

1

00:00:05.490 --> 00:00:07.250

Washington Parish Library: Ctrl-F.

2

00:00:08.730 --> 00:00:13.260

Washington Parish Library: It's yellow next. This day, Thursday, February 5th, 2026.

3

00:00:13.990 --> 00:00:16.249

Washington Parish Library: Sarah, will you do the roll call?

4

00:00:16.510 --> 00:00:25.579

Washington Parish Library: Mr. Nathan Pierce? Here, here. Ms. Emma Ross? Ms. Yes. Ms. Kawanda August? Here.

5

00:00:25.690 --> 00:00:33.269

Washington Parish Library: Derek Danton? Here. Ms. Penny Moses? Here. Mr. Perry Talley? Here. And... Parish President.

6

00:00:34.850 --> 00:00:38.470

Washington Parish Library: We do have a quorum. You do have a quorum. All right.

7

00:00:39.220 --> 00:00:41.670

Washington Parish Library: Mr. Dan, will you do the invocation?

8

00:00:41.910 --> 00:00:58.629

Washington Parish Library: Let's pray. Father, thank you for this night. Thank you for letting us gather together. I pray that everything would be done decently and in order, and in glory to your name. God, we just thank you for blessing us with the freedoms that we have, and to be able to gather tonight. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

9

00:01:00.580 --> 00:01:01.770

Washington Parish Library: There's a flag.

10

00:01:01.900 --> 00:01:06.190

Washington Parish Library: Attention. Pledge of Allegiance. Salute Lane.

11

00:01:06.300 --> 00:01:20.760

Washington Parish Library: I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

12

00:01:22.710 --> 00:01:25.270

Washington Parish Library: Can you put your name going up?

13

00:01:31.510 --> 00:01:37.930

Washington Parish Library: I want to put forth a motion for the approval of minutes from January 15th, 2026.

14

00:01:42.170 --> 00:01:51.130

Washington Parish Library: I make a motion that we approve the minutes that we... we had on January 15th. I make a motion to... for acceptance.

15

00:01:51.840 --> 00:01:55.520

Washington Parish Library: We have emotional. Okay.

16

00:01:56.110 --> 00:01:57.700

Washington Parish Library: Is there any discussion?

17

00:02:01.090 --> 00:02:04.630

Washington Parish Library: No discussion, I don't think. Is there any public comment?

18

00:02:05.820 --> 00:02:10.950

Washington Parish Library: On the minutes from January 15th of 2026.

19

00:02:11.070 --> 00:02:16.700

Washington Parish Library: And we'll go for a roll call vote for approval of the minutes of January 15th, 2026.

20

00:02:16.700 --> 00:02:17.390

Sula Kim: Oh.

21

00:02:18.080 --> 00:02:21.900

Washington Parish Library: Pierce? Yes. Emma Ross? Yes.

22

00:02:21.900 --> 00:02:22.740

Sula Kim: And...

23

00:02:22.740 --> 00:02:26.299

Washington Parish Library: August? Yes. Derek Danton? Yes.

24

00:02:26.430 --> 00:02:30.460

Washington Parish Library: Penny Moses? Yes. Holly? Yes. Presidency?

25

00:02:30.530 --> 00:02:34.579

Sula Kim: Plus... That was amazing.

26

00:02:34.850 --> 00:02:38.560

Sula Kim: Happy National Girls and Women's Sports Day. Happy organization.

27

00:02:38.560 --> 00:02:42.069

Washington Parish Library: Item number 4. Alright, any old business?

28

00:02:42.610 --> 00:02:44.159

Sula Kim: Perfect bottle.

29

00:02:44.930 --> 00:02:48.340

Washington Parish Library: There's no old business, we'll move on.

30

00:02:48.340 --> 00:02:49.820

Sula Kim: That's a fun letter.

31

00:02:50.560 --> 00:02:51.900

Washington Parish Library: New business.

32

00:02:52.200 --> 00:02:55.170

Washington Parish Library: We have a motion to enter executive decision.

33

00:02:55.310 --> 00:02:58.050

Washington Parish Library: Executive session. Executive session.

34

00:02:58.210 --> 00:02:59.580

Washington Parish Library: Do we have a motion?

35

00:03:00.090 --> 00:03:02.699

Washington Parish Library: I move we go into Executive Session.

36

00:03:02.810 --> 00:03:05.049

Washington Parish Library: Do we have a second? Second. Second.

37

00:03:05.460 --> 00:03:18.630

Washington Parish Library: Was that Ms. Kawanda? Yes. Mr. President? In accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute, Title 42, Section 17A1, I request that this meeting be held in public.

38

00:03:20.820 --> 00:03:21.970

Washington Parish Library: Okay.

39

00:03:23.780 --> 00:03:38.810

Washington Parish Library: Just for guidance, she has the option to do that, so that's fine. So there will be no executive session this evening, but the discussion will be held in the final part. So there's no need to vote, no copy.

40

00:03:38.810 --> 00:03:51.460

Washington Parish Library: Do we need to do a roll call vote? Yeah, because there's no action to take, because we're not going into executive session. Presentation by,

41

00:03:51.860 --> 00:03:56.900

Washington Parish Library: Okay. All right.

42

00:03:57.650 --> 00:04:00.260

Washington Parish Library: Thank you all for coming now.

43

00:04:00.320 --> 00:04:13.850

Washington Parish Library: I would like to start by saying this meeting tonight, and what we're discussing here, is not about anybody's agenda, be it right-wing or left-wing. It's not about what books are on the shelves.

44

00:04:13.850 --> 00:04:27.560

Washington Parish Library: It's not about what agenda some group is opposing to push. It's not about anybody's Facebook, or any group from any other part of the parish, the state, or this country. This is about Washington Parish, and Washington Parish Hardy.

45

00:04:28.550 --> 00:04:35.550

Washington Parish Library: The nature of this... Has some very, very, what most would call vile language.

46

00:04:35.780 --> 00:04:37.100

Washington Parish Library: Bio language.

47

00:04:37.530 --> 00:04:48.030

Washington Parish Library: And, am already, you know, apprehensive about having to use some of this language, or terms, or make... put in your mind what this language was. But it is what it is.

48

00:04:48.260 --> 00:04:50.079

Washington Parish Library: So we've got it documented.

49

00:04:50.280 --> 00:04:55.120

Washington Parish Library: And we're gonna see it. We've got a presentation we're gonna put on here tonight.

50

00:04:57.800 --> 00:05:00.649

Washington Parish Library: Just to set the stage here,

51

00:05:00.960 --> 00:05:14.000

Washington Parish Library: St. Tammany Parish Library, along with a lot of other libraries in the state, have gone through a lot of controversy over the last several years. Fortunately, Washington Parish has avoided that.

52

00:05:14.120 --> 00:05:20.939

Washington Parish Library: You remember last fall, the citizens even voted to renew our millage. A vote of confidence, I'm thinking, is what we're doing here.

53

00:05:21.720 --> 00:05:39.780

Washington Parish Library: I've been parish president a couple years. There's nothing personal about this meeting. When I first became parish president, the leadership of the library approached me about an issue they had, and dealing with some other staff members, and we rectified that issue in the favor that they wanted.

54

00:05:39.910 --> 00:05:52.190

Washington Parish Library: In the favor that they want. So we've worked with them before. Like I said, no agendas, no one else, outside influence. But we're gonna let what happened, in print and on video and audio speak for itself tonight.

55

00:05:52.420 --> 00:05:59.690

Washington Parish Library: I want to apologize in advance, maybe some of the language and stuff, but here we are. Can I say this, President Sea?

56

00:06:00.180 --> 00:06:01.940

Washington Parish Library: As a board member.

57

00:06:02.510 --> 00:06:10.629

Washington Parish Library: I mean, I don't know what I'm getting ready to see, because, you know, this is all hearsay for me as a board member.

58

00:06:10.630 --> 00:06:27.750

Washington Parish Library: Because I haven't spoken to Ms. Sonnet, I haven't heard of anything other than what was called and shared with me. I don't know about other board members, but this will be as new for me as it is for you.

59

00:06:27.750 --> 00:06:42.290

Washington Parish Library: So, I just... I just want to make that known to the people in the audience. As board members, this is my first. A conversation might have been had with some other board members.

60

00:06:42.290 --> 00:06:55.550

Washington Parish Library: But this is my first. So what you're getting ready to hear, this is my first time here. Now, I don't know about anybody else, but I want to go on record before they even present this information to you and I tonight.

61

00:06:56.940 --> 00:06:59.779

Washington Parish Library: We're trying to get it set up, so here is...

62

00:07:00.700 --> 00:07:05.149

Washington Parish Library: And are you having issues connecting? I thought that one was mine. Oh, okay.

63

00:07:07.710 --> 00:07:12.160

Washington Parish Library: And then I guess my other question, while we're waiting, is...

64

00:07:12.180 --> 00:07:28.930

Washington Parish Library: who conducted this investigation, who came up with the material, who went so far as to bring us to this point. I don't know how we got to this point that we have our librarian under scrutiny tonight.

65

00:07:28.930 --> 00:07:34.200

Washington Parish Library: Because I don't know who would have called... nobody called this board.

66

00:07:34.210 --> 00:07:39.710

Washington Parish Library: Nobody called me and said, y'all, librarian is a... Bunch of croc.

67

00:07:39.940 --> 00:07:58.320

Washington Parish Library: And I'm gonna say it like that, because I think that's what you're saying to her tonight. I mean, I can go on and on, but what I'm saying is, this is so new to us as a board. We have operated this Library Board of Control under the, how can I say it? It's been an open

68

00:07:58.690 --> 00:08:18.130

Washington Parish Library: meeting for you to come out to every meeting we've had. You've had ample opportunity to come watch Masonic in action, run this library and this system at its best. I mean, we are only in Washington, Pennsylv.

69

00:08:18.370 --> 00:08:24.910

Washington Parish Library: And so, I guess, like, you know, while we got a minute till they finish setting up, I don't know what the other board members want to say.

70

00:08:25.070 --> 00:08:36.289

Washington Parish Library: This is new for me. I'm gonna know and make you a decision. Ms. Moses, if I may, I'll bring you up. That sounds like a winner. Okay, not this past Monday, but a Monday a week ago.

71

00:08:37.970 --> 00:08:45.229

Washington Parish Library: I got a phone call from a friend of mine that said, this other guy's gonna call you, I gave you your number. I said, okay, fine, and this guy called me.

72

00:08:45.450 --> 00:08:49.689

Washington Parish Library: And he told me an incident that happened. There was...

73

00:08:50.040 --> 00:08:59.799

Washington Parish Library: a meeting, St. Tammany Parish Library, looking for a new director. Gotcha. And Ms. Ireland applied, which is fine and great. We've all applied for jobs before.

74

00:08:59.900 --> 00:09:09.579

Washington Parish Library: I have no issues at all with that whatsoever. Whatsoever. This guy called me and told me of anything that happened, at the... at this library.

75

00:09:09.860 --> 00:09:13.870

Washington Parish Library: director's interview. And I said, okay.

76

00:09:14.120 --> 00:09:15.999

Washington Parish Library: And then another guy called me.

77

00:09:16.590 --> 00:09:21.710

Washington Parish Library: Well, I was flying out the next day to DC, to Washington, D.C.

78

00:09:21.960 --> 00:09:28.600

Washington Parish Library: I called, my assistant about it. We informed our legal counsel about it.

79

00:09:28.840 --> 00:09:33.409

Washington Parish Library: And we informed Our personnel manager about it, personnel director about it.

80

00:09:34.000 --> 00:09:44.190

Washington Parish Library: So, while I was gone, we were on the phone, they were doing research, to verify this, you know, audios and videos and statements and stuff.

81

00:09:44.260 --> 00:09:57.340

Washington Parish Library: And, and then on Monday, this past Monday when I returned, the gentleman, who was at the receiving end of all these comments called me to tell me his side of the story.

82

00:09:58.510 --> 00:10:03.060

Washington Parish Library: After... because of the evidence lined up with what...

83

00:10:03.190 --> 00:10:09.750

Washington Parish Library: He was saying, what we saw and what we read, we realized this was a serious accusation.

84

00:10:10.030 --> 00:10:16.730

Washington Parish Library: And we wanted to talk about it. Okay. Like I said, after talking to our legal counsel, our personnel manager, assistant.

85

00:10:16.930 --> 00:10:33.249

Washington Parish Library: And, gathering my thoughts and all it, we reached out, to the board president, to the board president, and we spoke to him, that Monday, and I requested that we have a meeting by the end of the week, and that's how we got here. Gotcha. That's how we got here.

86

00:10:33.610 --> 00:10:37.000

Washington Parish Library: That's clear. Any questions so far?

87

00:10:38.250 --> 00:10:42.860

Washington Parish Library: Right. Thank you. Well, are we able to ask questions right now?

88

00:10:45.090 --> 00:11:01.540

Washington Parish Library: I might have to ask the chair. I don't want to... Go for it. If we're allowed to ask questions, I... I highly recommend staying to the agenda. We'll stick to the agenda. There is a spot on here.

89

00:11:01.550 --> 00:11:13.500

Washington Parish Library: For public comment. So this is, this is step one. Maybe I... I'm sorry, Ms. I was out loud, until after we started a little bit, but... We're ready. Okay, yeah.

90

00:11:14.580 --> 00:11:16.570

Washington Parish Library: This is still just discussion. Yeah.

91

00:11:17.120 --> 00:11:19.819

Washington Parish Library: Just so that we get a little bit of...

92

00:11:20.140 --> 00:11:23.269

Washington Parish Library: Context before we start opening the floor.

93

00:11:23.440 --> 00:11:43.330

Washington Parish Library: Danielle, did you hand them anything? No, not yet, but this isn't, that first one isn't, but we needed. No, no, no, this is the video, and this is the video. This is...

94

00:11:45.770 --> 00:11:47.329

Washington Parish Library: I'll plug that in.

95

00:12:00.130 --> 00:12:01.470

Washington Parish Library: They did pull me.

96

00:12:11.810 --> 00:12:14.020

Washington Parish Library: Y'all going to restart.

97

00:12:14.590 --> 00:12:17.780

Washington Parish Library: Do you need a hotspot? Yeah, a hotspot if you need it.

98

00:12:20.610 --> 00:12:22.960

Washington Parish Library: That's what messed up mine a minute ago.

99

00:12:24.000 --> 00:12:25.430

Washington Parish Library: There you go.

100

00:12:26.250 --> 00:12:27.710

Washington Parish Library: That's original photography.

101

00:12:36.310 --> 00:12:40.400

Washington Parish Library: Or you can connect to the main if you need to.

102

00:12:41.060 --> 00:12:46.370

Washington Parish Library: It's, 161, I think? 16? Yeah.

103

00:12:46.700 --> 00:12:47.520

Washington Parish Library: Oops.

104

00:12:48.720 --> 00:12:51.980

Washington Parish Library: And then, where's the passwords?

105

00:13:24.620 --> 00:13:37.790

Washington Parish Library: occasionally say, here's our cool sign, or whatever, as you mentioned. The good... the good stuff, right? Celebration stuff. Would you... and I don't know if you currently do this in Washington Parish, but I would think in St. Tammany, which is so large.

106

00:13:37.790 --> 00:14:00.119

Washington Parish Library: Do you instruct your... would you... would you instruct your staff not to get involved in that? I know you can't stop them necessarily, but I think it could, you know, play a part in just the role of not good stuff. Would you... how would you handle that? I would tell my staff what I tell my staff now, and what I even tell the occasional staff person when I check out books here.

107

00:14:00.270 --> 00:14:01.770

Washington Parish Library: don't respond.

108

00:14:02.150 --> 00:14:06.929

Washington Parish Library: Don't get into it. Your job is to keep the library running.

109

00:14:07.110 --> 00:14:12.639

Washington Parish Library: There are other people who will defend you. Let them do your job, because

110

00:14:12.870 --> 00:14:17.240

Washington Parish Library: The thing is, when a staff person does post something.

111

00:14:18.650 --> 00:14:25.289

Washington Parish Library: We're not great at separating the world, not librarians, but everyone, is not really great at separating

112

00:14:25.440 --> 00:14:27.330

Washington Parish Library: Parts of their lives anymore.

113

00:14:27.500 --> 00:14:32.690

Washington Parish Library: You may have noticed, you know, you have an opinion, people are threatening your job.

114

00:14:33.800 --> 00:14:40.429

Washington Parish Library: In my experience, things get taken out of context really easily.

115

00:14:40.670 --> 00:14:44.130

Washington Parish Library: And something that may seem obvious to you.

116

00:14:44.540 --> 00:14:54.549

Washington Parish Library: can be taken out of context, and at the time, I would say, Kelly's gonna be the one to answer for it. And if you say the wrong thing the wrong way.

117

00:14:55.090 --> 00:15:14.689

Washington Parish Library: you're making things worse, even if you think you're trying to make them better. For my staff, I do remind them that people don't see the library in them. They're the same thing in people's minds online. So be very careful what you say, be very careful, you know, don't... don't disparage people.

118

00:15:14.890 --> 00:15:19.320

Washington Parish Library: Don't get in fights with people.

119

00:15:20.260 --> 00:15:29.229

Washington Parish Library: you represent the library. This is where you live, this is where you work, you know, don't do anything that

120

00:15:29.540 --> 00:15:31.820

Washington Parish Library: Me or the board will have to...

121

00:15:32.090 --> 00:15:43.619

Washington Parish Library: justify or try to explain, especially if I have no say in what you're... I don't know what you're gonna post and what it means, like, you know, try to avoid that. Mostly for their own protection, though. Thank you.

122

00:15:44.460 --> 00:15:45.210  
Washington Parish Library: Perhaps.

123  
00:15:48.880 --> 00:15:49.770  
Washington Parish Library: Good evening.

124  
00:15:50.120 --> 00:15:55.520  
Washington Parish Library: So, I'm assuming that... Guys, was an interview that Ms. Sonnett

125  
00:15:56.030 --> 00:16:04.610  
Washington Parish Library: Mr. Ryan, you want to go ahead? Yes, and Ms. Ireland can verify this. This was a video taken of her interview for the job.

126  
00:16:05.500 --> 00:16:06.390  
Washington Parish Library: Correct.

127  
00:16:07.040 --> 00:16:08.929  
Washington Parish Library: Thank you.

128  
00:16:09.410 --> 00:16:12.389  
Washington Parish Library: If you wouldn't mind passing the status one.

129  
00:16:13.230 --> 00:16:18.500  
Washington Parish Library: A question on that. Is that publicly posted? Yes. Okay.

130  
00:16:37.540 --> 00:16:40.949  
Washington Parish Library: What was it, 3 years? 3 years?

131  
00:16:41.550 --> 00:16:52.410  
Washington Parish Library: It's a crazy time, man. Crazy time. This is one other thing I'd like to say, Mr. Chairman. The reason I wanted y'all to hear this is to hear the Director's opinion about how... how we're not separating from the world, quote-unquote.

132  
00:16:52.520 --> 00:16:54.470

Washington Parish Library: And how you represent the library.

133

00:16:55.050 --> 00:17:00.190

Washington Parish Library: That's the point I want to make. She set the tone there for employees and how they represent.

134

00:17:00.310 --> 00:17:02.540

Washington Parish Library: And not separating from the world.

135

00:17:03.100 --> 00:17:05.040

Washington Parish Library: Thank you.

136

00:17:05.260 --> 00:17:13.910

Washington Parish Library: Okay, so right now, you can see this is another video, from the, the, security fail.

137

00:17:14.329 --> 00:17:19.170

Washington Parish Library: Down there, and up in the upper left-hand corner is you see the incident.

138

00:17:19.720 --> 00:17:20.880

Washington Parish Library: And I...

139

00:17:21.020 --> 00:17:25.430

Washington Parish Library: I don't know if... I know obviously y'all can't see, but if the board members can't see, maybe you have to approach closer.

140

00:17:25.700 --> 00:17:28.920

Washington Parish Library: to see, but you're going to hear and see some things. You have a transcript.

141

00:17:29.150 --> 00:17:31.850

Washington Parish Library: Of what was said.

142

00:17:31.960 --> 00:17:35.659

Washington Parish Library: And then you're gonna see the... see the,

143

00:17:36.220 --> 00:17:38.540

Washington Parish Library: the accident of words. You're the words.

144

00:17:41.460 --> 00:17:43.750

Washington Parish Library: What was it, 3 years?

145

00:17:44.130 --> 00:17:49.919

Washington Parish Library: Three years? It's a crazy time, man, it's a crazy time to be a vibe.

146

00:17:52.630 --> 00:17:56.190

Washington Parish Library: First... So, it's my problem is not the fuck.

147

00:17:58.640 --> 00:18:05.999

Washington Parish Library: Hold on, hold on, let me record it, hold on, let me record it. Oh, I did record it!

148

00:18:08.050 --> 00:18:31.789

Washington Parish Library: But that was... that was your public comment. Don't try to challenge my manhood. Don't try to challenge my accuracy. I referenced... I referenced your public comment.

149

00:18:31.870 --> 00:18:41.439

Washington Parish Library: I'm married. It's flattering, but... I referenced your public comment. All right? I referenced your... Don't touch me. I referenced your public comment.

150

00:18:41.590 --> 00:18:56.090

Washington Parish Library: You sound very mad right now. No. Well, I think, I think you're going back to Washington Parish. I'm sorry. I think this is, this is, this is fringe, ma'am.

151

00:18:56.280 --> 00:19:16.469

Washington Parish Library: You're cringe! You're mad, and you're cringe! I didn't get kicked for the job because of my... because... because of terrible!

152

00:19:16.470 --> 00:19:24.080

Washington Parish Library: Oh, I know the message. My public son-in-law.

153

00:19:24.080 --> 00:19:48.539

Washington Parish Library: I thought the defeatist attitude in your initial interview was hilarious, when you said it was already decided. That was very defeatist and, like, kind of rude. Sounds like coke.

154

00:19:48.540 --> 00:19:54.890

Washington Parish Library: To me. I mean... It sounds like what? It sounds like coping. You're employing a coping mechanism

155

00:19:54.930 --> 00:20:18.960

Washington Parish Library: Therapist? I mean, I kinda am for some of the activists in here. I had a talk with Becky Baum. We actually agree on a lot, if not everything. Cope and see. Stop trying to challenge my manhood by insulting me. You're trying to insult my manhood by talking about my...

156

00:20:18.960 --> 00:20:25.840

Washington Parish Library: It's ballast. I think that's very childish, and I think that it is very desperate, and...

157

00:20:25.880 --> 00:20:29.639

Washington Parish Library: You are defeated, and you're... you're a pain point.

158

00:20:29.790 --> 00:20:35.869

Washington Parish Library: I'm not sure. I'm okay!

159

00:20:36.450 --> 00:20:38.389

Washington Parish Library: I'm an adult, I'm alright.

160

00:20:39.130 --> 00:20:42.089

Washington Parish Library: I'm an adult, I'm good!

161

00:20:43.890 --> 00:20:45.040

Washington Parish Library: Alrighty.

162

00:20:45.190 --> 00:20:56.950

Washington Parish Library: And also, y'all have a transcript there of what... of what was said? I don't think everybody could hear it. Did anybody hear it?

163

00:20:57.460 --> 00:21:06.930

Washington Parish Library: He was really up... this gentleman was there, as you could see, and as Miss Ireland was going in and out the door, they started a conversation.

164

00:21:07.260 --> 00:21:08.130

Washington Parish Library: Ma'am?

165

00:21:08.650 --> 00:21:18.670

Washington Parish Library: I'm sorry, Michael. Go ahead, I'm listening. They start the conversation, and in that conversation, miss Ireland.

166

00:21:19.190 --> 00:21:22.110

Washington Parish Library: Compared her penis to his.

167

00:21:23.180 --> 00:21:25.680

Washington Parish Library: And then said he could suck it.

168

00:21:27.280 --> 00:21:34.930

Washington Parish Library: And then... She used another unflattering word for... Female genitalia with this gentleman.

169

00:21:36.050 --> 00:21:43.949

Washington Parish Library: So... and then after that was over, after this incident was over, she ran to Facebook and social media and bragged about it.

170

00:21:44.540 --> 00:21:47.639

Washington Parish Library: write about it. And you can see right here.

171

00:21:47.890 --> 00:22:00.690

Washington Parish Library: It says, he said some things that made no sense. I told him he's mighty brain behind the keyboard. He should stop being... as naughty by nature put it in OPP, it's sort of like, well, another way to call a cat a kitten.

172

00:22:01.110 --> 00:22:05.310

Washington Parish Library: I also told him, based on how he behaves and actions, that I apparently have a bigger

173

00:22:05.460 --> 00:22:07.789

Washington Parish Library: Than he does, and he can just suck it.

174

00:22:08.170 --> 00:22:10.059

Washington Parish Library: Yes, those exact words.

175

00:22:10.490 --> 00:22:17.560

Washington Parish Library: Not my finest moment. Do I have read it? Hmm, not really. No? If I can rewind by it again? Hmm, probably.

176

00:22:18.100 --> 00:22:21.019

Washington Parish Library: So we've got... what we've got here, ladies and gentlemen.

177

00:22:21.470 --> 00:22:25.100

Washington Parish Library: is a director of Washington Parish Government.

178

00:22:25.370 --> 00:22:27.569

Washington Parish Library: a department head of Washington Parish Government.

179

00:22:27.770 --> 00:22:29.760

Washington Parish Library: Representing Washington Parish.

180

00:22:30.180 --> 00:22:35.220

Washington Parish Library: Going down, And calling this man, there's derogatory names.

181

00:22:35.620 --> 00:22:38.120

Washington Parish Library: And referring to his penis to hers.

182

00:22:38.930 --> 00:22:44.290

Washington Parish Library: Then, going running home and bragging about it, and bragging about it. And there was another...

183

00:22:44.880 --> 00:22:59.749

Washington Parish Library: thing she did, too. Another, thing insulting this as well. So what this comes down to, in several ways, is poor representing... poor, very poor, distasteful, vile representing of our parish, and also against our own policies of sexual harassment.

184

00:22:59.940 --> 00:23:01.299

Washington Parish Library: Sexual harassment.

185

00:23:01.860 --> 00:23:03.270

Washington Parish Library: We have...

186

00:23:03.680 --> 00:23:08.620

Washington Parish Library: Notes here for you. If y'all... if y'all have time to read that transcript, you can see it in front of you.

187

00:23:09.260 --> 00:23:15.019

Washington Parish Library: Yes. Yes, ma'am. Did y'all have a chance to read that? I followed along as it was pinned.

188

00:23:16.270 --> 00:23:20.580

Washington Parish Library: Like...

189

00:23:25.920 --> 00:23:45.020

Washington Parish Library: Okay, and also in the packet... also in the packet, you'll see some other things there. Not only after she ran to Facebook and doubled down about her vile and lewd comments about this gentleman, but she also said, a post made to another gentleman, I

would drive to St. Tammany and fold this plan, like, originating origami or po' boy, and a slice of king cake.

190

00:23:45.310 --> 00:23:54.400

Washington Parish Library: Thank you, I appreciate it more than you know. Also, I have no doubt you could do it with one hand tied behind your back. Honestly, all you probably have to do is look at him and say, boot.

191

00:23:54.830 --> 00:24:04.639

Washington Parish Library: And then, there's some other jawing... going back and forth, and we come to our... you can see our policy here against sexual harassment, lewd, drugs, or comments.

192

00:24:04.640 --> 00:24:11.230

Becky : Comments regarding sexual behavior, or another body of another. Unanswered physical techniques.

193

00:24:11.230 --> 00:24:12.729

Washington Parish Library: costs are lacking or hidden.

194

00:24:15.460 --> 00:24:16.150

Washington Parish Library: So.

195

00:24:16.150 --> 00:24:16.790

Becky : 13 pounds.

196

00:24:16.790 --> 00:24:18.220

Washington Parish Library: size of buildings.

197

00:24:18.220 --> 00:24:24.300

Becky : harassment. Oh, yeah.

198

00:24:24.300 --> 00:24:25.999

Washington Parish Library: And, and it.

199

00:24:26.000 --> 00:24:26.440

Becky : There you go.

200

00:24:26.440 --> 00:24:27.700

Washington Parish Library: comments, you can see there's also she

201

00:24:31.990 --> 00:24:33.919

Washington Parish Library: I'm just disappointed in the department here.

202

00:24:33.920 --> 00:24:34.750

Becky : No, this is perfect.

203

00:24:34.750 --> 00:24:35.760

Washington Parish Library: Wash a pair of gums.

204

00:24:36.540 --> 00:24:37.949

Washington Parish Library: We're supposed to represent us in our lives.

205

00:24:37.950 --> 00:24:38.630

Becky : No, it's good.

206

00:24:38.630 --> 00:24:39.889

Washington Parish Library: professional manner out of town.

207

00:24:39.890 --> 00:24:40.320

Becky : Brilliant people.

208

00:24:40.320 --> 00:24:41.950

Washington Parish Library: We just said before in the interview.

209

00:24:42.530 --> 00:24:47.719

Washington Parish Library: now that you can't separate the world. We gave advice to people in this situation, and she did just the opposite.

210

00:24:47.720 --> 00:24:52.450

Becky : In my entire life, I've never heard a woman do that.

211

00:24:52.450 --> 00:24:54.549

Washington Parish Library: With those exact words to another man.

212

00:24:54.550 --> 00:24:55.060

Becky : Amazing.

213

00:24:55.060 --> 00:24:58.339

Washington Parish Library: I'm very, very... I'm very disappointed.

214

00:25:00.340 --> 00:25:04.230

Washington Parish Library: It's not a genuine.

215

00:25:04.890 --> 00:25:08.110

Washington Parish Library: me, or who asked the extra books. This is about a behavior of a walking.

216

00:25:08.110 --> 00:25:09.890

Becky : parish government department there.

217

00:25:09.890 --> 00:25:11.420

Washington Parish Library: And that's where we are.

218

00:25:12.870 --> 00:25:13.630

Becky : ridiculous.

219

00:25:14.130 --> 00:25:15.879

Becky : Yes, yes, yes.

220

00:25:15.880 --> 00:25:19.499

Washington Parish Library: Everything you have to say...

221

00:25:19.500 --> 00:25:23.149

Becky : It's important, and there's going to be public...

222

00:25:23.150 --> 00:25:25.949

Washington Parish Library: There'll be public comment, and everything's important, but...

223

00:25:26.570 --> 00:25:32.269

Washington Parish Library: Mr. Seal, you still need to finish, correct? Yes, and then, like I said, after she did this.

224

00:25:32.600 --> 00:25:33.760

Washington Parish Library: You know, with the timer flow.

225

00:25:33.760 --> 00:25:34.210

Becky : Like, she went.

226

00:25:34.210 --> 00:25:36.729

Washington Parish Library: home and double down on it. And on the 28th.

227

00:25:36.730 --> 00:25:37.310

Becky : Yep.

228

00:25:37.310 --> 00:25:43.300

Washington Parish Library: She puts, I apologize for the mean, hurtful, accurate things I said to you, one day.

229

00:25:43.300 --> 00:25:43.680

Becky : Let's.

230

00:25:43.680 --> 00:25:46.380

Washington Parish Library: find someone who's accepted you, and I'll probably be a demon.

231

00:25:46.380 --> 00:25:46.810

Becky : Okay.

232

00:25:46.810 --> 00:25:47.439

Washington Parish Library: I guess what it is.

233

00:25:49.750 --> 00:25:50.579

Washington Parish Library: It's not letting it go.

234

00:25:50.580 --> 00:25:51.029

Becky : your face.

235

00:25:51.030 --> 00:25:52.390

Washington Parish Library: No remorse. No remorse.

236

00:25:52.390 --> 00:25:53.250

Becky : social links.

237

00:25:53.250 --> 00:25:54.899

Washington Parish Library: And so when I found out about this.

238

00:25:55.720 --> 00:26:01.560

Washington Parish Library: When I found out about this, and I said, you know, we've got to address this with the board, you thought she reached out to me and says, you know.

239

00:26:02.110 --> 00:26:03.999

Washington Parish Library: What's going on here? What's the issue?

240

00:26:04.800 --> 00:26:06.050

Washington Parish Library: You start rallying the troops.

241

00:26:06.380 --> 00:26:09.140

Washington Parish Library: You're playing, this is a big left-wing, the big right wing.

242

00:26:09.140 --> 00:26:09.680

Becky : Yeah, hopefully.

243

00:26:09.680 --> 00:26:13.230

Washington Parish Library: scandal, a big white-wing conspiracy. It's not, ladies and gentlemen.

244

00:26:13.230 --> 00:26:13.550

Becky : Goodbye.

245

00:26:13.550 --> 00:26:19.329

Washington Parish Library: It's not, like I said, it's not about books, it's not people, about anybody else but the Washington Parish, our library director, and how she represents.

246

00:26:19.330 --> 00:26:20.140

Becky : What kinds of credit.

247

00:26:20.140 --> 00:26:26.579

Washington Parish Library: horrible, vile behavior that was represented in that media. Unless if I had a question from the board?

248

00:26:29.710 --> 00:26:32.210

Washington Parish Library: I just want to point out the gentleman... the...

249

00:26:32.210 --> 00:26:33.150

Becky : They're born.

250

00:26:33.150 --> 00:26:35.160

Washington Parish Library: Guy, the same question that's on the screen.

251

00:26:38.120 --> 00:26:42.700

Washington Parish Library: The gentleman that was on the screen, upper left-hand corner, that is...

252

00:26:42.700 --> 00:26:44.490

Becky : Mr. McGee?

253

00:26:44.490 --> 00:26:45.180

Washington Parish Library: And the video.

254

00:26:47.030 --> 00:26:49.440

Becky : My background...

255

00:26:49.440 --> 00:26:57.930

Washington Parish Library: was enforcement when I was in the Coast Guard. You've got a compliant person, you've got a passive aggressor, you've got an active aggressor, and then you're all out.

256

00:26:58.420 --> 00:27:10.800

Washington Parish Library: You have conversation, this is a conversation, everybody's compliant. That person was being a passive aggressor, somebody that was eliciting a response, an emotional response.

257

00:27:11.410 --> 00:27:26.240

Washington Parish Library: So, when you're... when I identify somebody like that, that is... so both people on the video, that's a negative reaction, but that wasn't a discussion, that was a passive aggression, trying to elicit an emotional response at the end.

258

00:27:26.340 --> 00:27:36.749

Washington Parish Library: It's the end. I have nothing. I'm not sure about the gentleman, but I'm concerned about our employee and our representative Washington Parish government and the Washington Parish Library.

259

00:27:37.360 --> 00:27:41.999

Washington Parish Library: Mr. Chairman? What I would like to say... Oh, go ahead. Mr. Talley.

260

00:27:42.520 --> 00:27:49.080

Washington Parish Library: Yes, I would have to say, first of all, there's no one that's a bigger proponent

261

00:27:49.290 --> 00:27:52.640

Washington Parish Library: of the... of freedom than speech than I am.

262

00:27:52.900 --> 00:27:59.590

Washington Parish Library: But I must also say that freedom of speech comes It comes responsibility.

263

00:27:59.960 --> 00:28:05.869

Washington Parish Library: And, there's, there's definitely,

264

00:28:06.770 --> 00:28:10.319

Washington Parish Library: Things that can happen from your speech.

265

00:28:10.420 --> 00:28:14.379

Washington Parish Library: And, and there's definitely, you know.

266

00:28:14.950 --> 00:28:26.029

Washington Parish Library: anybody can say anything they want to say, that's their constitutional right, and I'll fight to the death for them, but that doesn't mean there's not consequences for what they say.

267

00:28:27.040 --> 00:28:35.079

Washington Parish Library: And when you're representing... An organization, you have to realize it's not just your freedom of speech.

268

00:28:35.080 --> 00:28:37.489

Becky : You're speaking on behalf of the.

269

00:28:37.490 --> 00:28:39.950

Washington Parish Library: The organization that you represent as well.

270

00:28:41.170 --> 00:28:42.570

Washington Parish Library: For everybody to keep that in mind.

271

00:28:42.570 --> 00:28:49.320

Becky : That's really why I saw this.

272

00:28:49.320 --> 00:28:54.980

Washington Parish Library: I'd like to say this. I guess we're gonna go into a vote soon.

273

00:28:55.650 --> 00:29:00.319

Washington Parish Library: Based on what I... read through the transcript.

274

00:29:00.320 --> 00:29:01.110

Becky : Okay, excellent.

275

00:29:01.110 --> 00:29:03.300

Washington Parish Library: This individual...

276

00:29:03.300 --> 00:29:03.830

Becky : you thought.

277

00:29:03.830 --> 00:29:04.630

Washington Parish Library: One person.

278

00:29:04.630 --> 00:29:10.180

Becky : I don't know if this is the same one person, it's been...

279

00:29:10.180 --> 00:29:11.140

Washington Parish Library: Educating me.

280

00:29:11.790 --> 00:29:14.070

Washington Parish Library: That hasn't been made clear to me, Ms.

281

00:29:15.280 --> 00:29:23.259

Washington Parish Library: This is one person, and he sounded just like on the video. He was getting him some jokes, and he was mocking

282

00:29:23.640 --> 00:29:24.390

Washington Parish Library: And he was...

283

00:29:24.390 --> 00:29:25.519

Becky : Push on it.

284

00:29:25.520 --> 00:29:28.419

Washington Parish Library: Because he had the leverage.

285

00:29:28.420 --> 00:29:32.899

Becky : Now, that's what I took from, of course.

286

00:29:32.900 --> 00:29:33.270

Washington Parish Library: human?

287

00:29:33.270 --> 00:29:34.749

Becky : I mean, not necessarily.

288

00:29:34.750 --> 00:29:36.439

Washington Parish Library: In fact, she's our director.

289

00:29:37.970 --> 00:29:45.550

Washington Parish Library: I can push you over the edge, and I want to say cause you to react.

290

00:29:45.550 --> 00:29:46.560

Becky : Which is, like, you know...

291

00:29:46.560 --> 00:29:53.990

Washington Parish Library: you probably wouldn't have... I appreciate you, Mr. Ryan Seal, showing that stupid.

292

00:29:53.990 --> 00:29:55.290

Becky : My baby would go.

293

00:29:56.100 --> 00:29:57.280

Washington Parish Library: If you want to go sit.

294

00:29:57.280 --> 00:29:57.730

Becky : Oh my god.

295

00:29:57.730 --> 00:30:04.669

Washington Parish Library: But if this one individual and several more has been antagonizing this woman.

296

00:30:04.820 --> 00:30:14.990

Washington Parish Library: for years, and no one thought to bring it up until now, then I got an issue. I'm sorry, go ahead.

297

00:30:14.990 --> 00:30:16.100

Becky : Alright, okay.

298

00:30:16.100 --> 00:30:24.860

Washington Parish Library: Apparently, all right, I've known there's been issues with the St. Tammy Parish Library. Correct. I didn't know Ms. Ireland was involved in those discussions. Right.

299

00:30:24.860 --> 00:30:25.280

Becky : But I.

300

00:30:25.280 --> 00:30:36.510

Washington Parish Library: You know, and if, you know, getting involved, and if... and Miss Ireland was given just as much as she was getting on social media. They were bantering back and forth. I got you. Now, we can stipulate this guy, you know, is the village idiot.

301

00:30:36.510 --> 00:30:37.160

Becky : all the evidence.

302

00:30:37.160 --> 00:30:50.949

Washington Parish Library: Yep. But that doesn't excuse the vile language, sexual harassment of this guy. Calling him what he called him, calling him what she did, the terms she used, the vulgarity she used, and then going back and bragging about it?

303

00:30:50.950 --> 00:30:51.590

Becky : Yeah.

304

00:30:51.590 --> 00:30:55.860

Washington Parish Library: back and putting a meme of Dolly Parton, and saying, if you don't like it, tough...

305

00:30:57.290 --> 00:31:03.270

Washington Parish Library: You know? I mean, she's... she's just... she... it wasn't like I had a moment. I ran into this guy in Walmart, he's been after me for a year.

306

00:31:03.500 --> 00:31:05.229

Washington Parish Library: he smart it off, I smart it off.

307

00:31:05.230 --> 00:31:05.610

Becky : Thank you.

308

00:31:05.610 --> 00:31:06.909

Washington Parish Library: I walked away, I shouldn't have said anything.

309

00:31:06.910 --> 00:31:07.520

Becky : No.

310

00:31:07.520 --> 00:31:13.280

Washington Parish Library: she runs home to Facebook and brags about it, and interjects herself with St. Tammy Parish Library drama again and again.

311

00:31:13.280 --> 00:31:15.439  
Becky : We're counseling, and we...

312  
00:31:15.440 --> 00:31:20.289  
Washington Parish Library: Disregard for her position in one I don't know this guy.

313  
00:31:20.710 --> 00:31:21.460  
Washington Parish Library: Involving in these people?

314  
00:31:21.460 --> 00:31:22.399  
Becky : Being a country.

315  
00:31:22.400 --> 00:31:23.189  
Washington Parish Library: The world just came back.

316  
00:31:23.190 --> 00:31:24.730  
Becky : So we've got...

317  
00:31:24.730 --> 00:31:30.010  
Washington Parish Library: We can address our personnel matters here. When you take a position.

318  
00:31:30.560 --> 00:31:33.870  
Washington Parish Library: in life, or in government, or whatever. It comes with some response.

319  
00:31:33.870 --> 00:31:35.310  
Becky : Dear Heavenly Father, we come thank you.

320  
00:31:35.310 --> 00:31:36.159  
Washington Parish Library: somebody to come.

321  
00:31:36.160 --> 00:31:36.580  
Becky : for my...

322

00:31:36.580 --> 00:31:37.040

Washington Parish Library: a principle.

323

00:31:37.040 --> 00:31:38.859

Becky : Thank you for your community's business.

324

00:31:38.860 --> 00:31:40.429

Washington Parish Library: They can't Don't fit into it.

325

00:31:40.430 --> 00:31:43.010

Becky : forget the protection of his community.

326

00:31:43.010 --> 00:31:44.460

Washington Parish Library: Yesterday, book.

327

00:31:44.460 --> 00:31:45.749

Becky : No, we actually pray for some...

328

00:31:45.750 --> 00:31:46.070

Washington Parish Library: summer.

329

00:31:46.070 --> 00:31:46.520

Becky : Vintagely.

330

00:31:46.520 --> 00:31:48.259

Washington Parish Library: Was accused of committing a felony.

331

00:31:48.260 --> 00:31:50.590

Becky : Financially, take care of the economics while we're.

332

00:31:50.590 --> 00:31:51.780

Washington Parish Library: Did you met last night?

333

00:31:51.780 --> 00:31:52.510

Becky : in some respect.

334

00:31:52.510 --> 00:31:53.200

Washington Parish Library: But people send me.

335

00:31:53.200 --> 00:31:56.190

Becky : So give us the courage to stand for strong, stand strong for whatever.

336

00:31:56.190 --> 00:31:57.750

Washington Parish Library: It was an app to be named last page.

337

00:31:57.750 --> 00:32:01.800

Becky : Would I like to say something to the guy? He's an antagonist.

338

00:32:01.800 --> 00:32:04.990

Washington Parish Library: It's always only. It's been only for the trust of the people.

339

00:32:04.990 --> 00:32:06.710

Becky : Okay? I ignored it.

340

00:32:06.710 --> 00:32:07.560

Washington Parish Library: You're like you separated.

341

00:32:07.560 --> 00:32:09.289

Becky : In Jesus' name.

342

00:32:09.290 --> 00:32:12.370

Washington Parish Library: citizen got on there and says, no, you misunderstood. This is what happened.

343

00:32:12.370 --> 00:32:12.840

Becky : Nick.

344

00:32:12.840 --> 00:32:17.959

Washington Parish Library: We took the Facebook post down. But when you and I start debating back and forth, don't come crying the victim.

345

00:32:17.960 --> 00:32:18.570

Becky : Interesting.

346

00:32:18.570 --> 00:32:21.119

Washington Parish Library: Okay? This was offline or online or whatever.

347

00:32:21.470 --> 00:32:26.720

Washington Parish Library: But when you're going back and forth with these posts you can see we have documented here, she's actively involved in this banner.

348

00:32:27.710 --> 00:32:30.609

Washington Parish Library: And the guy showed up at the library, like, who are you, and started, you know, go there.

349

00:32:31.260 --> 00:32:33.189

Washington Parish Library: Last night, we didn't... Tony Mountain got her strain order.

350

00:32:33.880 --> 00:32:41.710

Washington Parish Library: This is about the behavior of a Washington Parish department director that has a set of responsibilities. I guarantee you, right now.

351

00:32:42.380 --> 00:32:45.039

Washington Parish Library: I use, like, Dr. Hurst.

352

00:32:45.820 --> 00:32:48.910

Washington Parish Library: Superintendent of school, Dr. Hurst, if Dr. Hurst

353

00:32:49.250 --> 00:32:59.269

Washington Parish Library: goes down to New Orleans, and he gets in some kind of trouble. Maybe I shouldn't have used the name. If somebody from Washington Parish, in the High Leadership Team, goes into Washington Parish, it's not gonna be...

354

00:32:59.290 --> 00:33:17.469

Washington Parish Library: Somebody got arrested. It's gonna be the school superintendent, you know, the parish president, you know, whatever, the dog, whatever. It's gonna be... that's the level you're playing with. That's the level you're playing with. And the vileness and the crudeness to this gentleman, and then going home and bragging about it. And this is what I'm a couple weeks later, she has yet to have remorse for it.

355

00:33:17.510 --> 00:33:23.520

Washington Parish Library: She's rallying her troops around the... this is a guy that's a left-wing. We can talk to this guy the way we want, because we don't agree with him, because he's a right-winger.

356

00:33:23.830 --> 00:33:31.250

Washington Parish Library: We don't like him. This... I mean, granted, we're not here... I'm not here to defend the guy, I'm here to talk about the actions of our employee.

357

00:33:36.970 --> 00:33:46.609

Washington Parish Library: Come on, Dawgus, and I'm really trying to figure out how to say this, but I keep hearing Washington Parish, Washington Parish. Maybe...

358

00:33:46.820 --> 00:33:49.330

Washington Parish Library: A couple of years ago, we had a...

359

00:33:49.460 --> 00:33:55.189

Washington Parish Library: Politician who said some downright ugly things continuously.

360

00:33:55.310 --> 00:34:00.360

Washington Parish Library: But yet and still, we supported that politician of Washington Parish.

361

00:34:00.620 --> 00:34:12.449

Washington Parish Library: So we have to be careful about what we say, Washington Parish, because apparently we have different strokes for different folks of Washington. Well, ma'am, number one, the politician answers to the people.

362

00:34:12.790 --> 00:34:16.300

Washington Parish Library: The politicians answer the people. I will have to answer people in 2 years.

363

00:34:16.440 --> 00:34:28.020

Washington Parish Library: Okay? But right now... Same thing goes close, you have to deal with it. Exactly. You know, I'm sure in your career in education, you've dealt with some parents who were just bizarre. I can tell you I deal with some...

364

00:34:28.020 --> 00:34:37.609

Washington Parish Library: employees. We don't put them... we don't hang them out to the driver. But also, you don't use this kind of language either.

365

00:34:37.610 --> 00:34:52.129

Washington Parish Library: you know, you just kind of land... You'd be surprised. You would. Some of the Washington Parish, fine. Fine, you would. Well, that's not in my purview, but what is, if... if a, you know, you say a politician does whatever, but right now, we're... it's an employer, it's a personnel matter.

366

00:34:52.199 --> 00:34:58.389

Washington Parish Library: And this is just bizarre that one of our employees would go down this road.

367

00:35:00.810 --> 00:35:04.809

Washington Parish Library: So, discussion-wise, does anybody else have anything?

368

00:35:06.270 --> 00:35:17.540

Washington Parish Library: So, discussion... I would like to say this. I have, like I said, I didn't go this... going rogue on this. I talked to all 7 members of the Washington Parish Council.

369

00:35:17.840 --> 00:35:31.500

Washington Parish Library: All seven members think it's time to, to, let Ms. Allen go. She no longer being deployed with Washington Periscope. For 7 of 7 said go. Yeah.

370

00:35:34.150 --> 00:35:48.550

Washington Parish Library: Ms. Ireland has asked for her opportunity, and I think she deserves it. I'm not necessarily trying to defend myself, I plan not to speak at all, but I do want to clarify some things.

371

00:35:48.900 --> 00:35:58.069

Washington Parish Library: I appreciate the playing of my answer in that interview, because it kind of... fits this scenario.

372

00:35:59.370 --> 00:36:00.910

Washington Parish Library: the person

373

00:36:01.430 --> 00:36:10.589

Washington Parish Library: had been harassing me online and in person for a long time, as have a few other people, including a councilman in St. Tammany.

374

00:36:10.880 --> 00:36:22.920

Washington Parish Library: I'm not the only one, and it had nothing to do with this library, so I've not... I've kept the board abreast of any of these issues, as well as that I was going to interview in St. Tammany. Yes, you did.

375

00:36:23.250 --> 00:36:27.950

Washington Parish Library: During the public comment, the person in question

376

00:36:28.830 --> 00:36:35.529

Washington Parish Library: Actually focused his entire comment on me in a very strange and inappropriate rant.

377

00:36:36.100 --> 00:36:45.859

Washington Parish Library: And then, when he went back to his seat, he blew me a weird little kiss-type gesture that I can't quite... it was like a chef's kiss, but sideways, I don't know.

378

00:36:46.180 --> 00:36:49.010

Washington Parish Library: And I admit, it was not my finest moment.

379

00:36:50.030 --> 00:36:55.969

Washington Parish Library: I have to say, my post on Facebook was not me doubling down.

380

00:36:56.710 --> 00:37:03.340

Washington Parish Library: It's me knowing that the cover-up is always worse. And it was me trying to get ahead of it, and saying.

381

00:37:03.610 --> 00:37:11.340

Washington Parish Library: You know, I did this, and I'm not proud of it. It wasn't me being proud of it. Would I do it again? If I'm being realistic, I probably would have.

382

00:37:11.490 --> 00:37:26.669

Washington Parish Library: I was very upset. Would I do it now? No. As a matter of fact, my lawyer has, actually, everyone has advised me to stay as far away from him as possible, and I agree, because he's obviously stalking my Facebook based on

383

00:37:26.670 --> 00:37:39.780

Washington Parish Library: This situation. In fact, it was so bad that he accused me of assault, which, if you saw that video, you saw I never touched him, and there was a police officer within 3 feet the entire time.

384

00:37:40.270 --> 00:37:43.229

Washington Parish Library: That ended up in the Slidell Independent.

385

00:37:43.760 --> 00:37:58.549

Washington Parish Library: Which has been making my life miserable. It was then shared on Facebook and Nextdoor by the St. Tammany Parish Councilman that is also involved in harassing people.

386

00:37:59.080 --> 00:38:03.859

Washington Parish Library: So, this has not been an easy situation for me. But I will tell you.

387

00:38:05.260 --> 00:38:11.660

Washington Parish Library: My mother raised me to not show fear. Bullies are like dogs. You do not show fear.

388

00:38:12.260 --> 00:38:17.340

Washington Parish Library: And so, I was trying to come clean, Without actually...

389

00:38:17.800 --> 00:38:27.329

Washington Parish Library: showing fear. I will say, the meme in here about the demon, that was just fun. It had nothing to do with, the person or the incident.

390

00:38:27.330 --> 00:38:40.850

Washington Parish Library: It honestly didn't. I share memes like that all the time. I have a very weird sense of humor, and I have friends who are telling me about their dating escapades, and apparently dating in the 20s is a lot different than it was

391

00:38:40.850 --> 00:38:42.480

Washington Parish Library: In the early odds.

392

00:38:42.550 --> 00:38:53.430

Washington Parish Library: And so, that wasn't part of that. But I will... I do want to point out that the second post was made because people were calling me.

393

00:38:53.530 --> 00:38:58.369

Washington Parish Library: and asking me if I had been arrested. Because of the slight ill independence.

394

00:38:58.560 --> 00:39:00.909

Washington Parish Library: and the Councilman in St. Tammy.

395

00:39:02.130 --> 00:39:06.400

Washington Parish Library: Now, am I sorry? I'm absolutely sorry for the...

396

00:39:06.540 --> 00:39:14.590

Washington Parish Library: the drama this has created and caused, I did not intend to embarrass the Washington Parish Library, or Washington Parish in general.

397

00:39:16.250 --> 00:39:20.279

Washington Parish Library: I... Had a lapse in judgment.

398

00:39:20.490 --> 00:39:34.489

Washington Parish Library: And I said some things that I shouldn't have said, and I acknowledged that, and that was me trying to take accountability. I understand how it might look to someone who doesn't know me that well, and I appreciate that, and will take that into consideration going forward.

399

00:39:34.600 --> 00:39:38.750

Washington Parish Library: But I just wanted to correct the record, because that is not at all

400

00:39:38.870 --> 00:39:47.780

Washington Parish Library: I, I, I, that's not at all what was behind that. What was behind that was, get behind it, get ahead of it, before this becomes like this.

401

00:39:47.780 --> 00:39:59.319

Washington Parish Library: It's also why I reached out to my board president and told him about it, and even sat down with him and told him what the recording said and all of it. I've never denied it. And what day did you reach out to him?

402

00:39:59.460 --> 00:40:02.510

Washington Parish Library: Oh, was it this week or last week?

403

00:40:02.900 --> 00:40:09.459

Washington Parish Library: last week, a couple of times. In fact, we had... And did you make any efforts just to block this guy on Facebook?

404

00:40:11.750 --> 00:40:14.590

Washington Parish Library: I didn't want to give them the satisfaction.

405

00:40:14.860 --> 00:40:15.950

Washington Parish Library: Mission.

406

00:40:16.470 --> 00:40:23.230

Washington Parish Library: I'm not saying it's... Okay, and then this post, he left this post up when you double down. You left this post up.

407

00:40:23.230 --> 00:40:41.559

Washington Parish Library: And I did not want to give them the satisfaction of knowing... so you're worried more about them than your job, and more about them than washing pairs. And why you gotta... you don't have a dog in that fight. So, when you started jawing about that library, that's when you messed up with your position in Washington Parish. And then these vital comments...

408

00:40:41.560 --> 00:40:44.259

Washington Parish Library: Sir, I live there. Okay.

409

00:40:44.690 --> 00:40:49.039

Washington Parish Library: So, as a... as a... Where is your bread butter?

410

00:40:51.850 --> 00:41:02.999

Washington Parish Library: As a citizen of St. Tammany, and I've talked to the board repeatedly about it, and they have expressed that I have the right to free speech, rightly or wrongly, I'm not trying to throw y'all under the bus.

411

00:41:03.700 --> 00:41:20.550

Washington Parish Library: I have a little bit more freedom in that I don't work for the library that's under attack. And so I know things and I can say things that can't be said by the staff because they will be taken out of context and used to crucify them.

412

00:41:22.070 --> 00:41:27.670

Washington Parish Library: I did not rally any troops, just for the record. I wasn't sure if you were saying I did that or somebody else.

413

00:41:27.850 --> 00:41:33.750

Washington Parish Library: This is a public meeting with public stuff. What really brought it up?

414

00:41:34.230 --> 00:41:37.469

Washington Parish Library: is the Slino Independent saying that they spoke

415

00:41:37.650 --> 00:41:41.530

Washington Parish Library: to Mr. Senior, and that the councilman

416

00:41:41.690 --> 00:41:46.579

Washington Parish Library: spoke to Mr. Seal, and he said, quote, an investigation is underway.

417

00:41:46.820 --> 00:41:50.090

Washington Parish Library: That's what started the fire.

418

00:41:50.310 --> 00:42:07.039

Washington Parish Library: Exactly. I've been trying to stay out of it. I have said, as far as I knew, I wasn't having any issues. No police had reached out to me, because nothing happened. Okay. So that's... But being separated yourself, like, in the advice you gave, you didn't follow your own advice, to the embarrassment of this parish.

419

00:42:07.180 --> 00:42:13.300

Washington Parish Library: And granted, if these people were, you know, you could, you know, number one, you know, social media is not life-sustaining.

420

00:42:13.550 --> 00:42:18.770

Washington Parish Library: You know, you can get off social media and say, look, block these guys, or whatever, and get a... just pull back from that.

421

00:42:18.970 --> 00:42:29.119

Washington Parish Library: But then, when you come up with these vile, putrid comments, and then go double down on them twice, it's just bizarre, and it does depend effect... let's go back to our policy about sexual harassment.

422

00:42:30.480 --> 00:42:36.759

Washington Parish Library: let's go back to that policy. What the policy was broke. Not only the embarrassment that you've caused, but also

423

00:42:36.760 --> 00:42:51.470

Washington Parish Library: the... the actual sexual harassment. Ms. Penning, go ahead. I'm trying to figure out, where is sexual harassment? Alrighty, let's look at all. I guess you're gonna... you're gonna send, you're gonna send me to... just cause she used the word D-I-C-K?

424

00:42:51.760 --> 00:42:54.120

Washington Parish Library: That's a meaning to this gentleman.

425

00:42:54.160 --> 00:43:12.420

Washington Parish Library: Okay, but then... but then this gentleman was mocking her. He might have didn't call her a body part, but he was just literally egging her on. I don't understand how the male can have an opportunity. The man...

426

00:43:12.420 --> 00:43:19.609

Washington Parish Library: can... can... can... can get away, and then when females... No male, no male's gonna get away from that on my watch.

427

00:43:19.610 --> 00:43:34.330

Washington Parish Library: Yeah. No male or female on my watch is gonna do that. So you can't say, well, men do it all the time, she gets a pass. Miss Moses, think about what you're saying, ma'am. Oh, men do it all the time, so we're gonna give them a pass to do it back. In the handbook, it talks about

428

00:43:34.330 --> 00:43:41.100

Washington Parish Library: Gender harassment? But that's not what I said. Personal harassment? Physical harassment. That's not what I said. That's not what I said.

429

00:43:41.100 --> 00:43:47.959

Washington Parish Library: But anyway... The policy that you have... that is in here... I'm just reading this again.

430

00:43:48.330 --> 00:43:53.499

Washington Parish Library: Policy against workplace harassment on the bottom of page 7.

431

00:43:53.910 --> 00:44:11.369

Washington Parish Library: Just the first sentence. The library has a strict policy against all types of workplace harassment, including sexual harassment and other forms of workplace harassment, based on individuals' age, race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, pregnancy, including others.

432

00:44:11.530 --> 00:44:12.850

Washington Parish Library: And it goes on.

433

00:44:13.530 --> 00:44:19.079

Washington Parish Library: This is workplace harassment in... This is not in the workplace.

434

00:44:19.400 --> 00:44:28.409

Washington Parish Library: Is there standards of conduct that are in there for off-duty, other than what is perceived through personal background? There's no off-duty.

435

00:44:28.870 --> 00:44:45.919

Washington Parish Library: Okay. There's no off dude. She's the director of the library all the time. And also, you notice on here it says, sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances requesting for sexual favors of verbal, physical, sexual nature. Submission of conduct is either explicitly or implicitly, I'm sorry.

436

00:44:45.920 --> 00:44:49.909

Washington Parish Library: I'm complicit. That's, term and condition of individual employment.

437

00:44:49.970 --> 00:45:01.930

Washington Parish Library: I'm sorry, that wasn't a part I wanted to get to. Lewd and derogatory comments. Comments are going sexual behavior or a body of another. Okay. You know, sexual innuendo.

438

00:45:03.250 --> 00:45:06.020

Washington Parish Library: Or,

439

00:45:06.340 --> 00:45:14.600

Washington Parish Library: Let's see, talked about obscenity, and, anyway, unwanted, physical touching of sorts of blocking and impeding movements.

440

00:45:14.760 --> 00:45:22.539

Washington Parish Library: And talks about other harassment as well. Okay. I mean... This is the workplace policy for Washington Parish. Again.

441

00:45:23.300 --> 00:45:25.890

Washington Parish Library: This is workplace policy.

442

00:45:26.630 --> 00:45:35.559

Washington Parish Library: Washington Parish Library. And this is on board on duty, is what you're saying. So, you are 100% on board on duty.

443

00:45:35.680 --> 00:45:37.570

Washington Parish Library: As far as on board.

444

00:45:37.740 --> 00:45:47.959

Washington Parish Library: What do you mean by onboard? Onboard is when you're at work, you're on duty, or you're saying that it's 100% applicable to the employee 100% of the time, even outside the office on their own time.

445

00:45:48.540 --> 00:45:56.799

Washington Parish Library: Yes. Okay. When you're the director of a department head, you don't punch a time clock. You don't take that at the door. That's it.

446

00:45:57.770 --> 00:46:06.230

Washington Parish Library: All good. Thank you. I appreciate your time. Also, I would like to point out, in the, in this appointment agreement, as Ms. Island said, on the bottom of the page, it says,

447

00:46:06.650 --> 00:46:11.489

Washington Parish Library: Please know that the Washington Parish Lobby System is an at-will employer,

448

00:46:12.060 --> 00:46:19.970

Washington Parish Library: Which means that either the library system, may end employment, relationship at any time, with or without cause.

449

00:46:20.160 --> 00:46:23.300

Washington Parish Library: I'm sorry, it's, again, like, without notice or calls, I'm sorry.

450

00:46:27.490 --> 00:46:28.730

Washington Parish Library: I did forget.

451

00:46:28.950 --> 00:46:37.890

Washington Parish Library: I did reach out to your office on Friday to talk to you about this when I realized that they were calling for you to fire me.

452

00:46:37.980 --> 00:46:50.890

Washington Parish Library: Which is what I did when they harassed me previously. The Slido Independent tried to publicly shame me, and I reached out to the council clerk, who was Sarah Cook at the time, to make her aware of the situation back then. Okay.

453

00:46:50.900 --> 00:47:04.709

Washington Parish Library: First of all... I just wanted to clarify that. They were asking me if we were aware of it. They didn't call... they weren't egging me on to fire you. I didn't say they were, but no, I mean, the newspaper was. The newspaper and the councilman, online.

454

00:47:04.740 --> 00:47:10.490

Washington Parish Library: We're... we're doing that, so I reached... I did reach out to your office. Well, I didn't... I don't...

455

00:47:10.830 --> 00:47:31.239

Washington Parish Library: take Creed what a newspaper says, or what a councilman in another parish says. I'm just taking into consideration your actions, that night, and then how you went to Facebook and, I understand that. I just wanted to clarify that I did reach out to your office to try to give you a warning about it and let you know what was happening. That was last Friday?

456

00:47:31.590 --> 00:47:32.540

Washington Parish Library: Yes.

457

00:47:33.050 --> 00:47:44.419

Washington Parish Library: I had to talk to... I was... I felt it was inappropriate. I'm very much chain of command, and I had to... I wanted to make sure Mr. Pierce had the full story before I tried to then

458

00:47:44.530 --> 00:47:47.250

Washington Parish Library: Talk to anyone in your office.

459

00:47:54.420 --> 00:47:55.900

Washington Parish Library: Any other discussions?

460

00:47:57.070 --> 00:48:00.390

Washington Parish Library: I'd like to say something. Yeah, Mr. Danton.

461

00:48:01.510 --> 00:48:19.860

Washington Parish Library: I'd like to just say a couple things. One, I hate that we're here. I hate that we have to be here. I think pretty much everybody does. And I would also say that, more than one thing can be true at the same time, okay? And what I mean by that is I do think it's...

462

00:48:20.240 --> 00:48:30.470

Washington Parish Library: you know, clear that this person on the video, this guy who's... is baiting Sonnet to say something and trying to get a response out of her.

463

00:48:30.640 --> 00:48:44.060

Washington Parish Library: I think that's true. I think everybody here would say that's true. I also think it's true that you have to be accountable for the response you give. I'm a school employee, I coach basketball.

464

00:48:44.310 --> 00:48:55.030

Washington Parish Library: And last Friday, after a game, a parent from the other team came up, and threatened me, and, wanted to...

465

00:48:56.520 --> 00:48:59.360

Washington Parish Library: And, you know, antagonized me to fight him.

466

00:49:00.290 --> 00:49:02.609

Washington Parish Library: Accused me of saying something I didn't say.

467

00:49:03.010 --> 00:49:07.810

Washington Parish Library: And as a man, You can imagine what I wanted to do.

468

00:49:07.910 --> 00:49:09.580

Washington Parish Library: You know.

469

00:49:09.670 --> 00:49:28.530

Washington Parish Library: But I had to do... I just shook his hand and said, I apologize if I offended you, and I went on. But like I said, I think more than one thing can be true at the same time, and even though, even if somebody's antagonizing you, or you're put in a bad spot, or whatever it might be.

470

00:49:28.590 --> 00:49:34.999

Washington Parish Library: We still have to be very cautious of how we respond and what we do, and we're accountable for that.

471

00:49:35.100 --> 00:49:37.030

Washington Parish Library: Even if it's not fair, or...

472

00:49:37.310 --> 00:49:43.499

Washington Parish Library: Even if it's human and something we can understand. It's still a... we still have responsibilities to

473

00:49:43.660 --> 00:49:44.820

Washington Parish Library: To bear out.

474

00:49:45.540 --> 00:49:48.509

Washington Parish Library: I'd like to say one, one other thing.

475

00:49:49.100 --> 00:49:53.829

Washington Parish Library: it would, it would, I guess, bother me really, really bad.

476

00:49:54.420 --> 00:49:57.779

Washington Parish Library: To have to terminate a position.

477

00:49:58.680 --> 00:50:08.499

Washington Parish Library: in our parish, based on St. Tammy. That... that would just... that would just be bothersome to me.

478

00:50:08.730 --> 00:50:12.619

Washington Parish Library: That we are a library board of control.

479

00:50:12.840 --> 00:50:23.580

Washington Parish Library: with X amount of members, And one episode comes up, Concert outside of the parish.

480

00:50:23.900 --> 00:50:31.240

Washington Parish Library: I could really, truly get with the situation if Miss Sun had done something within the parish.

481

00:50:31.530 --> 00:50:34.120

Washington Parish Library: But we hired this lady.

482

00:50:34.290 --> 00:50:39.809

Washington Parish Library: Based on her remarkable resume.

483

00:50:40.100 --> 00:50:47.320

Washington Parish Library: Her credentials She has been the State Librarian of the Year, y'all!

484

00:50:47.580 --> 00:50:55.529

Washington Parish Library: Her records, her record touts any other librarian you ever would like to meet.

485

00:50:56.240 --> 00:50:57.550

Washington Parish Library: I would hate

486

00:50:57.710 --> 00:51:15.860

Washington Parish Library: for one episode to define my profession. And I'm gonna say this, or an episode that somebody just wanted to push, and they did it, and they are successful at it, because we wouldn't be here if it was not a success.

487

00:51:15.980 --> 00:51:21.060

Washington Parish Library: I worked for the Washington Parish School Board for 40 years.

488

00:51:21.210 --> 00:51:29.940

Washington Parish Library: And as a female, I fought for my position, because somebody all the time headed out for me.

489

00:51:30.510 --> 00:51:35.810

Washington Parish Library: And if I didn't stand vocally, verbally?

490

00:51:35.920 --> 00:51:38.289

Washington Parish Library: And stake my spot!

491

00:51:38.700 --> 00:51:40.249

Washington Parish Library: I would have been gone.

492

00:51:40.830 --> 00:51:49.219

Washington Parish Library: Can I finish? Can I finish? And I worked Washington Parish School System for 40 years as a professional.

493

00:51:49.670 --> 00:51:54.149

Washington Parish Library: And when I tell you they play dirty ball with me, they play dirty ball.

494

00:51:54.350 --> 00:52:13.290

Washington Parish Library: But I had to stand for my position, Mr. Ryan, simply because people are out there that wants to cut your throat, stick that knife in your back, and cause you to lose everything that's meaningful to you, which is your job.

495

00:52:13.610 --> 00:52:15.540

Washington Parish Library: Your bread and butter.

496

00:52:16.160 --> 00:52:20.290

Washington Parish Library: I just think, and I'm gonna... I'm gonna finish with this. I just think...

497

00:52:20.560 --> 00:52:25.770

Washington Parish Library: At this point, it ought to be another way we can resolve this.

498

00:52:26.540 --> 00:52:32.930

Washington Parish Library: in respect to Miss Ireland, and it shouldn't be through termination. That's my position.

499

00:52:33.810 --> 00:52:37.469

Washington Parish Library: Are we at the... yes, Mr. Sally.

500

00:52:39.010 --> 00:52:42.099

Washington Parish Library: Yes, a couple of points I'd like to make.

501

00:52:43.030 --> 00:52:45.040

Washington Parish Library: One is,

502

00:52:45.230 --> 00:52:56.599

Washington Parish Library: It's true that, looks like all of this has happened entirely outside of our parish, which makes it even more concerning to me about bringing problems into our parish.

503

00:52:56.850 --> 00:52:59.899

Washington Parish Library: Do we need our library director?

504

00:53:00.160 --> 00:53:07.810

Washington Parish Library: Is it more important to be an advocate for St. Tammany Parish, or is it more important to run Washington Parish?

505

00:53:08.030 --> 00:53:10.790

Washington Parish Library: Plain and simple.

506

00:53:10.990 --> 00:53:20.609

Washington Parish Library: Now, like I said, you know, we don't need extra problems that's brought in because of something Washington Parish had nothing to do with.

507

00:53:20.980 --> 00:53:40.540

Washington Parish Library: That's... that's one thing I'd like to make. Another thing is, is there's disciplinary action that can be taken that's short of termination as well. So, that needs to be taken into consideration. I'm not saying one way or the other, I'm just saying that there are... there are...

508

00:53:41.040 --> 00:53:42.939

Washington Parish Library: Options on the table.

509

00:53:43.300 --> 00:53:45.980

Washington Parish Library: One other thing I would like to ask...

510

00:53:46.320 --> 00:53:56.129

Washington Parish Library: because I see several parish council members here, and we are a function of the Washington Parish government, I would like to hear from them

511

00:53:56.300 --> 00:54:02.210

Washington Parish Library: On their feelings on this, as well, because our funding flows through them.

512

00:54:02.580 --> 00:54:06.139

Washington Parish Library: And I think their opinion matters on this as well.

513

00:54:07.140 --> 00:54:10.059

Washington Parish Library: Mr, if I may, I've already polled in.

514

00:54:10.180 --> 00:54:22.970

Washington Parish Library: And told them what had happened, and they're all in favor of termination. And Ms. Moser, I understand, you know, about the workplace and what goes on, and I respect your career and your commitment to education in this parish.

515

00:54:22.970 --> 00:54:34.999

Washington Parish Library: But I'm sure you never got to that level that she's going to. Okay? And that's what survived. Like I said, if she'd have ran to this guy in Walmart, and they'd kind of exchanged words and went away, it was one thing.

516

00:54:35.550 --> 00:54:40.270

Washington Parish Library: But the word she used in that venue

517

00:54:40.420 --> 00:54:52.519

Washington Parish Library: coming back, double down, getting on Facebook, and leaving her on Facebook, is that... and if this guy was bothering her, she made no attempt to separate herself from her. Didn't want to give me the satisfaction of blocking somebody on Facebook?

518

00:54:53.070 --> 00:55:10.550

Washington Parish Library: Like I said, social media is not life-sustaining. We don't have to have it. And I agree with Mr. Tell, I said, we're bringing other problems here. We're bringing other problems here through this. And if I'd have known all this going on, like I said, I'd have said, Mr. I just remove yourself from it. Let's concentrate on the good stuff here. Let's concentrate on the good stuff. But that never happened.

519

00:55:10.640 --> 00:55:22.350

Washington Parish Library: This, this had been brewing for a while. All this jawing on Facebook, this lack of maturity shown on Facebook, is just bizarre by a parish government administrative leader, a Washington parish library director.

520

00:55:23.420 --> 00:55:26.559

Washington Parish Library: And there's got to be consequences for this. Mr. Dan?

521

00:55:27.310 --> 00:55:34.900

Washington Parish Library: And also, it doesn't matter where anything happens. It doesn't matter, you know, we're... we're accountable wherever we are.

522

00:55:35.160 --> 00:55:44.550

Washington Parish Library: to whatever. And Ms. Sana didn't, you know, you don't have to separate yourself from anything, and like, Ms. Moses said, you know.

523

00:55:44.580 --> 00:56:03.689

Washington Parish Library: I'm sure this is dirty, dirty ball, and, and, and, was recorded, and all those things. I don't, I don't like any of it, but it still happened. Like, I wouldn't want my, my, you know, again, it is what it is on the, on the being baited and, and saying something,

524

00:56:04.120 --> 00:56:07.539

Washington Parish Library: But it's still... Still what we do, so...

525

00:56:09.920 --> 00:56:22.590

Washington Parish Library: Everybody's had a moment to discuss? Will would say this. I do acknowledge you admitting your downfall. I don't want to downplay that, because Ms. Ireland sat here and admitted

526

00:56:22.840 --> 00:56:36.230

Washington Parish Library: If I could do it, I've said that many times, oh, if I could turn bad times, I would have done this, this, this, and that, but it happened, so I'm going to apologize. I've spoken out of turn, do it still now.

527

00:56:36.250 --> 00:56:53.960

Washington Parish Library: But I do know... I do know how to go back and say, you know what, I was wrong. And she did that for us tonight. She apologized. She apologized for behavior. She did say she was, you know, I could have handled this situation differently.

528

00:56:54.030 --> 00:57:00.689

Washington Parish Library: But, again, I'm finished. We're gonna vote, but I'd like to hear from

529

00:57:00.690 --> 00:57:21.440

Washington Parish Library: some of these people in the audience, too, because I think you wouldn't have shown up, because I come to the library board meeting, and I don't see these many people at times. So, but I'd like to hear from the community. That's my take, Mr. Pierce. I am a proud resident of Washington Parish.

530

00:57:21.560 --> 00:57:24.800

Washington Parish Library: And I love living here, I love my neighbors.

531

00:57:24.960 --> 00:57:31.679

Washington Parish Library: I've thought about that my bottom line, when this all comes about is... I want,

532

00:57:31.860 --> 00:57:38.189

Washington Parish Library: how do I want my kids to think about this, and what I would like Washington Parish to be known for.

533

00:57:39.070 --> 00:57:44.490

Washington Parish Library: What I'd like Washington Parish to be known for is that when something happens.

534

00:57:44.780 --> 00:57:50.419

Washington Parish Library: And somebody makes a mistake, we will hold you accountable, but we will have due process

535

00:57:50.980 --> 00:57:55.509

Washington Parish Library: And we... I would like to think that we will hold people accountable

536

00:57:55.840 --> 00:58:03.689

Washington Parish Library: But we won't terminate them the minute the wind blows a different direction, because Lord knows, everybody makes mistakes.

537

00:58:03.830 --> 00:58:14.830

Washington Parish Library: And I am still here because people still believed in me, even when I made mistakes. That is my last thought on my part here. The second part here is public comment.

538

00:58:16.100 --> 00:58:38.070

Washington Parish Library: Tell us your name. Now, if you'll stand up and tell me your full name... You don't have to stand, but I just need your name and your parish, okay? I was a teacher in the Richardson, Texas, and for years.

539

00:58:38.350 --> 00:58:41.410

Washington Parish Library: And I know how important it is for children to learn.

540

00:58:41.510 --> 00:58:45.109

Washington Parish Library: We never learned everything without making mistakes.

541

00:58:45.310 --> 00:58:53.910

Washington Parish Library: But we have to take those mistakes, and we have to build on them to make ourselves better, our life better. Not just for us.

542

00:58:54.140 --> 00:58:58.080

Washington Parish Library: But the whole community. Yeah. Because we are one. Yeah.

543

00:58:58.550 --> 00:59:00.090

Washington Parish Library: That is what we...

544

00:59:01.120 --> 00:59:11.519

Washington Parish Library: And I cannot condemn this woman for making a mistake. We do it. I mean, what is that Bible verse?

545

00:59:11.670 --> 00:59:13.880

Washington Parish Library: We learn from those mistakes.

546

00:59:15.480 --> 00:59:27.290

Washington Parish Library: And that's what we have to do. We have to be compassionate, we have to be caring, we have to be charitable, we have to have all of those things, because that's how you get through life, and that's how you learn.

547

00:59:29.530 --> 00:59:30.730

Washington Parish Library: I love her.

548

00:59:30.970 --> 00:59:37.759

Washington Parish Library: She came to this parish, and she has made our library a living thing. It is open.

549

00:59:37.970 --> 00:59:40.879

Washington Parish Library: There are pits open for everyone to come.

550

00:59:41.090 --> 00:59:45.440

Washington Parish Library: There are old people here, and young people here, and that's fine.

551

00:59:45.780 --> 00:59:50.420

Washington Parish Library: Yes, she made a mistake. Tell me you didn't make mistakes.

552

00:59:50.970 --> 00:59:52.709

Washington Parish Library: You've never said a curse word?

553

00:59:53.750 --> 00:59:56.450

Washington Parish Library: Hmm, interesting. I have.

554

00:59:57.110 --> 01:00:13.600

Washington Parish Library: I had... I said something tonight, I thank you for that. But anyway, go ahead and do it. But anyway, I'm upset, because I love her. I love our... I love our parish. I stand in the morning at the pond, and I watch the sunrise, and I look at how beautiful it is.

555

01:00:13.670 --> 01:00:19.020

Washington Parish Library: I don't look at how grateful I am for where I am, where I live, and everything else.

556

01:00:19.580 --> 01:00:21.080

Washington Parish Library: It is perfect.

557

01:00:21.220 --> 01:00:23.810

Washington Parish Library: throughout Americas. It can be better.

558

01:00:24.300 --> 01:00:26.110

Washington Parish Library: Ma'am, state your name, please.

559

01:00:26.930 --> 01:00:41.230

Washington Parish Library: No, I think I can talk loud enough. My name is Debbie McLeod. Mr. Seal, I was the one that initiated a lot of the feedback that you're getting from people that had nothing to do with Sant. She said, I'm worried about getting fired.

560

01:00:41.230 --> 01:00:49.819

Washington Parish Library: And I was the one that kind of took the ball rolling with it. So, she didn't... we'd never had another conversation about it other than that first conversation where she said that to me.

561

01:00:49.820 --> 01:01:07.489

Washington Parish Library: And my response was based on what's happened in four other parishes, where they have fired the directors and turned over the board and changed the whole direction of the library. And what Washington... what St. Tammy is fighting, has been fighting for four years, and they lost

562

01:01:08.620 --> 01:01:13.239

Washington Parish Library: And she's not telling you that, but they lost the battle that night.

563

01:01:13.410 --> 01:01:15.160

Washington Parish Library: So if she was...

564

01:01:15.260 --> 01:01:27.409

Washington Parish Library: upset and frustrated. There was a really good reason for that, because freedom to read what you want was lost in Washington in St. Tammy Parish that night. So if she was frustrated, there was a reason.

565

01:01:27.550 --> 01:01:39.310

Washington Parish Library: I also want to say what you said. You know, I'm really worried about our libraries, I'm really worried about that, but I have been saying to everybody, that will never happen in Washington Parish.

566

01:01:39.340 --> 01:02:01.409

Washington Parish Library: That could... that would not happen here. We have a great library, we have people who love our library, and this would never happen here. And then you listen to... I see you listening to a jerk whose sole goal is to dismantle, say, Tammy Farish's library, and you're listening to her over somebody who's done an outstanding job, and it has

567

01:02:01.550 --> 01:02:19.340

Washington Parish Library: brought incredible benefits to this parish and this library system, and you're picking that over her? And I... I'm baffled, and frustrated, and upset. You know, I... it makes no sense to me, and you're right, this is not... this is about protecting our library.

568

01:02:19.640 --> 01:02:30.979

Washington Parish Library: You know, this is about our work. Yes, ma'am, and according to your Facebook post, you put, the intent is clear. This is a statewide group of all conservatives who have been around the state attacking libraries and administration. Please show up.

569

01:02:31.180 --> 01:02:54.680

Washington Parish Library: That's absolutely accurate. No, ma'am. This is not some big conspiracy. This is about behavior. No, it is about a big conspiracy. This definitely is. Let's keep it orderly, Ms. McCloud. Okay. Well, he's taking quotes from my... I understand. You know, I find that offensive, too, but... but yeah, I do believe...

570

01:02:54.680 --> 01:02:59.360

Washington Parish Library: that there has been a pattern. You look at Lafayette, you look at

571

01:02:59.360 --> 01:03:22.720

Washington Parish Library: Livingston, you look at St. Tammany, and you look at Baton Rouge, and there's a bit of data for all of them. One of the things they always do is attack the directors. They fired Amanda Jones, they fired the person in Lafayette, they have fired three directors, and intentionally. So when you see them going after another person from outside the parents, going after us, yeah, there's a good reason why we should be concerned about that.

572

01:03:22.720 --> 01:03:40.750

Washington Parish Library: The second thing they do is they try to abolish the board and get a new board in. Just wait. That will probably be what's coming next. Don't... you'll be surprised, because that's what we all said, and I didn't think this would happen in Washington Paris. I didn't think you would allow this to happen in Washington, Paris. And... and...

573

01:03:40.910 --> 01:03:44.910

Washington Parish Library: And I'm not a conspiracy nut. I mean, you know, I...

574

01:03:45.750 --> 01:03:50.930

Washington Parish Library: We're at a crossroads, and we can be civil, and we can be

575

01:03:51.220 --> 01:04:02.059

Washington Parish Library: I'll get on to the last thing. I took a damage training and a sexual harassment training, and there's a process for handling sexual harassment, and you're not following it. So,

576

01:04:02.060 --> 01:04:11.389

Washington Parish Library: You might want to go back and retake their training on sexual harassment. Thank you, ma'am. We have another comment. Again, the comments are not on banning, this is just conduct.

577

01:04:11.430 --> 01:04:16.049

Washington Parish Library: Please state your name and your... where you live. My name is Ivy Morris.

578

01:04:16.220 --> 01:04:23.489

Washington Parish Library: And my... I got several things that I want to get an understanding.

579

01:04:23.710 --> 01:04:30.500

Washington Parish Library: I know Mr. Seals came in, and his recommendation was to terminate Ms. Sunny.

580

01:04:31.300 --> 01:04:37.270

Washington Parish Library: Okay, now, I want to get a good understanding. It's what I'll watch them perish

581

01:04:37.380 --> 01:04:45.850

Washington Parish Library: board is here for. If the council can come from his office and tell y'all

582

01:04:46.130 --> 01:04:47.940

Washington Parish Library: We want to terminate her.

583

01:04:48.690 --> 01:05:04.239

Washington Parish Library: So, if he's recommending termination, would y'all voting for? Actually... What's your voting for? Because if this is his recommendation, and he's over y'all, over all the libraries and the parry...

584

01:05:05.240 --> 01:05:07.840

Washington Parish Library: What y'all thought? What y'all gonna do?

585

01:05:08.790 --> 01:05:15.369

Washington Parish Library: What y'all vote is for? Okay, okay, so I have to hit a mic?

586

01:05:16.220 --> 01:05:19.530

Washington Parish Library: And I'm saying some of his,

587

01:05:20.140 --> 01:05:28.879

Washington Parish Library: Board members? Councilmember, I hear. And it's a free public meeting. Well, you came in with the recommendation.

588

01:05:29.190 --> 01:05:31.400

Washington Parish Library: I hope to hear what they had to say!

589

01:05:31.620 --> 01:05:38.500

Washington Parish Library: Because it could be, say, Mr. Seal is running them, they scared to lose their job. They can't speak up!

590

01:05:38.790 --> 01:05:49.769

Washington Parish Library: They can't see anything. Hold on one second. They're gonna lose their job. They're like, Miss Sunny is trying... he's trying to take Miss Sunny's job. Seeing this after all of them.

591

01:05:51.630 --> 01:06:01.789

Washington Parish Library: Miss Sunny is gone. Who's coming in next? Who you gonna bring in to be as good as Miss Sunny? Librarians is hard to find.

592

01:06:02.430 --> 01:06:03.350

Washington Parish Library: Damn.

593

01:06:03.670 --> 01:06:12.380

Washington Parish Library: Certified, qualified. That's right. Certified, qualified, all that kind of fact. It's hard to fact.

594

01:06:12.680 --> 01:06:15.979

Washington Parish Library: Didn't you have anybody here running this library?

595

01:06:17.090 --> 01:06:21.469

Washington Parish Library: I can actually address that briefly, and then I got you in the corner.

596

01:06:21.840 --> 01:06:35.149

Washington Parish Library: So the governing... this is the revised statutes of the state of Louisiana. When they allowed me to be a part of the board. I went on the revised statutes for the state of Louisiana, and I printed off anything that was pertinent off of Section 25 for the state of libraries.

597

01:06:35.380 --> 01:06:46.940

Washington Parish Library: Just so I was familiar. So, the governing authority of... so, Board of Control member's appointment in terms of office, this is specifically to address why Mr. Seal has the right to be here.

598

01:06:47.140 --> 01:07:01.090

Washington Parish Library: The governing authority of the municipality shall, in the ordinance of creating a public library, name and appoint citizens of the municipality as a board of control for such public library to serve for terms of 1, 2, 3, or 5 years.

599

01:07:02.090 --> 01:07:13.730

Washington Parish Library: And then the mayor of the municipality shall be the ex-officio, so a default member of the board of control. So, he is here at any time, so if we have a board meeting.

600

01:07:13.830 --> 01:07:22.679

Washington Parish Library: and we're short, and we don't have a quorum, we can actually ask Mr. Steele to come over, like, sir, can you please come over? We just need one person to make this happen.

601

01:07:22.840 --> 01:07:26.770

Washington Parish Library: So, that's the right of whoever is filling that office.

602

01:07:26.980 --> 01:07:35.509

Washington Parish Library: That's it. That's it. I'm done at the end. Person in the corner? State your name, and again, this is not on banning, it's on conduct.

603

01:07:35.620 --> 01:07:36.490

Washington Parish Library: You're good.

604

01:07:36.960 --> 01:07:38.000

Washington Parish Library: Christy Pierce.

605

01:07:38.600 --> 01:07:41.679

Washington Parish Library: I moved out to the parish a little less than 10 years ago.

606

01:07:41.820 --> 01:07:46.960

Washington Parish Library: And I don't... recognize a lot of y'all here, because I'm not... don't know a lot of people.

607

01:07:47.430 --> 01:07:51.020

Washington Parish Library: When we first got out here, I brought my kids over to the library.

608

01:07:51.210 --> 01:07:52.109

Washington Parish Library: Did not like it.

609

01:07:52.760 --> 01:08:03.710

Washington Parish Library: And I'm a big fan of the library. I grew up in a library. I was the one that would skip school just to go hang out in the library. That's how much I liked it. So when I brought my kids there, I was very excited.

610

01:08:04.030 --> 01:08:07.789

Washington Parish Library: And the library at that time was not fun.

611

01:08:08.050 --> 01:08:11.780

Washington Parish Library: It was very hostile, very unwelcoming.

612

01:08:11.910 --> 01:08:15.080

Washington Parish Library: And so I bought books and took my kids home.

613

01:08:15.240 --> 01:08:18.789

Washington Parish Library: The last couple years, the library's been a lot more open.

614

01:08:19.040 --> 01:08:19.899

Washington Parish Library: It's...

615

01:08:20.340 --> 01:08:26.489

Washington Parish Library: The kids have been more involved. They've done outreach for homeschooled moms, which I know, I homeschool my kids.

616

01:08:27.029 --> 01:08:33.559

Washington Parish Library: And it's been fun, and they enjoy it. My son sometimes goes out to the Thomas French Library and takes care of their flowers.

617

01:08:33.760 --> 01:08:34.870

Washington Parish Library: And they left.

618

01:08:35.109 --> 01:08:38.710

Washington Parish Library: And he waters them, and he has fun with it. And they always treat them well.

619

01:08:39.750 --> 01:08:49.500

Washington Parish Library: Everybody can have a bad day. I do not condone Ms. Onnett's actions. As a director of a library, I would expect if you're going to insult someone.

620

01:08:49.670 --> 01:08:51.970

Washington Parish Library: You do it with a lot more prestige?

621

01:08:52.100 --> 01:08:56.760

Washington Parish Library: Using a lot higher vocabulary terms than what was used.

622

01:08:56.899 --> 01:08:58.660

Washington Parish Library: Be my expectation?

623

01:08:59.520 --> 01:09:07.600

Washington Parish Library: But I voted for the millage, and if it hadn't been for the way the libraries have turned around the last couple of years, they wouldn't have had my vote.

624

01:09:07.810 --> 01:09:11.830

Washington Parish Library: So I just want to state that on behalf of Imani.

625

01:09:12.380 --> 01:09:24.440

Washington Parish Library: Thank you very much. Thank you. Ms. Rose, and then we see somebody in the back. Ms. Rose? My name is Rosa Mullises. I am a resident of Washington Parry.

626

01:09:24.729 --> 01:09:27.509

Washington Parish Library: And I just want to say that,

627

01:09:27.970 --> 01:09:36.899

Washington Parish Library: I'm glad that we have a president of the parish who is engaged in

628

01:09:37.090 --> 01:09:51.679

Washington Parish Library: every aspect of the operation of the parish. I can appreciate that. I think that is appropriate for the president to be engaged, but I do not agree with the end result decision.

629

01:09:51.800 --> 01:10:00.240

Washington Parish Library: So while I appreciate that, I do disagree with, the termination. My...

630

01:10:00.650 --> 01:10:08.309

Washington Parish Library: view is the same as expressed by the president of the library board, Mr. Peer. Right. And that is that

631

01:10:08.690 --> 01:10:10.989

Washington Parish Library: We have to address

632

01:10:11.460 --> 01:10:22.330

Washington Parish Library: Just like they do in the school, just like they did at Lakeview Regional when I was there as a Director of Education for 39 years.

633

01:10:22.570 --> 01:10:40.879

Washington Parish Library: We have disciplinary... we have policies and procedures, we have disciplinary procedures which guide us to manage negative behavior and get us back on track. And I think that is where we are now, that we need to employ that.

634

01:10:40.880 --> 01:10:44.809

Washington Parish Library: I don't think we need to throw the baby out with the bathwater.

635

01:10:44.810 --> 01:10:53.200

Washington Parish Library: So, that's... that's basically what I want to say. And I do appreciate... I heard Ms. Sonic make a presentation

636

01:10:53.200 --> 01:11:04.780

Washington Parish Library: to the ADAPT group on the library, and I was super impressed with the services that the library has to offer, but more importantly.

637

01:11:04.860 --> 01:11:24.509

Washington Parish Library: when she was giving that presentation, you could see that the library is all in her system. That she... it is something that she dearly cares about, and that she cherishes it, and takes great pride in her job. So, with that in mind, yes, I think we need to handle this.

638

01:11:24.510 --> 01:11:28.220

Washington Parish Library: But I don't believe that we need to do termination.

639

01:11:29.370 --> 01:11:31.129

Washington Parish Library: The gentleman in the back.

640

01:11:32.370 --> 01:11:34.310

Washington Parish Library: Ladies!

641

01:11:36.190 --> 01:11:37.400

Washington Parish Library: I'm sorry.

642

01:11:38.010 --> 01:11:45.099

Washington Parish Library: My name's Jasmine Keller. I'm a lifelong resident. A little louder. Can you talk a little louder, folks?

643

01:11:45.260 --> 01:11:47.479

Washington Parish Library: Sorry, my name's Jasmine Kent.

644

01:11:47.600 --> 01:11:50.390

Washington Parish Library: I'm a lifelong resident of Washington Parish.

645

01:11:50.570 --> 01:11:55.119

Washington Parish Library: I've used the library many times in my 30 past years.

646

01:11:55.550 --> 01:12:01.620

Washington Parish Library: And I have never seen it so engaged with the community as it has been in the past few years.

647

01:12:01.940 --> 01:12:11.279

Washington Parish Library: Every time I'm on Facebook, I see posts from the parish library with new activities for kids, for adults.

648

01:12:14.860 --> 01:12:16.690

Washington Parish Library: We never had that.

649

01:12:16.870 --> 01:12:20.890

Washington Parish Library: service for me when I was growing up in this area.

650

01:12:21.320 --> 01:12:23.200

Washington Parish Library: But we have it mapped.

651

01:12:25.360 --> 01:12:32.370

Washington Parish Library: I would also like to... Address the comment that... Oh.

652

01:12:34.080 --> 01:12:39.729

Washington Parish Library: Somehow... You are on duty 100% of the time?

653

01:12:39.900 --> 01:12:50.079

Washington Parish Library: Because you are not getting paid for 100% of the time. And last I checked, we do not expect people to work in this country without paying.

654

01:12:52.540 --> 01:13:01.230

Washington Parish Library: And Joe... One last little quibbling thing, I would like to marvel at the innocence of Mr. Seven's ears.

655

01:13:01.400 --> 01:13:03.669

Washington Parish Library: I heard more slaves in kindergarten.

656

01:13:08.880 --> 01:13:11.330

Washington Parish Library: Thank you.

657

01:13:11.660 --> 01:13:17.610

Washington Parish Library: In the corner, go ahead. State your name. Again, this is about, conduct, not banning books.

658

01:13:17.810 --> 01:13:29.330

Washington Parish Library: Anthony Jones? I think I can talk to him about that. Okay, very well. Anthony Jones, resident of Washington Parish for...

659

01:13:30.130 --> 01:13:32.070

Washington Parish Library: 22 years now?

660

01:13:32.900 --> 01:13:41.780

Washington Parish Library: Firstly, you said that this was not an issue left, right, male, female, but yet your words belie your belief.

661

01:13:42.440 --> 01:13:49.989

Washington Parish Library: Because you say that you had never heard a woman talk to a man in such a vulgar way. First.

662

01:13:50.170 --> 01:13:51.769

Washington Parish Library: That is just a note.

663

01:13:52.300 --> 01:14:01.970

Washington Parish Library: Secondly, like you see before me, said on your statement that you are on the clock 100% of the time after a certain point.

664

01:14:02.520 --> 01:14:12.410

Washington Parish Library: If that is the case, I would expect no parish government official to ever touch a drop of alcohol, any kind of

665

01:14:12.950 --> 01:14:14.500

Washington Parish Library: Recreation?

666

01:14:14.660 --> 01:14:17.450

Washington Parish Library: etc. All those are banned.

667

01:14:17.730 --> 01:14:22.830

Washington Parish Library: by the... 99% of jobs rules.

668

01:14:23.830 --> 01:14:25.980

Washington Parish Library: I certainly can't drink on the job.

669

01:14:27.390 --> 01:14:33.249

Washington Parish Library: So, lastly, you have seen and heard many people stand up in defense of her.

670

01:14:33.470 --> 01:14:39.689

Washington Parish Library: Now... like many people, were in even by Miss Ireland's own admission.

671

01:14:39.970 --> 01:14:41.879

Washington Parish Library: The conduct was not proper.

672

01:14:42.050 --> 01:14:52.459

Washington Parish Library: If you want to pursue a punishment, understandable, termination is not the answer. This is a first offense, this is the first time you've had any issues out of her.

673

01:14:52.850 --> 01:14:57.369

Washington Parish Library: There are lesser punishments that can be enacted.

674

01:14:58.520 --> 01:15:09.080

Washington Parish Library: Temporary suspension, unpaid, very common, we see it with the police all the time. Another government body, I don't see why it wouldn't apply to the Washington Parish Library.

675

01:15:11.190 --> 01:15:17.310

Washington Parish Library: Go ahead. Go to the mic. Go to the mic. Mike?

676

01:15:21.980 --> 01:15:30.749

Washington Parish Library: Yeah, the podium would be a lot easier. If you can make it to the podium, that'll be a lot easier for the mind. Yeah, you can leave it. I just wanted you to put it down.

677

01:15:31.020 --> 01:15:45.810

Washington Parish Library: Hello, everybody. My name is Tracy Seals. I work for Washington Parish Library at the Thomas Branch. I am not here as an employee. I am here as a resident of Washington Parish.

678

01:15:46.340 --> 01:15:54.609

Washington Parish Library: I do know that mine... Actions right now will reflect on the library.

679

01:15:54.880 --> 01:15:57.140

Washington Parish Library: Because that's what y'all are discussing.

680

01:15:58.880 --> 01:16:06.920

Washington Parish Library: that lady, hired me as a substitute October, well, August, 2024.

681

01:16:08.310 --> 01:16:14.860

Washington Parish Library: The people in the library, Showed me how to act in this library.

682

01:16:15.150 --> 01:16:17.689

Washington Parish Library: They modeled that.

683

01:16:17.870 --> 01:16:20.280

Washington Parish Library: Action by Masonic.

684

01:16:20.700 --> 01:16:22.020

Washington Parish Library: by Ariel.

685

01:16:23.960 --> 01:16:34.100

Washington Parish Library: I want to grow up and be her. I am 60 years old, and she's older than me, and I still want to grow up and be like her.

686

01:16:34.800 --> 01:16:37.750

Washington Parish Library: She shows me how to act.

687

01:16:37.890 --> 01:16:39.000

Washington Parish Library: All the time.

688

01:16:39.880 --> 01:16:42.160

Washington Parish Library: Yes, she made a slip up.

689

01:16:42.680 --> 01:16:45.329

Washington Parish Library: How many have we made?

690

01:16:46.210 --> 01:16:47.490

Washington Parish Library: I'm 60.

691

01:16:48.040 --> 01:16:49.700

Washington Parish Library: I've made at least

692

01:16:49.810 --> 01:17:00.940

Washington Parish Library: 60 of them. That's one a year. Yes, I am trying to give it a little levity, because this is very serious, and I don't like being serious.

693

01:17:01.710 --> 01:17:15.709

Washington Parish Library: You can ask anybody, especially the way I looked the other day. I looked like Old Mother Hubbard, because I went to... we're doing nursery rhymes. I went to daycare, and it looked like Old Mother Hubbard.

694

01:17:16.410 --> 01:17:22.079

Washington Parish Library: She gave me... The support to do that.

695

01:17:22.670 --> 01:17:31.569

Washington Parish Library: Who's gonna dress up like old Mother Hubbard, and in your car, get out of the bill... get out of your car and walk through a building with people laughing at you?

696

01:17:33.040 --> 01:17:36.050

Washington Parish Library: I'd like to know that. She encourages me.

697

01:17:37.030 --> 01:17:41.679

Washington Parish Library: She chose me that I can be more than who I am.

698

01:17:42.450 --> 01:17:46.090

Washington Parish Library: I had never been in a library.

699

01:17:46.230 --> 01:17:50.060

Washington Parish Library: Except once, when I was 8 years old.

700

01:17:51.470 --> 01:17:59.079

Washington Parish Library: That lady that brought up here, she said, Tracy, why don't you come and do this with us.

701

01:17:59.240 --> 01:18:03.160

Washington Parish Library: Next thing I know, I'm in the library just about every day.

702

01:18:04.560 --> 01:18:08.260

Washington Parish Library: Because she... Alright, let's got tight.

703

01:18:08.660 --> 01:18:15.839

Washington Parish Library: Help that person Do what she needed to do. To encourage us all to be here.

704

01:18:17.290 --> 01:18:20.890

Washington Parish Library: Yes, her behavior was horrendous.

705

01:18:21.180 --> 01:18:28.379

Washington Parish Library: I want to ask, Everybody's here, you think, when's the last time you cussed somebody out?

706

01:18:29.200 --> 01:18:32.840

Washington Parish Library: Not being videoed, but test them out.

707

01:18:33.220 --> 01:18:38.870

Washington Parish Library: And don't say you've never done it. Because you've done it.

708

01:18:38.990 --> 01:18:41.100

Washington Parish Library: We are not.

709

01:18:42.620 --> 01:18:44.180

Washington Parish Library: And I repeat.

710

01:18:44.330 --> 01:18:52.139

Washington Parish Library: We are not perfect people. We are not Jesus Christ. Yes, I am a Christian. I am sorry if I offend anybody.

711

01:18:52.340 --> 01:18:57.570

Washington Parish Library: He died, he was the only person that was perfect.

712

01:18:57.910 --> 01:19:04.300

Washington Parish Library: He died for my sins, her sins, and everybody's sins in here. I'm sorry, I got religious.

713

01:19:04.850 --> 01:19:21.150

Washington Parish Library: But that's what I believe. And he said, turn the cheek. And everybody says, how many times? 70 times 70. 70 times seven. 490 times.

714

01:19:21.270 --> 01:19:29.269

Washington Parish Library: And they go, 400 and so... No, every time. But yes, there are consequences.

715

01:19:29.580 --> 01:19:30.330

Washington Parish Library: Good thing.

716

01:19:31.000 --> 01:19:33.350

Washington Parish Library: There are consequences.

717

01:19:34.090 --> 01:19:37.289

Washington Parish Library: I'm sorry if I drug this out. I'm sorry that...

718

01:19:38.060 --> 01:19:42.450

Washington Parish Library: I have wasted anybody's time by saying anything.

719

01:19:42.760 --> 01:19:44.370

Washington Parish Library: I love that lady.

720

01:19:45.990 --> 01:19:47.949

Washington Parish Library: I don't want to see her hurt.

721

01:19:48.120 --> 01:19:51.580

Washington Parish Library: But if you are badgered, I've been battered.

722

01:19:52.740 --> 01:19:55.809

Washington Parish Library: I have a very low self-esteem of me.

723

01:19:58.270 --> 01:20:00.360

Washington Parish Library: She helps raise it.

724

01:20:01.890 --> 01:20:10.740

Washington Parish Library: Why do you want... to let her go. Her one mistake, and I... I have this question, too.

725

01:20:12.280 --> 01:20:17.010

Washington Parish Library: she... lives in St. Tammany.

726

01:20:17.380 --> 01:20:21.600

Washington Parish Library: What if you lived in St. Tammany, But work here.

727

01:20:21.790 --> 01:20:24.429

Washington Parish Library: or worked here and lived in St.

728

01:20:25.010 --> 01:20:34.389

Washington Parish Library: lived here and worked in St. Tammon. Wouldn't you be interested in where you worked and where you lived?

729

01:20:35.200 --> 01:20:48.780

Washington Parish Library: Guess what? She was doing. Yes, Ariel, didn't need to stop? Thank you, Ms. Tracy. We have other people that need to talk for public... Yeah, yeah, you're good. You're good. We are gonna limit it to 3. We've got a couple more people.

730

01:20:49.490 --> 01:20:58.709

Washington Parish Library: Good evening, my name is Abigail Kemp, I'm a resident of Washington Parish. I will try to keep this very brief, but I'm here representing two different groups, myself and the Friends of the Library.

731

01:20:59.070 --> 01:21:07.140

Washington Parish Library: For those who don't know, the Friends of the Library is a non-profit, volunteer-run organization that assists the Washington Parish Library System

732

01:21:07.360 --> 01:21:18.400

Washington Parish Library: by providing financial and volunteer work support, through donations and grants received on behalf of WPL for the financial needs that exceed the taxpayer funding.

733

01:21:19.870 --> 01:21:21.359

Washington Parish Library: And what it's able to provide.

734

01:21:22.030 --> 01:21:28.139

Washington Parish Library: Last year alone, the friends were able to provide over \$30,000.

735

01:21:28.840 --> 01:21:31.800

Washington Parish Library: to the Washington Parish Library System.

736

01:21:32.180 --> 01:21:35.389

Washington Parish Library: And these are include but not limited to.

737

01:21:35.780 --> 01:21:41.129

Washington Parish Library: Providing cash cards, supplies and prizes for the summer reading program.

738

01:21:41.600 --> 01:21:44.190

Washington Parish Library: A new sign for the Thomas Branch.

739

01:21:44.440 --> 01:21:47.880

Washington Parish Library: And food for staff appreciation and training days.

740

01:21:48.590 --> 01:21:57.420

Washington Parish Library: The friends have found Ms. Sonnet to be competent, credible, reliable, genuine in her desire for what is best for WVLA,

741

01:21:57.530 --> 01:22:03.919

Washington Parish Library: And professional in every interaction we have had with her, and in every request she has made of the friends.

742

01:22:04.140 --> 01:22:11.590

Washington Parish Library: We have witnessed significant improvements in the WPL, and it's community relations since Ms. Sonnet took her position.

743

01:22:12.330 --> 01:22:16.890

Washington Parish Library: Former Treasure... Excuse me. I just got a report.

744

01:22:17.760 --> 01:22:27.550

Washington Parish Library: Former Treasurer, Ms. Ann Tate, could not be here tonight, but she asked me to share on her behalf that in the 20 years she has been a friend of the library.

745

01:22:27.760 --> 01:22:34.260

Washington Parish Library: Ms. Sonnet has been the best director and most supportive director the WPL has had.

746

01:22:35.220 --> 01:22:39.540

Washington Parish Library: Now... I'm also here as a taxpayer, the resident of this parish.

747

01:22:40.790 --> 01:22:44.920

Washington Parish Library: I also represent my husband and children, who are not here to speak for themselves tonight.

748

01:22:45.910 --> 01:22:49.970

Washington Parish Library: We have been patrons of the WDL for over 8 years.

749

01:22:50.460 --> 01:22:57.870

Washington Parish Library: At first, I wasn't very... impressed by the library system. In fact.

750

01:22:58.000 --> 01:22:59.949

Washington Parish Library: The very first time I went.

751

01:23:00.360 --> 01:23:05.839

Washington Parish Library: to the Franklinton branch, I swore never to go back again, because there was a librarian there.

752

01:23:05.980 --> 01:23:08.339

Washington Parish Library: Who made my daughter cry.

753

01:23:08.480 --> 01:23:14.570

Washington Parish Library: for pulling books off of shelves to look at the covers to see if she was interested. She wasn't making a mix.

754

01:23:14.750 --> 01:23:18.299

Washington Parish Library: She was just looking at them, making a neat pile.

755

01:23:18.840 --> 01:23:28.680

Washington Parish Library: That was my first interaction with the Washington Bears Library System. And I complained to the manager, and she did nothing.

756

01:23:29.820 --> 01:23:31.410

Washington Parish Library: So, I gave it some time.

757

01:23:31.790 --> 01:23:33.189

Washington Parish Library: And then I came back.

758

01:23:33.800 --> 01:23:35.360

Washington Parish Library: There weren't a lot of programs.

759

01:23:35.650 --> 01:23:37.750

Washington Parish Library: But then Ms. Sonnet took her position.

760

01:23:38.140 --> 01:23:40.159

Washington Parish Library: And when she took her position.

761

01:23:40.610 --> 01:23:43.560

Washington Parish Library: I saw a boost in community involvement.

762

01:23:44.000 --> 01:23:47.199

Washington Parish Library: I saw a huge increase in programs.

763

01:23:47.400 --> 01:23:53.600

Washington Parish Library: And I saw... Staff who were... so helpful.

764

01:23:53.710 --> 01:23:56.600

Washington Parish Library: And had a strong desire to assist.

765

01:23:58.600 --> 01:24:03.089

Washington Parish Library: I'm sorry, I've gone off my notes here, because I've made a bunch.

766

01:24:03.090 --> 01:24:21.680

Washington Parish Library: Well, let me say this to you. We appreciate you, too. I'm a stickler for this. We're gonna limit everybody now, these last 3 or 4, to about 3 minutes, if you can, so we can move on. We started at 5.30, it's 7 o'clock. We're not in a rush, but... because this is in Parla, but if you guys can.

767

01:24:21.730 --> 01:24:24.199

Washington Parish Library: Can I take one last point? Yes. Yes. Okay.

768

01:24:24.260 --> 01:24:24.980

Washington Parish Library: Nope.

769

01:24:25.250 --> 01:24:29.849

Washington Parish Library: I have endured constant harassment from a person I could not get away from.

770

01:24:30.580 --> 01:24:49.460

Washington Parish Library: While I'm not condoning Ms. Sonnet's reaction, I'm not condoning her words, professionalism is important and necessary. I do understand being pushed to a point, though, to where you feel caged in and you say whatever comes to mind, and grace needs to be given. I'm not saying there should be no disciplinary action.

771

01:24:49.520 --> 01:24:57.120

Washington Parish Library: I am saying, though, that termination is very extreme for the first Problem that she has brought.

772

01:24:57.790 --> 01:25:06.139

Washington Parish Library: And for not knowing the full contest of the situation, because context matters. Whether that person is also an employee of Washington Parish or not.

773

01:25:06.490 --> 01:25:11.850

Washington Parish Library: His actions also should be taken into consideration. Thank you. Thank you.

774

01:25:13.300 --> 01:25:30.629

Washington Parish Library: Okay, just... just to clarify, okay? You're the last person that's gonna speak, and you have 3 minutes. Ms. Ava, you going next? It's... it's just the one. Just let Ms. Ava go, since she's a community member. I know she works for the system.

775

01:25:30.740 --> 01:25:46.750

Washington Parish Library: I'm talking about the lady there. Let's let Ms. Ava speak. She's... Miss Alva. My name is Alva. I'm sorry, Miss Alva. And I am a resident of Washington Parish. I live in Bonadora, Louisiana.

776

01:25:47.400 --> 01:25:57.379

Washington Parish Library: And I am a former retired administrator of Boulder County. Yes, ma'am. And I can tell you, I've had my days.

777

01:25:58.010 --> 01:26:06.200

Washington Parish Library: As an administrator, with students and attendants. It does happen. It does.

778

01:26:06.480 --> 01:26:10.169

Washington Parish Library: But, I mean, they're gone, and we've gone wrong.

779

01:26:10.670 --> 01:26:17.780

Washington Parish Library: I'm putting my trust in this board of control. That's right. To make the right decision.

780

01:26:17.990 --> 01:26:24.030

Washington Parish Library: And I'm quite sure we can come to a positive resolution.

781

01:26:24.170 --> 01:26:33.950

Washington Parish Library: I'm not going to speak anymore longer, because I want someone else to put behind me in doubt, but let us forget about St. Tony. Yes.

782

01:26:34.640 --> 01:26:41.570

Washington Parish Library: our votes goes there. He will not get St. Tammy's votes.

783

01:26:42.210 --> 01:26:43.210

Washington Parish Library: Whee!

784

01:26:43.830 --> 01:26:46.679

Washington Parish Library: choose our elected officials.

785

01:26:47.390 --> 01:26:58.369

Washington Parish Library: And I'm looking for them to do what is right for Washington Parish. This library, being a part of Washington Parish.

786

01:26:58.400 --> 01:27:08.910

Washington Parish Library: has been an asset for every child parent that lives here. I've been here many times. I brought other adults here.

787

01:27:09.380 --> 01:27:11.370

Washington Parish Library: And we have been assisted.

788

01:27:12.170 --> 01:27:15.260

Washington Parish Library: And we have been, aided.

789

01:27:15.530 --> 01:27:24.019

Washington Parish Library: Especially when it comes to the computers or whatever, you know? And, I just believe that this board is strong enough

790

01:27:25.460 --> 01:27:26.810

Washington Parish Library: Wise enough.

791

01:27:26.930 --> 01:27:29.250

Washington Parish Library: To make the right decision.

792

01:27:29.510 --> 01:27:35.389

Washington Parish Library: and come to a favorable solution for all rooms involved. Thank you.

793

01:27:35.390 --> 01:27:51.530

Washington Parish Library: Thank you. Okay. That's it, and that's it. Thank you all for your time. Can I say a few words? We can't. We don't close out. We can't, so we're just gonna move to the next one, okay? We're gonna progress.

794

01:27:51.610 --> 01:27:55.219

Washington Parish Library: I appreciate you, Mr. Adding. It's okay. Mr. Chairman. Yes.

795

01:27:55.570 --> 01:27:58.619

Washington Parish Library: Mr. Talley. I would like to offer a motion.

796

01:27:59.460 --> 01:28:02.880

Washington Parish Library: Oh... At our very last meeting.

797

01:28:03.070 --> 01:28:06.669

Washington Parish Library: We gave Ms. Sonnet an \$8,000 raise.

798

01:28:06.850 --> 01:28:09.990

Washington Parish Library: \$9,000 raise, I'm sorry.

799

01:28:10.390 --> 01:28:11.930

Washington Parish Library: And,

800

01:28:12.060 --> 01:28:18.699

Washington Parish Library: Personally, I didn't feel like enough consideration was given on that start with, but that's what the board decided.

801

01:28:19.450 --> 01:28:28.800

Washington Parish Library: I think, a good disciplinary action short of termination would be to rescind the raise for a minimum of one year.

802

01:28:29.080 --> 01:28:31.790

Washington Parish Library: And reconsidered at that time.

803

01:28:32.180 --> 01:28:36.700

Washington Parish Library: And that, suffice as a disciplinary action moving forward.

804

01:28:40.470 --> 01:28:52.379

Washington Parish Library: Just to point forward, I don't know if you can do that legally. I was...

805

01:28:54.210 --> 01:28:59.970

Washington Parish Library: I don't know. I had a separate thought, may I?

806

01:29:00.280 --> 01:29:13.550

Washington Parish Library: That's one motion. Did it pass, or is it dead? Well, they don't know the legality. So, do you have another motion? You made your motion, you didn't get a second. I made a motion. Okay, next. I was going to make a motion.

807

01:29:13.980 --> 01:29:27.509

Washington Parish Library: My recommendation, based on treating this serious, being serious, Representing the need to have... A due process happen.

808

01:29:28.460 --> 01:29:33.449

Washington Parish Library: to suggest a one-week suspension of miss on it.

809

01:29:34.130 --> 01:29:40.720

Washington Parish Library: And in addition to a one calendar year, probation.

810

01:29:41.260 --> 01:29:47.009

Washington Parish Library: At which point that during the board meetings, we will be accounting for her work and her conduct.

811

01:29:48.550 --> 01:29:55.570

Washington Parish Library: Is that your motion? Yes. I second. A one-week suspension and a one-calendar year probationary period. I second.

812

01:29:55.570 --> 01:30:12.650

Washington Parish Library: Just to clarify, Mr. Chairman, when you say that suspension, with or without pay, I think that needs to... You have to say, with or without pay. Okay, it's up to y'all, but I just want... I think you need to make that distinction. With pay, she just can't, just suspended from her library duties for a week, with a one-year...

813

01:30:12.650 --> 01:30:26.309

Washington Parish Library: Probation. Probationary period, so it shows that we are taking this serious, and if anything like this were to come up again during that probationary period... Yes, Mr. Teller? A lot of discussion here. That sounds like a week vacation to me.

814

01:30:27.480 --> 01:30:35.910

Washington Parish Library: No pay? Please don't What is the legality of the no-pay thing, just for clarity?

815

01:30:36.470 --> 01:30:59.459

Washington Parish Library: I'm not sure that the question is whether the suspension should be with pay or without pay. Right. The one week? Yeah, the one week. Yes. Usually, you get suspended, it's without pay. Correct. I mean, if somebody maybe works more... Let's do it without pay. Without pay. A one-week suspension, no pay. A one calendar year probationary period, she's answerable to the Washington Parish Board of Control.

816

01:30:59.770 --> 01:31:05.000

Washington Parish Library: During the regular meetings, and if this conduct is ever repeated, then it's...

817

01:31:05.100 --> 01:31:09.549

Washington Parish Library: Termination. That's it. Termination. That's my motion. I second it.

818

01:31:10.280 --> 01:31:11.170

Washington Parish Library: Vote.

819

01:31:12.780 --> 01:31:15.460

Washington Parish Library: Roll call. Roll call. Roll call.

820

01:31:16.900 --> 01:31:18.060

Washington Parish Library: Sorry.

821

01:31:18.490 --> 01:31:19.760

Washington Parish Library: Nathan Pierce.

822

01:31:19.910 --> 01:31:27.329

Washington Parish Library: Yes. Emma Ross? Yes. Kawanda August? Yes. Derek Danton? Yes. Nico?

823

01:31:28.070 --> 01:31:29.950

Washington Parish Library: Penny Moses? Yes.

824

01:31:30.070 --> 01:31:31.819  
Washington Parish Library: Perry Talley? No.

825  
01:31:33.760 --> 01:31:36.230  
Washington Parish Library: Present seal. Yes.

826  
01:31:38.700 --> 01:31:39.980  
Washington Parish Library: Mr. Seal.

827  
01:31:40.250 --> 01:31:41.750  
Washington Parish Library: Thank you so much.

828  
01:31:42.820 --> 01:31:46.909  
Washington Parish Library: I applaud you for that vote.

829  
01:31:47.380 --> 01:31:51.329  
Washington Parish Library: Thank you so much. Thank you for listening.

830  
01:31:51.700 --> 01:31:56.670  
Washington Parish Library: to the group, this Library Board of Control.

831  
01:31:56.940 --> 01:32:00.750  
Washington Parish Library: Knowing that you had all of this to share with us.

832  
01:32:00.880 --> 01:32:03.469  
Washington Parish Library: I thank you for that yes vote.

833  
01:32:03.890 --> 01:32:12.070  
Washington Parish Library: And moving forward, Miss... Sonnet, as your board members, we expect

834  
01:32:12.180 --> 01:32:20.900  
Washington Parish Library: your highest level of professional medicine training. You are good at what you do.

835

01:32:20.900 --> 01:32:36.829

Washington Parish Library: You are perhaps one of the smartest people that I've ever worked with. I'm expecting you, I don't know how the rest of the board feel, to live up to our expectations, and continue to give the parish

836

01:32:36.830 --> 01:32:44.789

Washington Parish Library: the support they need with the library system. We want to open up Angie. We want to move forward.

837

01:32:44.800 --> 01:32:52.740

Washington Parish Library: You won 5 or 6 libraries in this parish, and everybody is pleased. Do your job.

838

01:32:52.790 --> 01:32:56.569

Washington Parish Library: Stay away from people, they'll cut your throat.

839

01:32:56.980 --> 01:33:03.240

Washington Parish Library: I would also like to propose that we address in our policies about social media.

840

01:33:03.410 --> 01:33:05.130

Washington Parish Library: And our members.

841

01:33:05.850 --> 01:33:30.790

Washington Parish Library: It's very loose. Employees. It's very loose. I want it addressed, and I would like social media training for the staff at the libraries. I will say, I ask that you reach out to the State Library, because Robert Judge just won a lawsuit against the Lafayette Board for penalties for his social media and free speech. So I'm just making you aware of that, so you know to ask them. We'll contact the state library to ask.

842

01:33:30.790 --> 01:33:43.240

Washington Parish Library: if they already have an existing policy, so we don't have to recreate the wheel. We can just implement it locally. So I assume I come back to work next Friday? Is that how this works? It had to be a week.

843

01:33:44.180 --> 01:33:53.830

Washington Parish Library: You got any other comments? You got any other things? Any other comments? I thought we were gonna wrap it up before this is the last comment. Yeah, we're gonna wrap it up. Okay.

844

01:33:54.000 --> 01:33:58.290

Washington Parish Library: I'm not... First of all, some of the... just to address some of the things you said tonight.

845

01:33:59.580 --> 01:34:03.379

Washington Parish Library: I've never said Ms. Island wasn't doing a good job. Correct.

846

01:34:03.690 --> 01:34:06.069

Washington Parish Library: When we were trying to get that millage renewed.

847

01:34:06.350 --> 01:34:10.030

Washington Parish Library: I bragged on our parish libraries all over this place.

848

01:34:10.300 --> 01:34:16.840

Washington Parish Library: Everywhere that would listen to the meetings and the get-togethers and stuff. She presented at our board meetings and stuff.

849

01:34:16.960 --> 01:34:19.549

Washington Parish Library: I mean, I was just...

850

01:34:20.080 --> 01:34:24.800

Washington Parish Library: As obviously tonight, I was really hurt and dumbfounded by that reaction.

851

01:34:25.080 --> 01:34:32.769

Washington Parish Library: When I say... She's the librarian 24-7. That means she's working 24-7, but she doesn't...

852

01:34:33.030 --> 01:34:39.900

Washington Parish Library: put down that matter. It's not a thing you can't, just like many other positions you have.

853

01:34:40.180 --> 01:34:45.689

Washington Parish Library: People say, well, I'm gonna get man to replace the board. No, I'm not. Y'all are my board.

854

01:34:45.990 --> 01:34:47.330

Washington Parish Library: Y'all are my board.

855

01:34:47.550 --> 01:35:01.169

Washington Parish Library: If we don't agree on something, that's fine, but we'll agree on, we love this parish, we love this library for the best part. And you can put me... I'll go to the mat for you. There you go. Miss Ireland, I'm a Bury the Hatchet guy. All right. I'm a Bear the Hatchet guy.

856

01:35:01.270 --> 01:35:17.570

Washington Parish Library: You know, when I was elected, I always dreamed around about I was going to fire people, run them off. I didn't fire anybody. I work in the building every day with people that campaign against me. I've never once been convicted. I've given them raises and promotions, because I'm not... I'm a bear-the-hatchet guy, and I want to move forward. Thank you. I want to know what's ahead for us.

857

01:35:17.730 --> 01:35:28.210

Washington Parish Library: And if Ms. Ireland, any employee, this board needs me, or Washington Parish government, we're gonna be there. We're gonna be there. I'm disappointed and hurt, but it's... we're bearing the hatchet.

858

01:35:28.370 --> 01:35:30.009

Washington Parish Library: I'm an old lumberjack.

859

01:35:30.900 --> 01:35:32.120

Washington Parish Library: We're bearing a hatchet.

860

01:35:33.040 --> 01:35:35.030

Washington Parish Library: Thank you. We appreciate you.

861

01:35:37.860 --> 01:35:39.889

Washington Parish Library: Make a new motion?

862

01:35:40.250 --> 01:35:49.759

Washington Parish Library: Motion to... Yeah, a motion to make a motion. I'm making a motion to adjourn. Y'all got a second.

863

01:35:49.960 --> 01:35:52.010

Washington Parish Library: Do you want me to work well for those?

864

01:35:52.260 --> 01:36:01.879

Washington Parish Library: I don't think so. Okay, and she should do a roll call. Okay, wait, wait, wait, before y'all leave, wait, wait, wait! All in favor? Yeah, all in favor. All in favor? Yes, yes.

865

01:36:02.530 --> 01:36:13.229

Washington Parish Library: Y'all are new to notes, bear with me. Thank you guys for showing up. Nathan Pierce, it's a pleasure to meet you.