

STATE OF ALABAMA)

COUNTY OF BALDWIN)

***RESOLUTION #2026-051
OF THE
BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSION***

TERMINATING INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM TO PROVIDE SHARED SERVICES IN BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA, AND APPROVING MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE COUNTY COMMISSION AND PARTICIPATING MUNICIPAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Commission is committed to ensuring that residents, particularly those living in unincorporated areas, have access to library services throughout Baldwin County; and

WHEREAS, the current intergovernmental agreements with the library boards within Baldwin County were modeled after the previous Baldwin County Library Cooperative (BCLC) agreement after the BCLC Board abruptly and unexpectedly fired its entire library staff in May 2024; and

WHEREAS, the previous BCLC agreements with the library boards required over 52% of the state aid to Baldwin County to be utilized by the BCLC for its operating costs along with the requirement of the public libraries continuing to meet the requirements set forth in Chapter 520-2-2 of the Alabama Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, without the oversight and overhead of the BCLC, the libraries within Baldwin County are cooperating at such an efficient level that all state aid funds are now being distributed directly to the libraries, and the libraries are gaining approximately \$250,000 in efficiency annually related to shared services; and

WHEREAS, the libraries are coordinating three out of the four shared services in the current agreements among themselves, leaving only the courier service requiring the County Commission support; and

WHEREAS, Baldwin County Commission will continue to operate a countywide courier system to facilitate the efficient distribution of library materials among all participating libraries within the county ensuring that all residents in Baldwin County continue to have access to library services; and

WHEREAS, all library materials reserved and delivered through the courier system shall be received and utilized in accordance with the policies and procedures of the receiving library, including applicable adult access library card or guardian permission requirements for all delivered material from an external library location; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSION, in regular session assembled, that the Intergovernmental Agreements for a Public Library System to Provide Shared Services in Baldwin County between the Baldwin County Commission and the municipal public libraries currently in place are hereby terminated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSION, that the Commission authorizes the Chairman of the Commission to execute Memorandums of Understanding between the Baldwin County Commission and participating municipal libraries to establish a cooperative framework for the operation of a countywide library courier system that facilitates the sharing and delivery of library materials among participating libraries, thereby expanding access to library resources for all residents of Baldwin County, including those in unincorporated areas.

DONE, under the Seal of Baldwin County, Alabama, as affixed on this the ____ day of _____ 2026.

Commissioner James E. Ball, Chairman

ATTEST:

Roger H. Rendleman, County Administrator