



Livingston Parish Library Board of Control Special Board Meeting February 10, 2026

Minutes

The Livingston Parish Library Board of Control met in a special session on February 10, 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 **6:31 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 (Ms. Morgan arrived at 6:36 p.m. after roll had been taken) and Randy Delatte (Ex Officio)

Also Present: Na'Chel Shannon (Director), Dustin Cotton (Assistant Director of Branch Services), and Scott Perrilloux (Legal Counsel)

5. Public Comments on Agenda Items

Eighteen signatures were listed on the public speaking signup sheet; however, some who spoke on various agenda items did not sign the sheet.

6. Old Business

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

MOTION to relocate “This One Summer” to the adult section of the library per RS25:225 made by Kristan Whann, seconded by Jonathan Davis

Mr. Davis opens the floor for public comment.

Approximately 23 audience members spoke for and against relocating the item listed under agenda item 6a. ***Due to the length of the public comments, more detailed information is available by listening to the posted audio recording of the meeting or by watching the posted video on our [YouTube channel](#).***

Ms. Becky Morgan directs a question to Mr. Perrilloux (legal counsel) by asking whether he has received Tulane's email to the board regarding following the law as a board. She states that *“There seems to be an opinion as to whether this book is sexually explicit or whether it is not sexually explicit.”* She then states that *“I guess my question is, do we follow the law and this checklist, or do we break the law and vote on morals and opinion?”* Mr. Perrilloux states that *“You are asking for a book to be restricted to some extent under a particular statute. That statute sets out the criteria for you to do that as a board. So, if the book contains sexually explicit material as defined in the statute, then you have the basis to vote to restrict it or move it.”* Ms. Morgan then asks, if it doesn’t meet those standards, then what? Mr. Perrilloux states that if it does not meet those standards, then you should not vote to restrict it or move it.

Ms. Whann asks if they are allowed to vote according to their conscience. Mr. Perrilloux states, *“Vote your conscience based on the law.”* Ms. Dorhauer then states that the RS 25:225 *“Has nothing to do with foul language that we’re all disturbed about. It’s only about sexual content.”*

Mr. Cowell then states that the word simulated means *“to give the appearance of.”* He then states that *“we are giving the appearance of a sexual explicit*

context.” Mr. Cowell goes on to state a sexual act mentioned in the book and states, “That is against the law.” Mr. Cowell asks for clarification from Mr. Perrilloux, who then states the statute, which reads “Sexually explicit material means textual, visual, or audio material produced in any medium that depicts or describes sexual conduct.” There is then a discussion among board members and Mr. Perrilloux on whether sexual conduct is indeed present in the book. To which Mr. Perrilloux states, “It’s your job as a board to make this decision, not mine.” Mr. Cowell then questions the process by which a parent obtains a card for a child or a Teen. Mr. Cotton states that a parent must fill out and submit the Materials Restriction Form for their child or Teen. This form allows the parent to restrict the reading level of their child or Teen. Essentially, the card is locked until the form is submitted and the correct level is chosen. Mr. Cotton gives an example of a parent choosing to restrict their Teen child to Juvenile with no e-service access, as it is the parent’s decision. Mr. Cowell then states a parent “Can restrict their 13-year-old from the Teen section, and they can’t even use the section that’s dedicated to them because we leave filth in the Teen section.”

Ms. Patricia Wilson then speaks to the board and states that, as a board, they must sometimes set aside their personal opinions and look at the facts. She goes on to state that, in her opinion, the law is not detailed enough and needs to be clearer. She says, *“What’s the big deal about putting the book where a parent has to agree? If you want your child to read that book, then get it and let them read it. If you don’t want your child to read that book, then they don’t have access to it.”* She stated that *“We have to compromise. But we need a clearer law to give us guidance.”*

Mr. Davis calls for a vote.

Mr. Cotton reads the motion on the floor: to relocate “This One Summer” to the adult section of the library. Motion made by Ms. Whann, seconded by Mr. Davis.

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

Nays: Dorhauer, Hammond, Morgan

Absent:

Abstain:

The motion carried 6-3

7. New Business

- a. Executive Session: Pursuant to LA RS 42:17(A)(2) to facilitate deliberation for a possible decision by the Board of Control regarding a settlement request from the former Library Director – Jonathan Davis, Board President

MOTION to enter Executive Session made by Ms. Dorhauer, seconded by Rodlyn Hammond

The board entered Executive Session at **7:42 p.m.**

Mr. Davis calls the meeting back to order at **7:55 p.m.**

- b. Discussion & Decision: Proposed Policy Amendments – Jennifer Dorhauer, Board Vice President
 - i. Code 3-309a: Citizen’s Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials
 - ii. Code 3-309c: Citizen’s Request for Appeal of Reconsideration

Ms. Dorhauer states that these are the same policies that have been in place. At the last board meeting, it was asked that an update be made to the form. This update reflects that when a challenge is submitted, there should be a place to include page numbers and referenced sections. This change would make it easier for the board to reference the specified challenge submission.

MOTION to accept the policies that Dustin has revised, made by Jennifer Dorhauer, seconded by Patricia Wilson

Mr. Davis opens the floor for public comment.

There are three public comments made.

Marla Elsea asks for clarification on the motion, asking whether the board is still required to read the book in its entirety even if the page numbers are listed. The board responds by saying yes.

Victoria Hermann [sic] states she is concerned that people will submit the form and instead of listing specific page numbers, simply write “*all of it.*” Ms. Hammond states that she would be fine with the submission forms stating this, as it guarantees that everything will be read in its entirety, not just single pages or paragraphs.

There is another question asking if the online document will be updated to reflect this change. Ms. Dorhauer states that if it passes, the form will be updated.

Mr. Davis calls for a vote.

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

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

The motion carried 9-0

Adjournment

With no objection, Mr. Davis adjourned the meeting at **8:00 p.m.**