

(7) All final actions of boards [if] of library trustees shall be taken at public meetings. The minutes of board meetings shall be made available for the public.

173.

(a) *General powers and duties.*—Except as otherwise provided in Section 171, the board of library trustees in any county or designated local governmental unit as provided in [Section 171B] Section 171 (b) of this subtitle shall have the following general powers and duties:

- (1) To determine the policy of the library;
- (2) To adopt bylaws for the conduct of its business, and to choose its own officers;
- (3) To make reasonable rules and regulations for the use of the library;
- (4) To select and appoint a professional librarian as director and establish personnel policies for the library subject to the proviso that no qualified applicant be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, sex, creed or political affiliation. (i) To adopt policies regarding staff classification, salaries, and benefits including vacation, sick leave and hours of work. In those counties where there is a local personnel or civil service agency having responsibility for personnel policies and practices for county government employees, the county board of library trustees shall utilize the services of the agency and request its advice in setting up personnel policies and procedures. (ii) To suspend or dismiss without appeal any professional or clerical employee of any library established or operating under the provisions of this subtitle, on the written recommendation of the library director, for immorality, misconduct in office, insubordination, incompetency, or wilful neglect of duty, provided that the charges be stated in writing, and that the employee be given an opportunity to be heard by the board upon not less than ten days' notice; provided further that in all cases when the board is not unanimous in its decision to suspend or dismiss, the right of appeal shall lie to the State Superintendent of Schools.
- (5) To advise in the preparation of the budget and approve it;
- (6) To establish libraries, and to develop library service wherever needed;
- (7) To receive, account for, control and supervise, in accordance with its duly adopted budget and the regulations of the local governing body, the expenditure of all public funds received by the library;
- (8) To cooperate with and utilize the services of the fiscal agencies of the local governing body and seek the advice of those agencies in establishing sound fiscal policies and practices;
- (9) To receive, hold and possess, or sell and dispose of, all such gifts, donations, devises, bequests, and legacies as may be made to the county commissioners, or the trustees, for the purpose of establishing, constructing, increasing, or improving such public library. In all such cases, the board of library trustees shall act as trustees and shall have control of such gifts, devises, bequests, and legacies, and may apply the proceeds, interests, rents, and profits accruing