

Washington Parish Library
Library Board of Control
Franklinton Branch
Thursday, March 19, 2026, 5:30pm
Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order by Mr. Nathan Pierce at 5:50pm.

Roll Call by the Director, Mrs. Sonnet Ireland

Board Members Present: Mr. Nathan Pierce, Ms. Penny Moses, Ms. Emma Ross (*virtual*), and Pres. Ryan Seal

Board Members Absent: Ms. Kewanda August, Mr. Derek Dantin, Mr. Perry Talley

Guests: Ms. Jessie Babcock, Mrs. Abigail Kemp

Special notes: Zoom and its call-in feature were used for accessibility purposes.

II. Invocation by Ms. Penny Moses.

III. Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Nathan Pierce.

IV. Approval of Agenda

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

Mr. Nathan Pierce: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Mr. Derek Dantin: Absent

Mr. Perry Talley: Absent

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Pres. Ryan Seal: Yes

Motion passed.

V. Approval of Minutes from the meeting on Thursday, February 5, 2026.

A motion was made by Ms. Ross to approve the minutes from the previous meeting on Thursday, February 5, 2026 at the Bogalusa Branch; seconded by Ms. Moses.

Mr. Nathan Pierce: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Mr. Derek Dantin: Absent

Mr. Perry Talley: Absent

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Pres. Ryan Seal: Yes

Motion passed.

VI. New Business

A. Helicopter Flight Path Request for Angel's Campus (Jessie Babcock)

Our Lady of the Angels Hospital is building a helicopter pad at the old YWCA.

The hospital is seeking avigation easements from properties in the area along

the designated flight path, including the Bogalusa Branch. The flight path is over a very small part of the property, but it may require the removal of the flagpole. The Board's position will go to the Council for consideration; the Council will then determine whether or not to agree to this.

A motion was made by Ms. Moses to notify the Council that the Board agrees with this and recommends approving the agreement; seconded by Ms. Ross.

Mr. Nathan Pierce: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Mr. Derek Dantin: Absent

Mr. Perry Talley: Absent

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Pres. Ryan Seal: Yes

Motion passed.

B. Ad Hoc Buildings Committee (LBOC)

Mr. Pierce would like to create an Ad Hoc Buildings Committee to help the Library move forward on the renovation of the Angie Branch and any other needs for Library branches. It was suggested by a member of the public that the committee rotate members so that each branch has a member who represents that community involved in that specific project.

Mr. Pierce appointed Ms. Moses, Ms. Ross, and himself to the committee with the Director serving as an ex-officio member.

C. Presentation of Policies/Board Procedures

Mrs. Ireland presented five new policies for review. At the request of the Board, Mrs. Ireland drafted a Social Media Policy and a Patron Complaint and Grievance Policy and accompanying procedure. In addition to these policies, an Employee Discipline and Corrective Action Policy, a Staff Conflict Policy, and an Employee Grievance Policy were also presented. Mrs. Ireland is asking for feedback from the Board since the policies were created at their behest. These policies are also available for public feedback in the Board Packet for this meeting on the website. Mrs. Ireland will send the policies for staff review; after receiving all the feedback, she will send the final draft to the parish attorney for review.

VII. Old Business

A. Library Director Evaluation/Review

Mr. Pierce may have to appoint new members to the Ad Hoc Director Review Committee as the current members have been unable to meet. Mr. Pierce

assured the Board that the review will be completed and brought to them for approval at the next meeting on May 21st.

VIII. Director's Report - See attached.

IX. Public Comment

Mrs. Nakita Beauclaire invited the Board members to the upcoming Branch Open Houses in April: Enon on April 2nd, Thomas on April 9th, Bogalusa on April 16th, and Franklinton on April 23rd.

Mrs. Ireland reminded the Board that the Library will be closing at 11am for the Friends of the Washington Parish Library's Staff Appreciation Luncheon at Sugar Shack on Wednesday, April 22nd. The Board and Pres. Seal are invited to the luncheon. After lunch, the branches will remain closed for a staff enrichment day, focused on learning about mental health resources in the community.

Mr. Pierce thanked the staff for all the work they did to set up for the meeting. He also thanked Pres. Seal for attending.

X. Next meeting: Thursday, May 21, 2026 at the Bogalusa Branch

XI. Adjournment

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

All present members agreed. **Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:56pm.