



Livingston Parish Library Board of Control Regular Board Meeting January 20, 2026

Minutes

The Livingston Parish Library Board of Control met in a regular session on January 20, 2026. The meeting occurred at the Main Branch Library, located at 20390 Iowa Street, Livingston, LA 70754.

1. Call to Order

Jonathan Davis, Board President, called the meeting to order at **6:00 p.m.**

2. Invocation

Mr. Davis called for an invocation from Mr. Trey Cowell.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Those in attendance said the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Roll Call

Present: Kristan Whann, Rodlyn Hammond, Jennifer Dorhauer, Jonathan Davis, Sheila Goins, Patricia Wilson, DeWanna Christian, and Trey Cowell

Absent: Becky Morgan and Randy Delatte (Ex Officio)

Also Present: Na'Chel Shannon (Director), Dustin Cotton (Assistant Director of Branch Services), and Julia Falcon (Assistant Director of Support Services)

5. Approval of Minutes

- a. November 18, 2025: Public Hearing and Regular Board Meeting
- b. December 8, 2025, Special Board Meeting

MOTION to accept as presented by Trey Cowell, seconded by Rodlyn Hammond.

Mr. Davis calls for a vote.

Yeas: Christian, Cowell, Dorhauer, Goins, Hammond, Whann, Wilson, Davis

Nays:

Absent: Delatte, Morgan

Abstain:

The motion carried 8-0

6. Public Comments on Agenda Items

Two signatures were listed on the public speaking signup sheet; however, no one gave a public comment.

7. Report of the Administrative Librarian

a. Statistical

i. 2025 Library Usage Statistics - Totals

Ms. Na'Chel Shannon, Director, provided the final library usage statistics for 2025. She stated that the traffic count decreased by 5.5%, computer usage decreased by 4.67%, and wireless usage increased by 4.89%. She also stated that there was a 0.37% drop in overall library events, yet an increase of 56.27% in meeting room bookings. Ms. Shannon goes on to read various statistics regarding foot traffic, Interlibrary loans, and database usage. Ms. Shannon then states that, due to limited access to financials prior to this meeting and her being in only her sixth day, she does not currently have a complete financial report to present. However, she states that the report will be read at the next regular meeting.

b. Maintenance

i. Albany-Springfield Branch Chiller Slab Project Update

Ms. Shannon informs the board that the report was received from McLin and Taylor Associates and asks Dustin Cotton to give further information. Dustin Cotton, Assistant Director of Branch Services, then informs the board that the report stated we "needed to do some pilings underneath the slab" and that the project's scope can be completed for a total of \$55,000, with \$5,000 of that being design and engineering. This is below the \$60,000 threshold required for a

bid process. Mr. Cotton goes on to state that no action is needed tonight and that there is time to obtain repair quotes.

8. New Business

- a. Discussion & Decision: Whether “This One Summer” by Mariko Tamaki & Jillian Tamaki meets the criteria outlined in LA RS 25:225C(2)(d)(ii) and the definition provided in LA RS 25:225B(4) as claimed by a complainant who submitted a Citizen’s Request for Reconsideration of Library Material Form (3-309a), and whether to move this material to another collection based on this challenge – Jonathan Davis, Board President

Mr. Davis opens the floor for public comment.

MOTION by Patricia Wilson to table this, as they have not had the opportunity to read the book. She states that there is only 1 book in circulation in the Livingston Parish Library system, and it has been requested but has not yet been received from other parish systems. This MOTION was seconded by Sheila Goins.

Ms. Goins also asks that people include the page numbers where the information they disagree with appears. She asks if this could be included in the Citizen’s Request for Reconsideration of Library Material, form 3-309a. Mr. Davis states that yes, it could be a policy amendment for a future board meeting.

Mr. Davis asks if anyone is opposed to tabling this discussion and decision. There is no opposition.

Mr. Davis calls for a vote to table this discussion until the next meeting.

Yeas: Christian, Dorhauer, Goins, Hammond, Whann, Wilson, Davis

Nays: Cowell

Absent: Delatte, Morgan

Abstain:

The motion carried 7-1

- b. Discussion & Decision: To consider closing each CD on the renewal date and transferring funds into the Capital Outlay account – Patricia Wilson, Board Member
 - i. Code 2-208: Audit

Ms. Wilson states that previous administrations “*utilized funds to put into a CD account for future building growth, those kinds of things.*” She goes on to state that, as years have passed, interest rates have decreased, and it’s no longer a good investment. She states that a CD is scheduled to roll over on January 31, 2026, and instead of rolling over, it will be placed in the Capital Outlay account temporarily while the finance committee determines another location.

Ms. Jennifer Dorhauer asks if other governmental agencies utilize LAMP (Louisiana Asset Management Pool), why can’t the library directly roll over these maturing CDs into a LAMP account? Ms. Wilson states that it’s because the library does not have an account yet, and she wanted everyone to have time to review this and see if it’s best, and for the finance committee to determine whether they think it’s best before presenting it to the full board.

Mr. Davis opens the floor for public comment. There are no comments.

MOTION to close all CDs for 2026 on their renewal date and transfer the funds into the Capital Outlay account made by Jennifer Dorhauer, seconded by Rodlyn Hammond

Mr. Davis calls for the vote.

Yeas: Christian, Cowell, Dorhauer, Goins, Hammond, Whann, Wilson, Davis

Nays:

Absent: Delatte, Morgan

Abstain:

The motion carried 8-0

- c. Discussion & Decision: Proposed Policy Amendment – Dustin Cotton, Assistant Library Director
 - i. Code 1-102: History of the Library

Mr. Cotton informs the board that this policy change removes the previous director from the “directors that have served” category and adds Ms. Shannon as our current director.

Mr. Davis opens the floor for public comment. There are no comments.

MOTION to accept made by Trey Cowell, seconded by Patricia Wilson.

Mr. Davis calls for a vote.

Yeas: Christian, Cowell, Dorhauer, Goins, Hammond, Whann, Wilson, Davis

Nays:

Absent: Delatte, Morgan

Abstain:

The motion carried 8-0

- d. Discussion & Decision: Proposed Policy Amendment – Dustin Cotton,
Assistant Library Director
 - i. Code 2-212: Retention and Disposal Schedule

Mr. Cotton states this is an overhaul based on information the previous director received from the Deputy State Librarian right at the time she left the system. This is just an update to the policy based on the Secretary of State's requirements for record-keeping in public libraries.

MOTION to accept changes as discussed made by Patricia Wilson, seconded by Kristan Whann

Mr. Davis opens the floor for public comment. There is no comment.

Mr. Davis calls for a vote.

Yeas: Christian, Cowell, Dorhauer, Goins, Hammond, Whann, Wilson, Davis

Nays:

Absent: Delatte, Morgan

Abstain:

The motion carried 8-0

- e. Discussion & Decision: Proposed Policy Amendment – Dustin Cotton,
Assistant Library Director
 - i. Code 5-521: Employee Conduct/Disciplinary Action/Dismissal

Mr. Cotton states that there was a need to add two items, including actionable disciplinary actions that include termination for staff. He states that sharing any staff-specific credentials for any computer system, software, or facility hardware, thereby compromising security and accountability, is now a disciplinary action. Also, allowing non-staff members to use staff-only workstations creates a security hazard and is a firing offense, depending on the

situation. The other major change was that any employee terminations discussed in a public meeting will follow state law, including having executive sessions as needed.

MOTION to approve 5-521 made by Rodlyn Hammond, seconded by Kristan Whann

Mr. Davis opens the floor for public comment. There is no comment.

Mr. Davis calls for a vote.

Yeas: Christian, Cowell, Dorhauer, Goins, Hammond, Whann, Wilson, Davis

Nays:

Absent: Delatte, Morgan

Abstain:

The motion carried 8-0

f. Discussion & Decision: Surplus Items – Dustin Cotton, Assistant Library Director

Mr. Cotton presents to the board a list of items to surplus that had accumulated at the Admin office over the course of the year. These items included broken chairs, coffee pots, and vacuum cleaners. There was also an Accu-Cut machine that the board decided should be donated for teacher takeaway.

MOTION to approve surplus items for disposal and donate the Accu-Cut machine as a teacher giveaway made by Sheila Goins, seconded by Patricia Wilson

Mr. Davis opens the floor for public comment. There is no comment.

Mr. Davis calls for a vote.

Yeas: Christian, Cowell, Dorhauer, Goins, Hammond, Whann, Wilson, Davis

Nays:

Absent: Delatte, Morgan

Abstain:

The motion carried 8-0

MOTION to lift the agenda to enter Executive Session to discuss possible litigation from the claim by the former director for payment of wages and benefits made by Trey Cowell, seconded by Sheila Goins

With no objection, the board enters Executive Session at 6:28 p.m.

Mr. Davis calls the meeting back to order at 6:44 p.m.

9. Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn made by Jennifer Dorhauer, seconded by Rodlyn Hammond

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.