

Washington Parish Library
Library Board of Control
Bogalusa Branch
Thursday, January 19, 2023, 5:30pm
Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to order by Mr. Jim Adams at 5:33pm.
- II. Roll Call by Mrs. Sonnet Ireland.
Board Members present: Mr. Jim Adams, Ms. Kewanda August, Mrs. Suzie Betts, Ms. Penny Moses, Ms. Emma Ross, President Ned Thomas, Mrs. Sally Thomas, and Mr. Donald Westmoreland
- III. Invocation by Mrs. Sally Thomas.
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance by President Ned Thomas.
- V. Presentation on behalf of Washington Parish Library Staff by Alan Gray.
- VI. Approval of Minutes from Thursday, November 17, 2022
A motion was made by Ms. Ross to accept the November 17, 2022 minutes as written; seconded by Mrs. Thomas. All present Board Members agreed.
Motion passed.
- VII. New Business
 - A. Director Annual Review/Contract Renewal
Mrs. Ireland asked for the opportunity to address the Board and the public. She thanked everyone for a wonderful first year with the Washington Parish Library, especially the hard-working staff.
While the Director's review is normally done in Executive Session, Mrs. Ireland voiced her desire to be transparent and invoked her right, as per La R.S. 42:17(A)(1), to have the review done in a public meeting.
The Board debated how to commence the review. Mr. Adams recessed the meeting for ten minutes to allow the Board time to fill out two different assessment forms. A discussion began about whether to extend Mrs. Ireland's contract that night or during a special meeting in February. The Board opted to renew her contract for another year.

A motion was made by Mrs. Betts to extend Mrs. Ireland's contract until a formal decision can be made; seconded by Mrs. Thomas.

Mr. Jim Adams: Yes
Mrs. Sally Thomas: Yes
Ms. Kewanda August: No
Mrs. Suzie Betts: Yes
Ms. Penny Moses: No
Ms. Emma Ross: No
Mr. Donald Westmoreland: No

Motion failed.

A motion was made by Ms. Moses to extend Mrs. Ireland's contract for another year, ending on January 31, 2024; seconded by Ms. Ross.

Mr. Jim Adams: Yes
Mrs. Sally Thomas: Yes
Ms. Kewanda August: Yes
Mrs. Suzie Betts: Yes
Ms. Penny Moses: Yes
Ms. Emma Ross: Yes
Mr. Donald Westmoreland: Yes

Motion passed.

B. 2023 Officer Elections

1. President

Nominations: Mr. Jim Adams, Mrs. Suzie Betts

Votes: 1 for Mr. Adams, 3 for Mrs. Betts, 3 abstained

Mrs. Suzie Betts is the new President

2. Vice President

Nominations: Mrs. Sally Thomas

Votes: 7 for Mrs. Thomas, 0 abstained

Mrs. Sally Thomas continues her role as the Vice President

3. Treasurer

Nominations: Mr. Donald Westmoreland

Votes: 7 for Mr. Westmoreland, 0 abstain

Mr. Donald Westmoreland is the new Treasurer

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn by Mrs. Thomas; seconded by Mrs. Betts. All Board Members agreed. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for 5:30pm Thursday, March 16, 2022 at the Franklinton Branch.