

## **Resolution of Support for Jackson County's Continued Participation in the Fontana Regional Library System**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Sylva recognizes the fundamental importance of accessible library services to the intellectual, cultural, and social well-being of its citizens and the broader community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fontana Regional Library system, comprising Jackson, Macon, and Swain Counties, has for many years provided a robust and comprehensive network of library resources, programs, and services to the residents of Jackson County, including those residing within the Town of Sylva; and

**WHEREAS**, these services include, but are not limited to, access to a vast collection of books, periodicals, and digital media; interlibrary loan capabilities; public computer access and internet services; educational and literacy programs for all ages; early childhood literacy initiatives; and community meeting spaces; and

**WHEREAS**, the continued participation of Jackson County in the Fontana Regional Library system is deemed essential for maintaining a high quality of life for all its citizens by fostering lifelong learning, promoting civic engagement, and providing vital informational resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Sylva is particularly committed to ensuring educational equity for all children and adults in Jackson County, recognizing that access to a well-resourced and professionally managed library system is critical for supporting their academic success, fostering a love of reading, and bridging potential achievement gaps; and

**WHEREAS**, withdrawal from the Fontana Regional Library system would likely result in diminished resources, reduced programming, increased operational costs for a standalone system, and potentially limit the scope and quality of library services available to Jackson County residents, thereby negatively impacting the educational opportunities and quality of life for its citizens; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners that:

- The Town of Sylva strongly supports Jackson County's continued and full participation in the Fontana Regional Library system.
- The Town of Sylva deems the Fontana Regional Library system to be an essential component of the quality of life for its citizens and a critical resource for ensuring educational equity for all children in Jackson County.
- The Town of Sylva urges the Jackson County Board of Commissioners to maintain its commitment to the Fontana Regional Library system and to take all necessary steps to ensure its continued strength and vitality.

Adopted this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025

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Johnny Phillips, Mayor  
Town of Sylva

Attest:

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Amanda W. Murajda, Town Clerk  
Town of Sylva