

Washington Parish Library
Library Board of Control
Bogalusa Branch
Thursday, December 19, 2024, 5:30pm
Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order by President at 5:30pm

II. Roll Call by Director

Board Members Present: Mrs. Suzie Betts, Ms. Penny Moses, Ms. Emma Ross, Mr. Perry Talley, and Mrs. Sally Thomas.

Absent: Ms. Kewanda August

Guests: Mr. Derek Dantin, Mr. Patrick Galivan

III. Invocation by Mr. Derek Dantin

IV. Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Perry Talley.

V. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Moses to approve the agenda; seconded by Mrs. Thomas.

Mrs. Suzie Betts: Yes

Mrs. Sally Thomas: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Mr. Perry Talley: Yes

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Motion passed.

VI. Approval of Minutes from November 21, 2024 meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Moses to approve the minutes from the previous meeting on November 21, 2024 at the Bogalusa Branch; seconded by Ms. Ross.

Mrs. Suzie Betts: Yes

Mrs. Sally Thomas: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Mr. Perry Talley: Yes

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Motion passed.

VII. New Business

A. Part-Time Hourly Average Issue

Mrs. Ireland updated the Board on the issue of the part-timer holiday pay. A couple of staff members have not met their annual average due to health issues earlier in the year. Mrs. Ireland has decided to allow them to have their benefits in spite of this, especially due to the extenuating circumstances.

A motion was made by Mr. Talley to affirm the Director's decision to approve the holiday and PTO for all of the regular part-time staff; seconded by Ms. Moses.

Mrs. Suzie Betts: Yes

Mrs. Sally Thomas: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Mr. Perry Talley: Yes

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Motion passed.

B. Library Staff Attending Board Meetings

Mrs. Ireland brought up the issue of staff being able to attend LBOC meetings if the time stays at 5pm, as voted on in the previous meeting. Mrs. Ireland did not like the idea of closing the branches early to allow staff a chance to attend those meetings, but she was hoping the Board could offer a solution.

A motion was made by Mrs. Thomas to change the time for the 2025 LBOC meetings to 5:30pm to make it easier for staff and the public to attend; seconded by Ms. Moses.

Mrs. Suzie Betts: Yes

Mrs. Sally Thomas: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Mr. Perry Talley: Yes

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Motion passed.

VIII. Old Business

A. Holiday Updates

It was recently brought to Mrs. Ireland's attention that the June LBOC meeting was set for Thursday, June 19, 2025 which is a holiday. Mrs. Ireland pointed out that June is not a regular meeting month and is also the peak of the Summer Reading Program. Mrs. Ireland asked the Board if they would like to reschedule or cancel the meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Moses to cancel the LBOC meeting in June 2025; seconded by Mrs. Thomas.

Mrs. Suzie Betts: Yes

Mrs. Sally Thomas: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Mr. Perry Talley: Yes

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Motion passed.

B. Clarifying Information with the State

Mrs. Ireland informed the Board of a visit from the Associate State Librarian Michael Golrick in November. During this visit, the Library learned about some things that could be improved. It was noted that the Friends of the Washington Parish Library should be responsible for selling books that have been donated and for the finances they generate. Mrs. Ireland also notified the Board that Mr. Golrick will be coming to Washington Parish to train the Board at the February 20th meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Moses to move the LBOC February meeting to 5pm to allow more time for the training; seconded by Mr. Talley.

Mrs. Suzie Betts: Yes

Mrs. Sally Thomas: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Mr. Perry Talley: Yes

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Motion passed.

IX. Executive Session - Board Applicants

A motion was made by Mrs. Thomas to enter executive session at 6:00pm; seconded by Ms. Ross.

Mrs. Suzie Betts: Yes

Mrs. Sally Thomas: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Mr. Perry Talley: Yes

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Motion passed.

A motion was made by Ms. Moses to exit executive session at 6:18pm; seconded by Mrs. Thomas.

Mrs. Suzie Betts: Yes

Mrs. Sally Thomas: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Mr. Perry Talley: Yes

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Motion passed.

A motion was made by Ms. Moses to recommend Mr. Derek Dantin to complete Mr. Westmoreland's term on the Library Board of Control, which ends on December 31, 2026; seconded by Mr. Talley.

Mrs. Suzie Betts: Yes

Mrs. Sally Thomas: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Mr. Perry Talley: Yes

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Motion passed.

X. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Moses to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Ross.

All present Board Members agreed. **Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:23pm.