



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 10/20/2020

Consent Agenda

Department: Library

Presenter(s): Jim Blanton, Library Director & Don Warn, Finance Director

Contact(s): Jim Blanton, Library Director & Don Warn, Finance Director

Subject: Library Fine/Fee Write Off

Brief Summary:

After reviewing patron fine and fee debt balances for the Library that date back to June 1994, the Finance Department recommended clearing outstanding debts older than 3 years. Setting the time limit of 3 years before clearance is appropriate and consistent with best practices. The suggested action is in recognition that fines and fees older than 3 years represent an uncollectable balance, which has the effect of inflating the Library's receivable balance. The total receivable amount for fines as of June 30, 2020 is \$1,746,418 and the clearance amount older than 3 years is \$1,437,413.

The Library Director made a formal request for the Library Board to consider this action in late 2019, based on the Finance Department recommendation. The Library Board discussed this request at their November 14, 2019 meeting and voted in favor of supporting the request.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

The Library Board, based on the recommendation of the Finance Department, requests that the Board of Commissioners approves adopting the practice of clearing Library fine and fee debt older than 3 years, beginning with the current amount of \$1,437,413.

County Manager's comments and Recommendation: County Manager recommends approval.