

LINCOLN PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL
Minutes of Meeting--September 24, 2026

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

Mr. Melton made the motion to approve the minutes for the August 20, 2026, meeting. Mr. Pyles seconded the motion. All yes. Motion carried.

Chair Jones went through the bid process for the upcoming Library renovations since they were tabled by the Jury at their regular meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2026. He noted that the project was budgeted at \$500,000 and all bids came in more. Mike Walpole, architect for the project, assumed that bids would be outside of the Library's budget, so he let the bids for the project in two parts. The base, which included flooring, painting, and the other cosmetic details, and an alternate, which was the lighting portion. Because all combined base and alternate bids were at or over 1 million dollars, the base bid by Womack & Sons in the amount of \$630,125 was the only bid accepted. This was done at a special Jury meeting held on Tuesday, September 22, 2026. Therefore, the lightning for the Library will not be done as planned. Despite the delay in awarding the bid, the project is still due to begin on November 2, 2026 without any change in phase schedule.

There was no correspondence or communication.

Director Bolom stated in his financial report that spending from the "Building & Grounds Maintenance" line continues to be eaten away at with HVAC repairs on both sides of the building, so there will need to be an amendment.

Director Bolom then presented the statistics for August 2026 by saying that all numbers tend to dip in August due to the break from children's and teen programming. Grambling's Tiger Con (move in day) helped give a boost to outreach numbers.

In his report, Bolom mentioned his professional activities, which included his and assistant director Jessica Barrilleaux's attendance at the Association for Rural and Small Libraries conference in Montgomery, Alabama. He also reported attendance numbers at LA Tech's Bulldog Bash (200) which is less than past years. The big outreach programs for September, Park fest and the Dubach Chicken Festival, would both be happening Saturday, September 26, 2026.

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 5:17pm.

DRAFT