



# Conflict of Interest

**Last modified AUGUST 16 2023**

The Board of Trustees of the Rowan County Public Library (“the Library”) believes it to be fundamentally important for the public to perceive that all policies and decisions of the Board are fairly and impartially determined, and that the personal financial interests of Board members do not conflict with the interests, mission, and/or principles of the Library.

Therefore, a Board member shall not participate, directly or indirectly, on behalf of the Library in the making of any contract in which they have a personal financial interest, nor shall a Board member participate in any decision or recommendation in which they have a personal financial interest wherever it involves the Library.

Any Board member aware of a personal conflict of interest regarding a matter which comes before the Board shall bring this to the attention thereof. The President of the Board shall rule as to whether the situation constitutes a conflict. If it is ruled that a conflict exists, the relevant Board member(s) shall abstain from voting and self-recuse from any discussion regarding the matter by leaving the Board meeting during such, and shall not be counted when determining a quorum during the time in which they are thus absent. The details of any such occurrence shall be recorded in the minutes of the relevant meeting.

In the event that the President has a conflict or perceived conflict, the Vice President shall fulfill the responsibility of investigating and ruling upon the conflict.

A Board member shall not participate, in any way, in decisions regarding whether the Library will employ any person related to them, by marriage or otherwise, closer than a second cousin.

The Board, in accordance with this policy and applicable law(s), shall deal appropriately with any conflict of interest brought to its attention.