State of Louisiana
Parish of Lafourche

April 27, 2026
Lockport, Louisiana

The meeting *Finance Committee* of the Library Board of Control was held at the Lockport Branch on Monday, April 27, 2026 at 4:00pm with the following:

PRESENT: Courtney Hubbell, Committee Chair
Francine Middleton

ABSENT: Bennie Smith

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited together.

Mrs. Hubbell stated after roll call, "we have a quorum and can move forward with our committee meeting."

A motion to accept the LBC Finance Committee agenda was made by Mrs. Middleton, seconded by Mrs. Hubbell, and carried unanimously.

APPROVED

Business:

Item 1-Discussion and recommendation to the full board for approval of amending the 2026 Budget: 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 committee 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 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 committee "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 a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Middleton, seconded by Mrs. Hubbell, for the Finance Committee to recommend to the full board for approval of the Proposed Amended 2026 Budget as presented. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Item 2-Discussion and recommendation to the full board for approval of the proposed 2027 Budget; 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. Middleton, seconded by Mrs. Hubbell, for the Finance Committee to recommend to the full board for approval of the proposed 2027 Budget as presented. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Item 3-Discussion and recommendation to the full board the annual approval of salaries and pay scale for LPPL employees; 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 reminded the committee, "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 continued, "our employees work very hard to meet the needs of the community and are very deserving of an increase. The current salary budget already includes a projected increase, so there is no need to amend that line item. Our funding concern would be if our millage renewals don't pass. We've

provided the committee with a few options for review at various cost levels." After a brief discussion, Mrs. Middleton made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Hubbell, to recommend to the full board that all employees be given a 4% structural pay increase for 2026, contingent upon successful millage renewals. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

With no other business to discuss, a motion for adjournment was made by Mrs. Middleton, seconded by Mrs. Hubbell, and the motion carried. The Finance Committee adjourned at approximately 4:29pm.

Recommendations:

The *Finance Committee* recommends to the full board for review and consideration:

1. The Amended 2026 Budget to be approved as presented.
2. The Proposed 2027 Budget to be approved as presented.
3. All LPPL employees to receive a 4% structural pay increase, contingent upon successful millage renewals.

APPROVED