

# Concordia Parish Library

Clayton Library  
P.O. Box 100  
Clayton, LA 71326  
(318) 757-6460

Ferriday Library  
1609 Third Street  
Ferriday, LA 71334  
(318) 757-3550

Vidalia Library  
408 Texas Street  
Vidalia, LA 71373  
(318) 336 -5043

CONCORDIA PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL  
MINUTES - **APPROVED**  
**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024**  
FERRIDAY LIBRARY  
2:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER:

LaJean Corbett called the meeting to order. A quorum was present with Bobby Sheppard, Renard Chatman, James Lee, Jackie Young, Kathleen Stevens, and LaJean Corbett. Member absent was Jill Britt due to her husband's surgery and ex-officio, Collin Edwards.

2. MINUTES – July 17, 2024: Jackie Young moved to accept minutes as mailed and James Lee seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT (Comments limited to 5 minutes): There were no public comments.

4. REPORTS

A. Circulation: The two months were reviewed and it was stated July was low because the Bookmobile was getting ready to serve the schools that opened in August. (See Attachment)

B. Financial

1. Current Balance Sheets – July/August: These two months were reviewed and over \$200,000 was carried over each month. (See Attachment)

2. 2025 Budget: The Director presented the 2025 Budget with explanations of some of the line items. These are estimations for the Library to enter into 2025. James Lee recommended to accept the Proposed 2025 Budget and LaJean Corbett seconded the motion. Motion passed. The final approval will be on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> at the Public Hearing in the Ferriday Library. Renard Chatman moved to give the staff a raise and Bobby Sheppard seconded the motion. Motion carried. Board complimented the staff for their work of serving our citizens. The Director recommended the remaining savings be used to maintain the 3 facilities and bookmobile.

3. Budget Hearing – October 16<sup>th</sup>: The Board requested the Budget Hearing be held in the Ferriday Library on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. The regular meeting in November will be in the Clayton Library Wednesday, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM.

4. Retirement Contribution: The amount of Contribution taken from the Library's ad valorem is required by law and the state sends the figures. It increases each year by \$2,000 to \$3,000 and is becoming a large amount of about \$45,000 for 2024.

## 5. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Re-Opening Reception: The Director commented on about 350 citizens participating. The State Library Staff and Board made positive comments on Concordia Parish Library System. The public enjoyed the flowers and music for the reception. The list of partners were an important part of the program. (See Attachment)
- B. Bookmobile -Battery/Discards: The plans are continued to move the old Bookmobile to Madison Parish. The Board earlier had voted to give it to them. Books are being discarded that were on the unit and as soon as the Library gets the title, the unit will be delivered. The vehicle insurance will go down once the delivery is done.
- C. Last details of Construction: There is an issue with the new hanging lights and Wilmar Construction is addressing this.
- D. Trail Blazer – September 27<sup>th</sup> – Caldwell Parish: J. Lee will be the voting member and will be attending with the Director and guest.
- E. Trail Blazer – 2025 – October 10, 2025: In 2025 Concordia will be hosting and there are many details to work out. Part of the meeting will be in the Ferriday Library. (See Attachment)
- F. Art Grant: It was reported that the Library did not get the Art Grant this year after 29 years of receiving. The panel questioned no students in the audience, no school programs, using a bank for venue, no original music and several others. All wanted to see the list of who received the grants. Decentralized Art was removed so the Art District does not have to give each parish any money. The 3 concerts booked for the Community Concert Series will continue will Library funds.
- G. Old Courthouse/EPA: The Library wrote the EPA Grant for the Police Jury and have been notified that the old courthouse will receive the removal of mold and asbestos. It was stated that it will take months for this to happen.
- H. E-Rate: The Library has filed for these Federal Funds and some will be received but waiting on several.
- I. Attorney Potter: Attorney Potter stated the case is closed and the complainant received \$10,000 of which a large part reimbursed Medicare and \$2,500 was left for her to pay her attorney. (See Attachment)
- J. Ethics/Sexual Harassment/Cybercrime Test: This is a friendly reminder to take required tests.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Inventory Tax: The Assessor stated that the Legislature is looking at removing the Inventory Tax. This would mean a loss of \$75,000. The Director will attend the Jury meeting on Monday.

- B. Storm Closure: The Library did close for an afternoon.
  - C. Concert – October 10: The concert of Simon and Garfunkel will be at the Concordia Bank lobby at 7:00 PM. (See Attachment)
  - D. Meeting Rooms: There was an increase in room usage by many groups including assisting our teachers.
  - E. Sustainability Meeting: The all-day meeting was scheduled for last Saturday and about 100 citizens attended. The meeting was informative and futuristic. The presenter from USDA offered information that might assist the old courthouse like new windows for the 1938 building.
  - F. Admin Conference – October 4<sup>th</sup>: The Director will attend the meeting in Baton Rouge.
  - G. Book Festival – November 2<sup>nd</sup>: The Book Festival is Nov. 2<sup>st</sup> and the State Library has asked Concordia to bring the new bookmobile to Baton Rouge. If drivers can be located then the library will participate.
7. NEXT BOARD MEETING: The Board requested to have the Budget Hearing at the **Ferriday Library on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 2:00 pm.**

The last Board meeting of the year is in **Clayton Library on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 (Regular Meeting) at 2:00 pm.**

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President of Library Board

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Custodian of Records