

# **Bylaws for the Jefferson County Public Library Board of Trustees**

(Adopted February 17, 2011)

## **ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Jefferson County Public Library Board of Trustees, (Library Board) and existing by virtue of the provisions of the “Colorado Library Law”, Section 24-90-101 et. Seq. C.R.S., and, established by the action of the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners (Board of County Commissioners).

## **ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Library Board shall be to govern the affairs of the Jefferson County Public Library according to the applicable statutes and laws, and the duties assigned by the Board of County Commissioners to “establish policies, employ an Executive Director, recommend a budget and dispense funds, and acquire and oversee libraries and library assets.”

## **ARTICLE III: LIBRARY BOARD**

Section 1. Trustees of the Library Board are those who have been duly appointed by the Board of County Commissioners.

Section 2. Ethics. Trustees shall observe these Bylaws, and the Governing Policies of the Library Board, which shall address expectations as to conduct and ethics of the Board.

Section 3. Terms and Reappointments. Length of term and number of terms shall be determined by the Board of County Commissioners.

Section 4. Vacancies. Vacancies shall be filled pursuant to the Colorado Library Law and the policies of the Board of County Commissioners.

Section 5. Removal. A Trustee may be removed only by a majority vote of the Board of County Commissioners and only upon a showing of good cause. Good cause shall include, but not be limited to: Failure to attend, without justification, three consecutive regular monthly meetings of the Board, or violating the Library Board’s Governing Policies.

## **ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS**

Section 1. Number of Officers. The officers of the Library Board shall be a Chair, Vice Chair, and a Secretary.

## **ARTICLE V: ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Section 1. Date of Election. The officers shall be elected annually at the regularly scheduled Library Board meeting in March by a majority vote of the Trustees. The nominating committee will be appointed at the January Board meeting, and present a slate of officers at the February Board meeting.

Section 2. Term of Office. The officers shall assume their duties upon election and shall serve for terms of one year or until their successors are elected.

Section 3. Number of Terms of Office. A trustee shall not be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same officer position, except by affirmative vote of a two-thirds majority of the Trustees present at the meeting at which the election is held.

Section 4. Vacancies. A vacancy occurring in the office of Chair shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Vice Chair. A vacancy occurring in the office of Vice Chair or Secretary shall be filled for the unexpired term by a trustee elected at a regular meeting, notice of such election having been given five days in advance of the meeting by the highest-ranking officer.

Section 5. Removal of Officer. Any officer may be removed from office for failure to discharge his/her duties by an affirmative vote of four Trustees at a regular meeting. The Trustees seeking such action shall give written notice to the officer 5 days prior to voting on such issue at a regular meeting.

## **ARTICLE VI: DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS**

Section 1. Chair. The Chair of the Library Board shall be its chief governing officer. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Library Board, and shall fulfill other responsibilities as may be designated from time to time by the Library Board. The Chair shall be the representative of the Library Board to other governmental units on such matters as have been approved and designated by the Library Board; shall submit the annual budget prepared by the Library Board to the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners; shall submit an annual report to the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners; and shall sign warrants for all expenditures of library funds as provided by statute.

Section 2. Vice Chair. . In the absence of the Chair, or in event of the Chair's inability or refusal to act, the Vice-Chair shall perform the duties of the Chair and when so acting, shall have all the powers of the Chair and shall be subject to all the restrictions upon the Chair. The Vice-Chair shall perform any other duties as may be prescribed by the Library Board.

Section 3. Secretary. The Secretary shall record, or cause to be recorded, the minutes of all meetings of the Library Board and shall perform such other duties as may be

delegated by the Library Board, such as acting as temporary Chair in the absence of the Chair and Vice chair.

Section 4. General Duties. All officers shall perform the duties as prescribed in these Bylaws, and as may be further enumerated in the Library Board's Governing Policies.

## **ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS**

Section 1. Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of the Library Board shall be held at least once a month on the third Thursday at a date, time and place within Jefferson County selected at least two weeks in advance by the Library Board. Meeting notices and agendas will be posted in all libraries. The date, time and place of any regular or special meeting of the Library Board may be set or changed by a majority vote of the Board.

The Library Board may cancel a regular meeting if no pressing issues warrant a meeting, or in the event of an unforeseen circumstance.

The Chair shall set the agenda in advance for each regular meeting of the Library Board, adhering to the adopted Governing Policies. A copy will be sent to each Trustee in advance of the regular meeting. Minutes from previous meetings and documentation supporting agenda items will be sent to each Trustee as part of the agenda packet.

All meetings, votes, and deliberations of the Library Board shall be open to the public, unless otherwise provided by law. The Library Board may determine to hold additional meetings and study sessions. These meetings will be governed by these Bylaws and the Library Board's Governing Policies. All proceedings and records, including meeting minutes taken at each Library Board meeting will be recorded and made available to the public unless otherwise provided by law.

Section 2. Special Meetings. The Chair, or any three (3) Trustees, may call a special meeting of the Library Board at any time with 24 hours prior notice to all Trustees.

Section 3. Quorum, Regular Meeting. Four Trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular meeting. Proxy votes will not be allowed.

Section 4. Quorum, Special Meeting. Four Trustees shall constitute a quorum at any special meeting; however, four affirmative votes shall be required to transact business. Proxy votes will not be allowed.

Section 5. Votes on Motions. Votes on motions shall be recorded in the minutes as approved or disapproved by voice vote or by roll call when requested by a Trustee. All Trustees, including the Chair, may vote on motions.

Section 6. Public Participation. In addition, there will be an agenda item at each Library Board meeting for the public to address the Library Board. Those wanting to address the Library Board must sign on the form provided at the door. Those who failed to sign up,

or arrived late, may, at the discretion of the Chair, be allowed to address the Library Board. Speaking time may be limited with the consent of the Library Trustees, to ensure the most effective conduct of the meeting. The opportunity to address the Library Board does not include a question and answer session or response. Additionally, the Library Board does not respond to anonymous questions or comments. If questions are submitted in writing a response may be provided, in writing, at the Board's discretion.

### **ARTICLE VIII: BOARD COMMITTEES**

The Library Board may establish such committees as deemed necessary to assist in its work. The resolution establishing any such committees shall state the purpose, timeline, composition and authority of each such committee. The adopted Governing Policies will guide the establishment and work of all committees. In the absence of any other method of selection in the resolution, the Chair shall make appointments to any committee.

### **ARTICLE IX: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

Robert's Rules of Order, revised, latest edition may be invoked by majority vote of a quorum present at a Library Board meeting, or by the Chair.

### **ARTICLE X: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF**

Section 1. Executive Director. The Library Board shall employ an Executive Director to serve as chief executive officer of the Jefferson County Public Library. The Executive Director shall supervise the Library's day-to-day operations in accordance with these Bylaws and the Library Board's Governing Policies then in effect. The selection, removal, determination of salary and other terms of employment of the Executive Director shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the Library Board. The Executive Director shall serve as a non-voting member of the Library Board.

Section 2. Staff. As specified in CRS 24-90-109 (1)(c), and the Personnel Rules of Jefferson County, all other Library employees shall be appointed by the Executive Director, in accordance with approved personnel rules and budgeted staffing plans.

### **ARTICLE XI: POLICIES AND ADMINISTRATION**

Section 1. Governing Policies. The Library Board shall adopt and revise, at any regular meeting, Governing Policies to set forth additional guidelines and values for the Library Board's own conduct, and to govern the Executive Director in conducting the operational affairs of the Jefferson County Public Library. These policies shall be available to the public.

### **ARTICLE XII: FINANCES**

Section 1: Budget Approval and Management. The Library Board's Governing Policies shall direct the Executive Director to prepare an annual budget proposal that is consistent with the guidelines adopted by the Board of County Commissioners, and consistent with

the objectives and guidelines adopted by the Library Board. The proposed budget schedule will provide for public input and Library Board review and revision, for the Library Board's resolution. Library Board approval of the proposed budget is required prior to submittal to the Board of County Commissioners. Library Board adoption is required prior to the beginning of a fiscal year.

### **ARTICLE XIII: AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. The Bylaws shall be reviewed annually by a committee appointed by the Chair. Proposed changes will be presented to the Library Board at a regular, scheduled meeting.

Section 2. Amendment by Vote. The Bylaws may be amended by the affirmative vote of a two-thirds majority of the Trustees present at a regular, scheduled meeting. Amendments to these Bylaws shall be submitted to the Trustees at least 14 days prior to their proposed adoption.

Section 3. Automatic Amendment. The Bylaws shall conform to the prevailing governing statutes. Amendments as a result of changes to a governing statute shall be automatic, and the subsequent changes shall be given to the Trustees, in writing, as soon as possible.