases continued to increase in cost; 5.2% was the expectation or estimate of the increases. Nancy Pack asked A. P. Hoffman who was on the legislative committee and if he had appointed one yet. A. P. responded that was his next task. Jessica Everingham (visitor) recapped the motion, second, and what was on the table for the Council to vote. Cristin Dillard as for a point of privilege to provide clarity of the typical order of AVL Council that visitors were not allowed to participate in the AVL Council meeting unless they were on the agenda or asked a question by a council member; Cristin Dillard also noted this was typical behavior with previous visitors who attended the AVL Council meetings. Nancy Pack responded in affirming Cristin Dillard's statement about visitors.

3. Call to Vote: The call to vote was made by chair, A. P. Hoffman. The motion carried with 8 council members voting yes, 0 voting no, and 1 member abstaining from the vote. Motion carries. (See [Attachment A](#) for roll call vote.)
4. A. P. Hoffman expressed his appreciation for all council members, budget committee, and Alabama Public Library Service for hosting the meeting today.
5. Adjournment
  - a. Kimmetha Herndon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cristin Dillard seconded the motion. All council members voted in favor of adjourning the meeting.
  - b. Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 AM.



**Attachments:**

**Attachment A**

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion:** Approve fiscal year 2025 budget proposal for Alabama Virtual Library.

**Motion carried. 8 members voting yes, 0 members voting no, and 1 member abstaining.**

<b>AVL Council Member/Affiliated Organization</b>	<b>Vote</b>
<b>ACHE (Alabama Commission on Higher Education)</b>	
Kimmetha Herndon	Yes
Vacant	
Vacant	
<b>ALSDE (Alabama State Department of Education)</b>	
Cristin Dillard	Yes
Susanne Estes	Yes
Michelle Wilson	Absent
<b>ACCS (Alabama Community College System)</b>	
Chantae Calhoun	Yes
A. P. Hoffman (Chairman)	Yes
Vacant	
<b>APLS (Alabama Public Library System)</b>	
Amy Henderson	Yes
Nancy Pack	Yes
Ronnie Smith	Yes
<b>ASA (Alabama SuperComputer Authority)</b>	
Tyler Carr	Absent
Cary Hill	Absent
William Paine	Abstain



# Alabama Virtual Library

Connecting you to a world of knowledge

Attachment B

FY2025 Alabama Virtual Library Budget (PROPOSED)

173-0131 Virtual Library Project				
FY2025 Allocation Request: \$3,800,526				
			FY25 Budget Request Amount	TOTAL BUDGET REQUEST - FY25
			(5.23% increase)	
<b>0800 - Professional Fees and Services</b>				
	Alabama Supercomputer Authority	187,043.00		
	Executive Director	41,958.00		
	<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>229,001.00</b>	<b>11,977.00</b>	
<b>0900 - Supplies, Materials, and Operating Expenses</b>				
	Capstone - PebbleGo	160,471.50		
	Capstone - PebbleGo Add On	160,471.50		
	EBSCO - Packaged Subscription	1,550,629.00		
	Encyclopedia Britannica	244,400.00		
	Gale-Cengage Learning - E-Book Online Resources	728,797.37		
	Gale LegalForms	82,375.00		
	Grey House Publishing Inc - Weiss Financial Ratings Series	22,329.20		
	McGraw Hill - Access Science	67,547.44		
	Proquest - Ethnic Newswatch	88,946.95		
	OER Commons	2,000.00		
	Oxford Univ Press - English Dictionary & Reference Subscriptions	69,883.72		
	Pronunciator	75,000.00		
	TeachingBooks	121,391.90		
	UPS Shipping Charges	1,000.00		
	Unobligated Budget	7,392.42		
	<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>3,382,636.00</b>	<b>176,912.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL BUDGET NEEDED - FY25</b>		<b>3,611,637.00</b>	<b>188,889.00</b>	<b>3,800,526.00</b>