CONSTITUTION OF THE 
LIBERTY COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ARTICLE I. NAME

Section 1. The name of the library shall be the Liberty County Library.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

Section 1. These Constitution and Bylaws are companion documents to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Live Oak Public Libraries system (hereinafter Regional Library) and are intended to clarify local practices and the relationship of the Liberty County Library (hereinafter County Library) to the Regional Library. There is to be no conflict between provisions of these Constitution and Bylaws and those of the Regional Library system. If inadvertent conflict occurs, the Regional Constitution and Bylaws shall govern.

Section 2. The County Library shall furnish library service to the people of Liberty County as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Regional Library, and under the laws and regulations governing public libraries services to all citizens of Liberty County to meet their informational, educational, and recreational needs.

ARTICLE III. CONSTITUENCY

Section 1. The Liberty County Library is a fully participating member of the Live Oak Public Libraries. Membership in the Regional Library provides the citizens of Chatham, Effingham, and Liberty counties with fully reciprocal borrowing privileges in all libraries in the system.

ARTICLE IV. LEGAL AUTHORITY

Section 1. The legal authority for public libraries and boards of trustees described in Title 20, Chapter 5, Article 2 of the Official Code of Georgia, Annotated, amended March 26, 1984.

ARTICLE V. COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Section 1. The County Library Board of Trustees shall be composed of eight members appointed by the governmental agencies financially supporting the library on a regular basis, as required by state law. The Liberty County Board of Commissioners and Hinesville City Council shall each appoint three members; the Midway City Council and Riceboro City County shall each appoint one member.

Section 2. The term of office shall be three years, with starting and ending dates corresponding to the Library’s fiscal year. A member whose term expires at the end of any fiscal year, and whose seat has not been filled by the appointing agency, may continue service up to
three months pending reappointment or replacement by the appointing agency. No member may serve on this Board for more than three successive three-year terms.

Section 3. Board members must reside in Liberty County. When a sitting member chooses to reside elsewhere, that seat shall be considered vacant, and the Secretary shall notify the appointing body of the vacancy and request that it be filled.

Section 4. Vacancies on the Board shall be filled in the same manner as appointments are made. If a vacancy occurs prior to the expiration of a trustee’s term, the new appointee shall complete the unexpired term. This unexpired term shall be considered the first term of the new appointee if it exceeds eighteen months.

Section 5. Board members shall receive no compensation but may be reimbursed for any reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of library duties. Membership dues or fees for individual membership of Board members in state, regional, and national library associations may be paid from operating funds.

Section 6. The County Library Board shall appoint two of its members to represent it as members of the Regional Library Board. The Regional Board member shall be entrusted with representing and interpreting the interest of the County Library Board to the Regional Board.

ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Board of Trustees shall be a Chair, a Vice Chair and a Secretary elected from those serving on the Board. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by the Bylaws and by Robert’s Rules of Order (Revised). The duties of Treasurer shall be performed by the Regional Library Director.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected at the July meeting, as specified in the Bylaws, to serve for one year or until their successors are elected, and their terms of office shall begin at the close of the meeting at which they are elected.

ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES

Section 1. An executive Committee, composed of the officers of the Board, shall be entrusted to govern in the name of the Board of Trustees between meetings of the Board.

Section 2. Other special committees may be appointed by the Chairman as needed.

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION
Section 1. This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Liberty County Library Board of Trustees, by a two-third vote of the members present provided that notice is made in writing at least twenty-eight days prior to the meeting and provided that a quorum is present. All amendments to the Constitution shall be filed with the Director of the Live Oak Public Libraries, who shall file amendments with the Office of Public Library Services of the Georgia State Department of Technical and Adult Education immediately upon adoption.

Adopted: October 16, 1989
Amended: July 18, 1994; July 17, 1995; April 19, 1999; July 16, 2001; October 21, 2002; February 3, 2003; October 18, 2010

BYLAWS OF THE LIBERTY COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Live Oak Public Libraries Liberty County – Constitution and BylawsPage 3
ARTICLES I. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF BOARD MEMBERS

Section 1. The County Library Boards of Trustees are the organizations from which the members of the Live Oak Public Libraries Board of Trustees, the governing body of the Live Oak Public Libraries system, are drawn.

Section 2. The County Library Board of Trustees shall set local policies and practices in matters on which Regional Library Board policy is silent, and in matters delegated to County Boards by the Regional Board.

Section 3. The County Library Board of Trustees shall discharge those duties delegated to it by the regional Library Board of Trustees. All formal actions of the County Library Board of Trustees taken in discharging those duties shall be reported to the Regional Board of Trustees for approval and recording at their next meeting.

Section 4. The County Library Board of Trustees shall review Liberty County Library budgets prepared by the Regional Library Director, approve and recommended budget proposals to the Regional Library Board, and present b budget proposals and the library’s fiscal needs to its support agencies.

ARTICLE II. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Section 1. The Chair shall preside at all regular or called County Board meetings. He/She shall appoint all committees and shall be an ex officio member of all committees.

Section 2. The Vice Chair shall preside in the absence of the Chair. All other duties of the Vice Chair shall be assigned by the Chair.

Section 3. The Secretary shall record the official actions of the Board, keep a record of attendance at Board meetings, and have custody of the official minutes, which shall be housed in the Liberty County Library. He/She shall notify the proper appointing authorities of vacancies which may occur on the Board. The Secretary shall send copies of the minutes of all meetings to the Director of the Live Oak Public Libraries system. He/She shall report changes of membership to the Regional Library Director.

ARTICLE III. MEETINGS

Section 1. The Liberty County Library Board of Trustees shall hold four regular meetings during each fiscal year, including one in each calendar quarter. Regular meetings shall be held on the fourth Monday in January and the third Monday in the months of April, July, and October at 5:00 p.m., at such locations and times as determined by the Board or the Chair.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the Chair, or in the Chair’s absence, by the Vice Chair, for transaction of business stated in the call for the meeting. No business
other than that for which the meeting was called may be discussed or conducted at a called meeting.

Section 3. Prior to each regular or called meeting of the County Library Board, the Regional Library Director shall notify each member of the date, time, and place of the meeting.

Section 4. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the Chair to transact any business requiring attention between regular meetings of the County Board.

Section 5. All meetings must be open to the public and the news media in accordance with the Official Code of Georgia Annotated 5-14-1 et seq.

Section 6. The latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order (Revised), when not in conflict with these Constitution and Bylaws, shall govern the proceedings of the Board of Trustees.

Section 7. Each member of the Board shall have one vote.

Section 8. Four members of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum. No official business may be conducted without a quorum. Except as stated elsewhere in these Constitution and Bylaws, a simple majority affirmative vote of the quorum present and voting shall be necessary to approve any action before the Board.

Section 9. The Regional Library Director shall be notified in advance of all meetings of the County Library Board, its Executive Committee, or any of its committees. The Regional Library Director or a representative appointed by the Director shall attend all meetings of the County Library Board, its Executive Committee, or any of its committees.

ARTICLE IV. STAFF

Section 1. Staff of the Liberty County Library shall be an integral part of the Regional Library Staff, subject to the same staff line of authority as Regional Library Staff.

ARTICLES V. REPORTS

Section 1. The County Library system shall submit all reports requested by the Regional Library system to provide the information necessary to complete reports required by state, federal, or local laws or regulations, or to manage the Regional Library system in an efficient and business-like manner.

ARTICLE VI. ATTENDNACE

Section 1. A Board member shall be removed for cause or for failure to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings.

Section 2. A letter reporting removal and specifying the cause shall be sent by the Secretary to the affected Board member and to the appointing body responsible for
his/her appointment. The local appointing body shall be asked to appoint another representative to fill that member’s unexpired term.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Board of Trustees by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that notice is made in writing at least twenty-eight days prior to the meeting, and provided that a quorum is present. All amendments to these Bylaws shall be filed with the Office of Public Library Services of the Georgia State Department of Technical and Adult Education immediately upon adoption.

Adopted: October 16, 1989
Amended: July 18, 1994; April 19, 1999; February 3, 2003; October 18, 2010