



Livingston Parish Library Board of Control  
Special Meeting, August 13, 2024

## Minutes

The Livingston Parish Board of Control met in a special session on August 13, 2024. The meeting took place at the Main Branch, located at 20390 Iowa Street, Livingston, LA 70754.

### 1. Call to Order

Board President, Ronnie Bencaz called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

### 2. Roll Call

Present: Ronnie Bencaz, Francine Smith, Shalisha Labat, Kathy deGeneres, Larry Davis, Abby Crosby, Steve Bernard, DeWanna Christian, Wendi Neal

Absent:

Also Present: Michelle Parrish (Director), Dustin Cotton (Assistant Director of Branch Services), Julia Falcon (Assistant Director of Support Services), David Gray (Public Information Officer), Bridgette Rushing Gilbert (Ex-Officio Member)

### 3. Public Comment on Agenda Items

No public comments at this time.

### 4. New Business

**a. Discussion & Resolution:** To adopt the adjusted millage rate for the taxing year 2024 as assigned by the Legislative Auditor

i. Presented by Michelle Parrish, Director

Ms. Parrish informs the board of the adjusted millage rate of 7.53.

MOTION to accept the legislative auditor's findings of 7.53 made by Francine Smith, seconded by Wendi Neal

YAYS: Ronnie Bencaz, Francine Smith, Shalisha Labat, Kathy deGeneres, Larry Davis, Abby Crosby, Steve Bernard, DeWanna Christian, Wendi Neal, Bridgette Gilbert

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

The motion carried.

**b. Discussion & Resolution:** To set forth the adjusted millage rate and roll forward to a rate that does not exceed the prior year's maximum.

i. Presented by Michelle Parrish, Director

The board discussed the millage rate, with Ms. Smith stating that she is okay with the 7.75. There is no objection.

There is public comment on this agenda item. **More detailed information may be found by listening to the posted audio recording of the meeting or watching the posted video link to our YouTube channel.**

In support and does not wish to speak, Mandy Pickering, Tim Elsea

In support and would like to speak, Marla Elsea stated that she has watched the library grow in 30 years and was disappointed in Councilman Goff for going against the 10 mil that the public voted on. However, if the library states that 7.75 is what they need, then she is okay with this rate.

In support and would like to speak, Amanda Jones stated that we have a wonderful library system and how after the flood of 2016, the library opened all 5 branches to help the public with their needs. She supports the 7.75 millage rate. However, she feels that the library should stick with 10 mills.

MOTION to accept the millage at 7.75 made by Francine Smith, seconded by Steve Bernard

Yeas: Ronnie Bencaz, Francine Smith, Shalisha Labat, Kathy deGeneres, Larry Davis, Abby Crosby, Steve Bernard, DeWanna Christian, Wendi Neal, Bridget Gilbert

Nays:

Abstain:

The motion carried.

## 5. Adjournment

Mr. Bencaz adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.