

LINCOLN PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL

Minutes of Meeting

January 15, 2026

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

The invocation was given by Mr. Melton.

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

There were no public comments.

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

Chair Canterbury turned the task of Board officer elections to Director Bolom, who called for nominations for Chair for 2026. Ms. Dupree nominated Bill Jones. Mrs. Norris seconded the nomination. No other nominations were made. Mr. Melton called to close nominations, and Ms. Dupree seconded. All present members voted yes. Bill Jones was elected as Chair for 2026. This is his first term as Chair.

Director Bolom called for nominations for Vice-Chair for 2026. Ms. Smith nominated Amanda Norris. Ms. Dupree seconded the nomination. No other nominations were made. Mr. Melton called to close nominations, and Ms. Dupree seconded. All present members voted yes. Amanda Norris was elected Vice-Chair for 2026. This is her first term in this position.

Director Bolom called for nominations for the Board's Friends of the Library Liaison. Ms. Dupree made a motion to keep Deborah Gilliam as Friends liaison. Mr. Jones seconded the nomination. Mr. Melton called to close nominations, and Mr. Jones seconded. All present members voted yes. Deborah Gilliam was elected to remain Friends of the Library Liaison for her third time through 2026.

Mr. Jones assumed the running of the meeting, by starting with a moment of privilege to thank Jan Canterbury for her leadership as Chair for the last two years.

The Board then reviewed members of all special committees.

Chair Jones asked if any changes or additions needed to be made to the Events Center Committee. Stephanie Smith asked to be added to the committee roster. No other changes were made.

Since the Legislative Committee did not meet in 2025, Chair Jones suggested that it be suspended.

Ms. Gilliam provided her report as Friends of the Library liaison which included planning of volunteers for the annual Readers Club Gala at the next Friends board meeting on January 22, 2026.

There was no correspondence and communication.

During his financial report, Director Bolom pointed out there should be one more report for 2025 as some bills for services done during that year are still being paid.

He then presented the statistics for 2025. New IMLS standards for circulation and program attendance impacted numbers compared with those in 2024, causing a substantial decrease. E-material circulation rose 13,695, countermanding the fall in physical circulations which fell 6829, bringing total circulations to an increase of 6865.

In his report, Bolom summarized his upcoming professional activities. He also commented on preparations for the annual Readers Club Gala in February. The crape myrtles which were debated in the previous meeting were given a deep prune to get them back under manageable control without impeding building cameras, driveways, or signage. The repairs needed for the Events Center's damaged retractable wall are scheduled for May. He was disappointed about attendance for the Piatigorsky Foundation Concert held on January 6, but shared his excitement for the forthcoming slate of Black History Month events at LPL.

With no further discussions, Mr. Melton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Dupree seconded the motion. All yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:29pm.