State of Louisiana
Parish of Lafourche

April 27, 2026
Lockport, Louisiana

The Regular Meeting of the Library Board of Control was called to order on Monday, April 27, 2026 at 5:07 pm with following:

PRESENT: Teddy Collins, Jr
Linda Eymard
Courtney Hubbell
Fran Middleton
Ruby LeBlanc
Mitch Orgeron, Library Liaison entered at 5:30pm

ABSENT: Tonya Hearns
Bennie Smith

Also present: Mrs. Laura Sanders, Library Director; Mrs. Sherry Lucas, Finance/HR/Operations Manager, Mrs. Shannon Porche; Assistance Director, and Mrs. Dana Clement, Administrative Assistant.

Mr. Collins 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 Mrs. LeBlanc, seconded by Mrs. Hubbell, and carried unanimously.

A motion to accept the minutes of the November 10, 2025 Special Meeting was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. Middleton, and carried unanimously.

Public Wishing to Address the Board: N/A

Finance Report: Mrs. Lucas reported that the fund balance today is about $7.4million, which includes new ad valorem receipts from the 2025 tax roll collections. "We ended the year with an actual fund balance of $4.2million, and a final accounting of 2025 can be found in your packet. Our Erate application for the funding year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 was submitted and is currently in review. Once approved, we'll qualify for up to $51,062 in internet discounts." A motion was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc, to accept the Finance Report. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Report: Mrs. Sanders reported managing the daily operations of the library system. Mrs. Sanders stated, "Golden Meadow branch is on pause due to last minute concerns raised by the Golden Meadow Mayor and Town Council related to the exterior facade. At this time, we're waiting for the Parish Council to deny acceptance of the bids received March 5, so the architect can proceed with revising the design and preparing to go out to bid again. I will be sure to keep the board updated. We're currently focusing on educating the public about our millage renewals for the May 16 election and preparing for Summer Experience, which starts May 26." After some discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded Mrs. Middleton, to accept the Director Report. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

New Business:
Item 1 - Discussion and approval of the 2026 Millage Letter rates and recommend to the Parish Council for approval; Mrs. Sanders explained, "I suggest we maintain the current millage rates for 2026. With the rising costs of everything, these funds are necessary to run the Library's daily operations and supplement our rebuilding efforts." With little discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. LeBlanc, seconded by Mrs. Middleton, to send a letter to the Parish Council with a request to maintain the current millage rates for 2026. A roll call vote was taken: Ms. Smith absent, Mr. Collins yes, Mrs. Eymard yes, Mrs. Hearns absent, Mrs. Hubbell yes, Mrs. LeBlanc yes and Mrs. Middleton yes. With no further discussion, the motion passed carried 5-0-2.

Item 2 - Discussion and approval of amended 2026 LPPL Budget per Finance Committee; Mrs. Sanders commented, "our budget gets prepared so early in the year, so we have a few amended items to bring to you." Mrs. Lucas presented the proposed budget amendments while reviewing the Budget worksheet with the board stating, "We anticipate 2026 ad valorem receipts to be about $6.1 million, including new collections and some late collections from 2025. Since we had to make the budget so early

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last year, we are proposing various adjustments to meet our current needs." Mrs. Lucas continued, "we reduced Library Supplies, Rental, Liability Insurance, and Maintenance Supplies to free up funds to increase the line items for Electricity, Water, Waste Collection, Professionals for programming, Postage, Communications, Furniture, eBooks, Software, Vehicle Maintenance, and Office Equipment Maintenance. Most of these lines need extra funds now that the South Lafourche Branch has reopened." Mrs. Lucas reminded the board, "we still have funds allocated to Vehicles in case we need to arrange for lease purchases to replace one or more of our older fleet vehicles since it's becoming harder to find parts for repairs. And we still have $60,000 budgeted for computer purchases in accordance with our annual technology upgrade schedule. A computer purchase will go to the full board for approval at a future meeting." Mrs. Lucas noted that all of the proposed amendments make zero net change to the total expenses that the board approved last year. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Middleton, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc, to approve the proposed Amended 2026 LPPL Budget as presented per Finance Committee recommendations. A roll call vote was taken: Ms. Smith absent, Mr. Collins yes, Mrs. Eymard yes, Mrs. Hearns absent, Mrs. Hubbell yes, Mrs. LeBlanc yes, and Mrs. Middleton yes. With no further discussion, the motion passed carried 5-0-2-0.

Item 3 - Discussion and approval of proposed 2027 LPPL Budget per Finance Committee; Mrs. Lucas explained, "we anticipate ad valorem receipts to be about the same for 2027; therefore, the proposed expenditures for 2027 are the same as those proposed in the Amended 2026 Budget. This includes the possibility of replacing a vehicle or two by lease purchase if not done in 2026 and $60,000 for the annual computer lab upgrades. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc, for the Finance Committee to recommend to the full board for approval of the proposed 2027 Budget as presented. A motion was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc, to approve the proposed 2027 LPPL Budget per Finance Committee recommendations. A roll call vote was taken: Ms. Smith absent, Mr. Collins yes, Mrs. Eymard yes, Mrs. Hearns absent, Mrs. Hubbell yes, Mrs. LeBlanc yes, and Mrs. Middleton yes. With no further discussion, the motion passed carried 5-0-2-0.

Item 4 - Discussion and approval of the annual approval of salaries and pay scale for LPPL Employees per Finance Committee. Mrs. Sanders explained, "Each year the board must approve the LPPL pay scale because that is often asked on grant applications. Our pay scale is comparable to other library systems, and I am not recommending any changes." Mrs. Sanders continued, "this is also the time of year that we discuss whether the board wants to approve a pay increase for library staff to offset inflation and to offset the recent and significant increase in health insurance premiums that were largely passed on to staff this year." Mrs. Sanders went on to say, "our employees work very hard to meet the needs of the community and are very deserving. The current salary budget already includes a projected increase. Our funding concern would be if our millage renewals don't pass." After brief discussion, the board decided it was best to table the matter of an increase until the next board meeting. A motion was made by Mrs. LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Collins, to approve the current LPPL pay scale with no change, but to table the matter of a structural rate increase until the next board meeting. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session:
A motion was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. Middleton, to enter into Executive Session pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17 (A) (1) at 6:11pm to discuss the Director's annual evaluation. The motion carried unanimously. The room was cleared and recorder shut off.
A short time later, attendees were invited to rejoin the meeting. A motion was made but Mrs. LeBlanc, seconded by Mrs. Hubbell, to end Executive Session and reconvene the meeting at 6:23pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 5 - Approval of Director's yearly evaluation results. A motion was made by Mrs. Hubbell, seconded by Mrs. Middleton, to approve the Director's yearly evaluation. The motion carried unanimously.

With no further business to discuss, a motion for adjournment was made by Mrs. Middleton, seconded by Mrs. LeBlanc, and carried unanimously. The Library Board of Control was adjourned at approximately 6:24pm.

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