The Regular Meeting of the Library Board of Control was called to order on Monday, November 15, 2021 at 5:30 pm with the following:

PRESENT: Bennie Smith, President  
Courtney Hubbell, Vice-President  
Carolyn Soley  
Ruby LeBlanc  
Archie Chaisson, Library Liaison

ABSENT: Lauren Bordelon  
Tonya Hearns  
Francine Middleton

Also present in the meeting room: Mrs. Laura Sanders, Library Director; Mrs. Sherry Lucas, Finance/HR/Operations Manager; and Mrs. Dana Clement, Administrative Assistant.

Ms. Smith stated after roll call, “We have a quorum and can move forward with our meeting.”

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited together.

A motion to accept the LBC agenda was made by Mr. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc, and carried unanimously.

A motion to accept the minutes of the July 26, 2021 Regular meeting was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. Soley and carried unanimously.

A motion to accept the minutes of the October 5, 2021 Special meeting was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. Soley and carried unanimously.

Finance Report:
Mrs. Lucas reported, LPPL has a fund balance of $7.3 million and due to the entire Parish being reassessed post-storm, we will not have new ad valorem receipts until possibly July. These receipts are projected to be lower than originally expected. Project Updates-Thibodaux addition we have paid out $3,476,926 and have a few loose ends on this project. Lockport Entryway- we have paid to date $18,184 in architect fees. The project officially started today. South Lafourche Remediation-to date we have paid out $274,216. This was to clean up and gut the inside of the building. Golden Meadow Mitigation-The museum salvage effort is complete and some citizens took home their personal items, the rest were moved to South Lafourche. A motion was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc to accept the Finance Report. The motion carried unanimously.

Director Report:
Mrs. Sanders reported managing the daily operations of the library system. Mrs. Sanders reported we still have leaks at the Thibodaux Branch and we cannot get John Mansville to assist us with warranty work. Mrs. Sanders ask if the Parish could please assist as the Library has done everything they can do at this point without success. Mr. Chaisson suggested getting with an architect and looking into possibly getting a new roof installed. Mrs. Lucas ask, “Are you giving us permission to do that?” Mr. Chaisson said “yes”. Mrs. Sanders explained how the Lockport Entryway project has officially begun as of today (Nov 15) with an ending date of June 13, 2022. This is a 210-day project, although rain days and change orders can shift that date. Mrs. Sanders also explained there is a concern by Foret Construction and Mr. Posierry that we will need to have a change order to the project due to the price of steel going up significantly since the project was bid out. After discussion with Mr. Chaisson it was relayed that due to the storm, the time between bid and its acceptance was more than 60 days. Therefore, we do not believe we can hold them to the prices they originally gave in the bid. Open enrollment for health insurance has started for our employees by phone again this year. Therefore, we have cancelled our yearly Staff day and it will become a regular work day. We’re excited to have Lady Chops Dec 20th at Thibodaux Branch, unfortunately between her schedule and our local school’s schedules we were only able to host her at the Thibodaux Branch for a Christmas show. We will continue to look for days she can come to the other branches at a different time of year. A motion was made by Mrs. LeBlanc, seconded Mrs. Hubbell to accept the Director Report. The motion carried unanimously.

Special Order of Business:
1. Election of Officers for 2022; Mrs. Sanders opened the election for 2022 for the Library Board of Control by asking for nominations for President. Courtney Hubbell nominated Bennie Smith for President. Mrs. Sanders asked Ms. Bennie if she
accepted, and she agreed. After asking 3 times if there were any more nominees for President and there were none. Mrs. Sanders announced Bennie Smith as the President for 2022. Again, in a repeated effect, Mrs. Sanders opened the floor for nominations for Vice-President. Bennie Smith nominated Courtney Hubbell for Vice President and she accepted. Mrs. Sanders asked 3 times if there were any more nominees for Vice-President and there were none. Mrs. Sanders announced Courtney Hubbell as the Vice-President for 2022. Congratulations to Bennie Smith and Courtney Hubbell as our newly elected officers for the next calendar year. Thank you for your time and support of our Library System (pictures were taken for the LPPL Newsletter)

Old Business:
1. Discussion and approval of deferring purchase of computers for annual lab upgrades; Mrs. Sanders explained, we’ve deferred this item a few times but we can still wait until next year to purchase. Our oldest computers are 7 years old and need replaced, but we just do not have the room to house them while we format the hard drives right now. After some discussion it was decided to cancel this year’s annual purchase. We will look at next year’s annual purchase when the ad valorem money comes in around July 2022. A motion was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc to cancel the yearly purchase of computers to upgrade patron computers until July 2022. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business:
1. Discussion and approval of 2022 LPPL Employee calendar; Mrs. Sanders explained we followed the previous year’s calendar and the LPPL Holiday policy 5.02, with one addition. Juneteenth was made an official federal holiday this year and we have added that day to our schedule as a paid holiday. A motion was made by Mrs. LeBlanc, seconded by Mrs. Soley to accept the 2022 LPPL Employee calendar. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Discussion and approval of 2022 LBC calendar; Mrs. Sanders explained, again, we followed the previous year’s calendar but with the new ByLaw changes to quarterly meetings (Jan. April, July & Oct). Mrs. Sanders explained that with the library under construction at two locations there will be times that a special board meeting will need to be called as some business is too time sensitive to wait until the next regular meeting. It was suggested to change the location of January and April’s board meetings to the Raceland Branch due to the Lockport Entryway construction. A motion was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. Soley to accept the 2022 LBC calendar with January & April 2022 meetings to be held at the Raceland branch and July & Oct at the Lockport Branch. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion regarding Parish’s plan on the restoration of South Lafourche Branch; Mrs. Sanders explained that the gutting of the interior of the building has started. Mr. Chaissen stated, we’ve divided up the cost of the building to mirror our mutually agreed upon percentages: the library 64%, Head Start 9% and the Parish 27%. Bids went out for qualified architects and they are due back on Nov 29. The Library would like to have Library Interior Designer Traci LaMoynie give us a design/layout with a new look to the branch while maintaining a historical feel which is important to the people in that area. Ms. Smith suggested installing a climate control unit to the Genealogy department, while Mr. Chaissen suggested a generator be installed if needed. It’s looking like this could take 12 -18 months before we can get patrons back in to the building.

With no further business to discuss, a motion for adjournment was made by Mrs. LeBlanc, seconded by Mrs. Soley, and carried unanimously. The Library Board of Control was adjourned at approximately 6:11pm.