

Staff Report

Subject: Amendment to Resolution Formalizing Effingham County's Withdrawal from Live Oak Public Libraries and Transition to the Statesboro Regional Public Library System

Author: Tim Callanan

Department: County Manager

Meeting Date: December 2, 2025

Item Description: Request for the Board of Commissioners to approve an amendment to the previously adopted resolution related to Effingham County's transition from the Live Oak Public Libraries system to the Statesboro Regional Public Library System. The amended resolution includes updated and clarifying language to formally acknowledge the Library Board of Trustees' votes taken on November 19, 2025.

Summary Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the amended resolution to fully document and support the unanimous decisions made by the Effingham County Library Board of Trustees and to authorize County leadership to proceed with the transition.

Executive Summary/Background: Effingham County has historically been a member of the Live Oak Public Libraries regional system. Concerns were raised in regards to administrative costs, reinvestment of taxpayer funds, and library service levels.

In response, the County initiated a review of library governance and services. As a result of this review, the Effingham County Library Board of Trustees held a special-called meeting on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 5 p.m. At that meeting, the Trustees took two formal and unanimous actions:

1. To withdraw from the Live Oak Public Libraries regional system
2. To join the Statesboro Regional Public Library System

The original resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners acknowledged the intent to withdraw from the Live Oak Public Libraries regional system. This amendment clarifies and formally incorporates the Library Board's actions into the legislative record, strengthening the basis for administrative coordination and public transparency.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

1. Approve the resolution as presented, formalizing the County's withdrawal from Live Oak and transition to Statesboro Regional Public Library System.
2. Do not approve the resolution.
3. Provide staff with direction.

Recommended Alternative:

1. Approve the resolution as presented.

Other Alternatives: N/A

Department Review: County Manager's Office, County Attorney, Effingham County Library Board of Trustees

Funding Source: No immediate budgetary impact. Any necessary adjustments to local or state funding will be evaluated during the FY2027 budget planning process.

Attachments: Resolution to Transition Library Systems