

LINCOLN PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL

Minutes of Meeting

April 16, 2026

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

The invocation was given by Mr. Melton.

Director Bolom took a few moments to introduce guests at the meeting, which included a member of the press, Policy Jury administration and IT, and Edward Teal of Louisiana Tech University's Financial Aid Office.

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

There were no public comments.

Mrs. Norris made the motion to approve the minutes for the March 19, 2026, meeting. Mr. Melton seconded the motion. All yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Jones allowed Director Bolom to introduce the next agenda item regarding the Library becoming a Community Agency in Louisiana Tech University's Federal Work Study Program. Director Bolom provided a brief history on how the opportunity came about and then invited LaTech's Edward Teal to provide additional detail about the program and partnership. Student workers work up to 20 hours per week and are seeking job experience relevant to careers after they graduate. He went on to outline what is required of the Library—job descriptions, supervision, time-sheet validation, and scheduling—and with over 300 students in need of employment, Mr. Teal looks forward to partnering with the Library. After a few clarifying questions from Board members, Mr. Jones made a motion to authorize Director Bolom, the Library Board Chair (Mr. Jones), and Courtney Hall of the Police Jury to review all associated paperwork and finalize the signing of the necessary contract with Louisiana Tech University to become a Community Agency in its Federal Work Study Program. Mr. McCulloch seconded. All yes, motion approved.

During committee reports Director Bolom brought attention to a survey he gave to Events Center Committee members to fill out, so he could set a meeting to discuss policy updates. Although Friends Liaison Gilliam was absent, Director Bolom informed the Board that the Friends Board would be meeting the following week on Thursday, April 23 at 5pm.

Chair Jones reported on a meeting held on March 27 with architect, Mike Walpole in which Mr. Walpole addressed questions about the upcoming Library renovation project. The meeting served to clarify many details of the project, including choices of flooring, lighting, and paint colors, the moving of the Library collection, and the overall timeline for the project. Mr. Jones had samples of the flooring, and

Director Bolom provided a picture of the style of lighting that will replace the large dome lights in the Library. Everyone also received a diagram of the building showing each of the phases of project contraction.

There was no correspondence and communication.

During his financial report, Director Bolom noted expenses to at or over 75%, which lines up with where the Library is in the year.

He then presented the statistics for March 2026. Patron visits and Hoopla circulation increased by over 1000, and physical and Overdrive also increased. He pointed out impressive programming numbers with large programs such as the Geektogether, Pictures with the Easter Bunny, and RPAR Easter outreach.

In his report, Bolom mentioned his professional activities, which included attendance at the final meeting of the State Library's Director's Handbook Committee. Events Center Assistant positions had been filled, and one full-time position in Children's had opened due to a resignation. There was an all-staff meeting on Monday, April 6 at 8am, and the Friends are treating staff to a pizza lunch on April 22. He reminded everyone that there would be a talk on John Kyte's journey up Mount Everest after the meeting at 6pm, and alerted everyone to the upcoming Ouachita Strummers program, the Lincoln Literarium, Summer Reading Kick-off, and the Library's participation in this year's Peach Festival.

With no further discussions, Ms. Dupree made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. McCulloch seconded the motion. All yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:50pm.