

LINCOLN PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL

Minutes of Meeting

July 17, 2025

The Lincoln Parish Library Board of Control Meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by Chair Jan Canterbury. Board members Sandra Dupree, Deborah Gilliam, Milton Melton, Stephanie Smith, Richard Pyles, and Bill Jones were present. Absent from the meeting were Amanda Norris and Eric McCulloch. Library Director Jeremy Bolom was also in attendance.

The invocation was given by Mr. Melton.

Mr. Melton made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Dupree seconded the motion. All yes, motion carried.

There were no public comments.

Ms. Dupree made a motion to approve the minutes for the June 18, 2025, meeting. Mr. Pyles seconded the motion. All yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Jones, Chair of the Events Center Committee, reported that the Committee would be meeting again on August 5, 2025, at 5pm to discuss policy changes and additions for the service and consumption of alcohol in the Events Center. These will be presented to the Board at August's regular meeting with the intention to provide them for Jury review in September. Mr. Jones asked for a notice to be posted to invite public comment and encouraged all board members to attend the meeting, if possible.

Ms. Gilliam reported that the Friends of the Library will be having their next board meeting on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 5pm in the George Byrnside Room.

Director Bolom stated that there continues to be correspondence from a few individuals who have made monetary donations to the Library in memory of Norma Huston.

During his financial report, Director Bolom noted that most spending is either at or below the relevant percentage of where it should be midway through the year. He also pointed out that, although Events Center income has lessened during summer, rentals are strong for the fall.

He then presented the statistics for June, highlighting large gains in patron visits and circulation; however, computer and wi-fi usage had dropped due to continued Internet issues.

In his report, Bolom provided his schedule for several upcoming professional trainings and conferences, including the Association of Rural and Small Libraries Conference and the Library Journal's Directors' Summit. Planning continues for the Fall into a Book Festival, where the theme will be Alice in Wonderland. Staff will be busy with mandatory yearly trainings beginning in August. He again praised attendance numbers for Summer Reading programs, especially Harvey Rabbit with 219 attendees and the La Purchase Gardens and Zoo, who had four presentations, with 300 total attendees. Library outreach for the month included Grambling's Juneteenth celebration and parade. Director Bolom also

highlighted upcoming outreach for fall, which is an extremely busy season for the library with school orientations and Halloween related activities.

With no further discussions, Mr. Pyles made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Dupree seconded the motion. All yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:18pm.