

Washington Parish Library
Library Board of Control
Thursday, September 10, 2026 - 5:30pm
Bogalusa Branch
Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to order by the President, Mr. Nathan Pierce at 5:37pm.
- II. Roll Call by the Director, Mrs. Sonnet Ireland
Board Members Present: Mr. Derek Dantin, Mrs. Abigail Kemp, Ms. Penny Moses, Mr. Nathan Pierce, and Ms. Emma Ross (*virtual*)
Board Members Absent: Ms. Kewanda August, Mr. Perry Talley
Special notes: Zoom and its call-in feature were used for accessibility purposes.

III. Invocation led by Mr. Derek Dantin.

IV. Pledge of Allegiance led by Ms. Penny Moses.

V. Approval of Agenda

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

Mr. Nathan Pierce: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Mr. Derek Dantin: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Mrs. Abigail Kemp: Yes

Mr. Perry Talley: Absent

VI. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings.

A. Thursday, July 23, 2026

B. Thursday, August 20, 2026

A motion was made by Mr. Pierce to approve both the minutes from July 23rd and August 20th meetings; seconded by Mr. Dantin.

Mr. Nathan Pierce: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Mr. Derek Dantin: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Mrs. Abigail Kemp: Yes

Mr. Perry Talley: Absent

VII. New Business

A. WPLBOC Resolution 2026-002: Approval of the 2027 Budget

Mrs. Ireland explained that the budget had been presented at the July 23rd meeting for review before the Library Board Budget Hearing on August 20th. She also referenced the 2027 Budget Message included in the Board Packet and noted that there had been no requests for adjustment from the Board or the public.

A motion was made by Ms. Moses to adopt WPLBOC Resolution 2026-002; seconded by Ms. Ross.

Mr. Nathan Pierce: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Mr. Derek Dantin: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Mrs. Abigail Kemp: Yes

Mr. Perry Talley: Absent

B. Relationship with Supporting Organizations Policy

Mrs. Ireland reminded the Board that this policy was presented at the July 23rd meeting for review. No comments or requests for edits were received either from the Board or the public.

A motion was made by Ms. Moses to approve the Relationship with Supporting Organizations; seconded by Mrs. Kemp.

Mr. Nathan Pierce: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Mr. Derek Dantin: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Mrs. Abigail Kemp: Yes

Mr. Perry Talley: Absent

C. Food For Fines - \$3/item, October-December

Mrs. Ireland explained that the Washington Parish Food Bank was short on resources, prompting organizations in the community to accept donations for them. Since the Library has the Food For Fines program for a month each year, Mrs. Ireland was requesting that the Library extend the program this year to three months: October 1st-December 30th. Each nonperishable, not expired food item brought to a branch can eliminate up to \$3 in library fines and book, DVD, or library card replacement costs.

A motion was made by Ms. Moses to approve the expansion of Food For Fines to three months to help those in need throughout the holidays; seconded by Mr. Dantin.

Mr. Nathan Pierce: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Mr. Derek Dantin: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Mrs. Abigail Kemp: Yes

Mr. Perry Talley: Absent

VIII. Unfinished Business

A. Angie Branch Updates

Mrs. Ireland updated the Board on the status of the Angie Project. The Contractor is set to begin work on Monday, September 14th. Surveys have been sent out to gather information about what the community in Angie wants and needs in their branch. This survey is being shared by all of the branches on their social media channels.

Ms. Moses recommended sending the survey to the schools and churches in Angie as well.

B. Updating the 2026 Budget

Mrs. Ireland explained that she was revisiting the request she made at the May 21st meeting for additional funding for Angie. She is requesting an additional \$100,000 be transferred from the Fund Balance to the Additions to Capital Assets line (730). She referenced the 2026 Budget Amendment Message included in the Board Packet, noting that this would be an allowance. Anything not needed for the Angie project will be returned to the line and, ultimately, the Fund Balance.

A motion was made by Mr. Dantin to approve the 2026 Amended Budget; seconded by Mrs. Kemp.

Mr. Nathan Pierce: Yes

Ms. Kewanda August: Absent

Ms. Penny Moses: Yes

Mr. Derek Dantin: Yes

Ms. Emma Ross: Yes

Mrs. Abigail Kemp: Yes

Mr. Perry Talley: Absent

IX. Director's Report - Highlights

- Assistant Director Aerial Mathews now fits the requirements to be considered exempt again.
- Custodian Michael Crosley is now the Route Delivery Driver.
- Awarded a 2026 Parish America 250 Mini Grant for \$1,000 to fund A Flag for Every American: Braille Flags Across Washington Parish.

The full report can be requested at your local WPL Branch and found on the Library website at <https://washingtonparishlibrary.info/2026-lboc-meeting>.

X. General Public Comment - none

XI. *Next meeting: Thursday, November 19, 2026 at the Franklinton Branch.*

XII. Adjournment

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:05pm.

2026 Meetings

Name	Appointed	1/15	*2/5	3/19	5/21	7/23	8/20	9/10	11/19
Kewanda August	2022	X	P	X	X	X	X	X	
Derek Dantin	2025	X	P	X	P	P	X	P	
Abigail Kemp	2026	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	
Penny Moses	2022	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Nathan Pierce, President	2025	V	P	P	P	X	P	P	
Emma Ross, Vice President	2001	P	P	V	V	V	P	V	
Ryan Seal Parish President	<i>ex-officio</i>	X	P	P	X	X	X	X	
J. Perry Talley	2023	V	P	X	P	V	V	X	
Sonnet Ireland Secretary		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Aerial Mathews		P	P	P	P	P	X	P	
<i>Tech Team Representative</i>		<i>CB</i>	<i>CB</i>	<i>CB</i>	<i>CB</i>	<i>LG</i>	<i>CB</i>	<i>CB</i>	

P = Present in-person V = Virtually present X = Absent - = Position vacant

* = Special Meeting