St. Tammany Parish Library
Board of Control Meeting
October 27, 2025
St. Tammany Parish Council Chambers
21490 Koop Dr.,
Mandeville, LA 70471
6:30 P.M.

Public Comment: A three (3) minute time limit is established for each member of the public wishing to speak (for or against) an item on the agenda. In the case of a Statement of Concern decision, the person who filed the Statement of Concern is given 5 minutes to speak. Please note, all comments must pertain to the agenda item announced. There is no general public comment at the beginning or end of the meeting. Any person wishing to comment on a topic not listed on the agenda may do so by e-mailing lboc@stpl.us by 4:00 PM on Monday, October 27, 2025.

## **AGENDA**

Call to order by President and Roll Call by Director

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

- 1. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of the Library Board of Control that was held on September 22, 2025.
  - Discussion
  - Public Comment
  - Vote
- 2. OLD BUSINESS
  - A. Personnel Committee Report
- 3. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. Financial Report September 2025
    - Discussion
    - Public Comment
    - Vote
  - B. Co-Interim Director's Report
  - C. Resolution #25-024 Regarding Rules and Regulations Section 113. Officers and Director (Branton)
    - Discussion
    - Public Comment
    - Vote

## D. Board Meeting Schedule 2026 (Branton)

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

## E. Holiday Schedule 2026 (Branton)

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

## 4. Adjournment

St. Tammany Parish Library **Board of Control Meeting** September 22, 2025 St. Tammany Parish Council Chambers 21490 Koop Dr. Mandeville, LA 70471 6:30 P.M.

## **MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by Charles (Chuck) Branton, Board President. Kelly LaRocca, Director, called the roll and declared that a quorum was present.

Present (6): Glenn Baham, Chuck Branton, Parish President Mike Cooper, Tamarah Myers, Dinah

Thanars, Travis Thompson

Absent (0): None

Emily Couvillon with the Civil Division of the District Attorney's Office was also present as legal counsel for the library.

G. Baham led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Branton explained the meeting rules and the rules for public comment.

## 1. Presentation – Thank you for service to the Library

Kelly LaRocca was presented with a plaque, flowers, and a card in gratitude for her 20 years of service to the library. The day of the board meeting was Kelly's last day with St. Tammany Parish Library, as she has accepted a position at the State Library as an Associate State Librarian.

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of the Library Board of Control that was held on August 25, 2025.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.

**DISCUSSION:** There was no Board discussion.

MOTION: G. Baham moved to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2025, LBOC meeting. It was

seconded by T. Myers.

**VOTE:** Baham: <u>Yes</u> Cooper: <u>Yes</u> Myers: <u>Yes</u> Thanars: <u>Yes</u> Thompson: <u>Yes</u> Branton: <u>Yes</u>

**RESULT:** Motion to approve the minutes carried. (Unanimous – 6)

## 3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Health Insurance and Reinsurance Policy selection for 2026 – Leon Golemi – BCA Benefit Consultants and Administrators, Inc.

Leon Golemi, the library's group health insurance benefit consultant, reviewed reinsurance contract options and group Health Insurance quotes for 2026.

C. Branton asked if the reinsurance carriers are in the United States or international markets. L. Golemi stated that while the library primarily utilizes domestic carriers, Zurich is reinsured in Switzerland and operates out of New York. C. Branton asked for confirmation on whether the reinsurance carriers are admitted, to which L. Golemi affirmed they are. L. Golemi recommended Gerber Life as the reinsurance carrier for 2026. Regarding retirees under the age of 65 remaining on the health insurance plan, C. Branton asked what occurs if a retiree is disabled, receives Social Security Disability, and subsequently qualifies for Medicare. L. Golemi explained that coverage under the plan discontinues once individuals become eligible for Medicare.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.

**DISCUSSION:** There was no Board discussion.

MOTION: C. Branton moved to approve the UMR Health Insurance Plan and selection of Gerber Life as

the reinsurance carrier for 2026. It was seconded by T. Thompson.

**VOTE:** Baham: <u>Yes</u> Cooper: <u>Yes</u> Myers: <u>Yes</u> Thanars: <u>Yes</u> Thompson: <u>Yes</u> Branton: <u>Yes</u>

**RESULT:** Motion to approve carried. (Unanimous – 6)

#### B. Financial Report – August 2025

K. LaRocca reviewed the August 2025 financial report. She reported an additional \$95,301.15 in Ad Valorem taxes were received on September 10, 2025. All expected Ad Valorem and State Revenue Sharing has been received. The budget percentage for August should be 66.67%. Revenues are at 66.88% and Expenditures are at 64.72%. K. LaRocca gave explanations for lines that were over or under 66%. Most variances are due to expenses being paid early or late in the year and will be in balance by the end of the year. Other variances will be addressed in the budget amendment later in the meeting.

C. Branton asked for confirmation that the Board has taken all necessary action to properly place the Mandeville Capital Project before the Parish Council. K. LaRocca confirmed, stating that the ordinance to amend the capital budget was introduced at the September Parish Council meeting and is scheduled for a vote at the October meeting.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Lisa Rustemeyer – Mandeville, LA. She was complimentary of K. LaRocca's presentation of the financial report. She inquired about the need for a security officer at the South Slidell Branch, and K. LaRocca provided a detailed response.

Charles Speed – Lacombe, LA. He inquired about the budget for the new Lacombe Branch. K. LaRocca clarified that plans and cost estimates for the new Lacombe building have not yet been drafted and explained the steps in the process. E. Couvillon added that the Parish's capital budget can be viewed online on the Parish's website at stpgov.org.

**DISCUSSION:** There was no Board discussion.

**MOTION:** D. Thanars moved to approve the August 2025 Financial Report. It was seconded by T. Myers.

**VOTE:** Baham: <u>Yes</u> Cooper: <u>Yes</u> Myers: <u>Yes</u> Thanars: <u>Yes</u> Thompson: <u>Yes</u> Branton: <u>Yes</u> **RESULT:** Motion to approve the August 2025 Financial Report carried. (Unanimous – 6)

## C. Director's Report

K. LaRocca reported updates to facilities, marketing and outreach efforts, professional development opportunities, programming highlights, contracts, strategic plan implementation updates, public records requests, and Statements of Concern. She noted that letters will be sent to patrons who submitted Statements of Concern to ask whether their concerns have been addressed, following the relocation of some items to the Adult collection or behind the circulation desk.

K. LaRocca reviewed Capital Project updates, transition of materials from the YA Collection to the Adult Collection, service statistics for August 2025, and the year-to-date statistics. She noted that in-house circulation statistics are not included until the end of the year. She explained that the library has a large Genealogy collection with materials that do not check out and those statistics will be included at the end of the year.

C. Branton inquired about the new Human Resources Manager, and K. LaRocca confirmed that her first day was today. T. Myers inquired about outreach at school open houses and what those efforts entail. K. LaRocca responded that activities vary based on the event and may include library card drives and general promotion of library services.

## D. 2025 Fall Budget Amendment – Res. 25-020 (Branton)

K. LaRocca presented the 2025 Fall Budget Amendment. The amendment explanation and spreadsheets were provided in the board packet. Overall, there is an increase of \$258,900 in revenue this year. K. LaRocca gave explanations for all increases and decreases in the expenditure lines.

C. Branton asked when was the last time the Board gave a cost of living raise. K. LaRocca said she will have to check to verify, but it has been at least two years ago. She noted that the salary scale was adjusted at the beginning of this year. K. LaRocca explained that the building lease expense is adjusted for the Administrative Office as the lease increases each year based on the consumer price index. The triple net costs for both leases (Administrative Office and Causeway Branch) increased because of taxes and insurance.

C. Branton noted that questions frequently arise regarding the \$700,000 for the Slidell Branch furniture, and he asked for K. LaRocca to provide an explanation of how that figure was determined. K. LaRocca clarified that the funds are not budgeted to be spent in 2025 or 2026, but the amount is dedicated and set aside in the library's savings. She explained that the funds will be used to replace aging furniture and shelving throughout the Slidell Branch, much of which is 40 years old. For security purposes, the shelving needs to be replaced or modified to reduce its height and improve sightlines for staff to see through the stacks. Library Administration is exploring whether existing units can be cut down instead of fully replaced. They are still awaiting information on whether this option is feasible. She emphasized that although library furniture is costly, it is durable, and the goal is for the new furnishings to last another 40 years.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Lisa Rustemeyer – Supports the budget amendment and appreciates K. LaRocca and her team's excellent fiscal management and clear presentation. She asked questions regarding salaries and open positions, which were answered by K. LaRocca.

James Prentice – Thanked the Board for allowing him to speak. He apologized for appearing angry during public comment at a previous board meeting and for affecting the decorum of the meeting. He read a Bible verse aloud.

Jean Wiggin – Abita Springs, LA. Spoke in support of librarians and emphasized that great salaries are important for attracting the best people to St. Tammany Parish.

**DISCUSSION:** There was no Board discussion.

**MOTION:** G. Baham moved to adopt the 2025 Fall Budget Amendment (Res. 25-020). It was seconded by D. Thanars.

**VOTE:** Baham: <u>Yes</u> Cooper: <u>Yes</u> Myers: <u>Yes</u> Thanars: <u>Yes</u> Thompson: <u>Yes</u> Branton: <u>Yes</u> **RESULT:** Motion to adopt the 2025 Fall Budget Amendment (Res. 25-020) carried. (Unanimous – 6)

## E. Personnel Committee – Resolution to establish and appoint members – Res. 25-021 (Branton)

C. Branton proposed a resolution to establish a Personnel Committee (pursuant to Section 115 and any other provisions of the Rules and Regulations of the Library Board of Control) to facilitate the search process for a new Library Director. The committee shall be made up of three members designated by the Board President. The committee shall have the authority to conduct the search process, including but not limited to establishing, posting and advertising the job description and setting a salary range and qualifications for the position of Library Director, gathering, reviewing and vetting curriculum vitae, setting up interviews and conducting such other activities as needed to search for a new Library Director.

C. Branton stated that committee meetings will be open to the public, will include an agenda, will have a board packet if there are supporting documents, and there will be public comment. He stated that interviews of applicants will be conducted by the full LBOC at a public meeting.

**MOTION:** C. Branton moved to adopt Res. 021 – Resolution to Establish and Appoint Members to the Personnel Committee. It was seconded by T. Thompson.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Kathleen Wiley – Mandeville, LA. She spoke in support of the resolution to establish a Personnel Committee.

Rob Perry – Covington, LA. He spoke in support of the resolution to establish a Personnel Committee.

Devin McGee – Madisonville, LA. He spoke in support of the resolution to establish a Personnel Committee and expressed agreement with having the interviews conducted by the full LBOC in a public meeting.

James Prentice – He spoke in support of the resolution to establish a Personnel Committee and feels the Board has the ability and skillset to select someone worthy of the position.

Jill Kesler – Covington, LA. She spoke in support of the resolution to establish a Personnel Committee and has full faith in the LBOC. She expressed to K. LaRocca that she will be missed.

Lisa Rustemeyer – She asked if the new Human Resources (HR) Manager would work with the Personnel Committee and a possible consultant in the search for a new Library Director. G. Baham clarified that the HR Manager would not be involved in the hiring of a new Director, as the Director would be their direct supervisor. K. LaRocca explained that the HR Manager was hired to assist with library administration, including recruiting, hiring, and onboarding library staff. L. Rustemeyer expressed concern about allowing extreme voices to make decisions in hiring a new Director. As she continued, C. Branton reminded her to remain on the topic of the Personnel Committee. L. Rustemeyer stated that she would like to see D. Thanars on the committee.

Jean Wiggin – She stated that religious or political affiliation should not be considered in the Director search and encouraged the proposed committee to focus on qualifications such as an MLIS, relevant experience, support for the library's card system, and opposition to censorship.

Maureen O'Brien – Mandeville, LA. She spoke in support of the resolution to establish a Personnel Committee and is in favor of a transparent and open process before any big decisions are made.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

M. Cooper commented that this topic was originally proposed as an unwritten, off-the-floor resolution at the previous month's board meeting, which led to concerns from the public about transparency since the contents of the resolution were unknown. He expressed these concerns to C. Branton and stated that he would support establishing a Personnel Committee, as the resolution clearly states the duties of the committee, while emphasizing that the hiring decision would ultimately be made by the full LBOC in an open public meeting.

C. Baham called for a vote on his earlier motion to adopt Res. 021, which was seconded by T. Thompson.

**VOTE:** Baham: <u>Yes</u> Cooper: <u>Yes</u> Myers: <u>Yes</u> Thanars: <u>Yes</u> Thompson: <u>Yes</u> Branton: <u>Yes</u> **RESULT:** Motion to adopt Res. 25-021 carried. (Unanimous – 6)

C. Branton appointed the following members to the Personnel Committee: G. Baham as Chair, and C. Branton and T. Myers as members.

## F. Resolution to Appoint an Interim Director of the St. Tammany Parish Library – Res. # 25-022 (Cooper)

M. Cooper proposed a resolution to appoint an Interim Director of the St. Tammany Parish Library. He stated this will allow the day-to-day operations of the library system to run effectively. M. Cooper noted that he did not name a specific individual as Interim Director in the resolution. He asked the Board to consider appointing the two Assistant Directors (Tanya DiMaggio and Brent Geiger) as Co-Interim Directors. C. Branton reiterated that no one is named in the resolution and it is procedurally inappropriate to move forward without anyone identified in the resolution.

**MOTION #1:** G. Baham made a motion to amend the resolution, revising the title to "Resolution to Appoint Co-Interim Directors of the St. Tammany Parish Library." E. Couvillon provided clarification on the revised wording. There was no second.

T. Thompson questioned the legality of appointing Co-Interim Directors, stating that the Director role is referred to in the singular in both LA R.S. 25:215 and the LBOC Rules and Regulations. E. Couvillon advised that her preference is for the Board to appoint a single Interim Director to serve as the head and emphasized the importance of naming that individual during the meeting. She advised that if the Board chooses to appoint Co-Interim Directors, their specific roles and responsibilities should be defined. C. Branton noted that LA R.S. 25:215 uses the word "may" rather than "shall" regarding the appointment of a Director, indicating the action is discretionary. He stated that the Attorney General's Office confirmed the Board is not required to appoint a Director or Interim Director, and the library can continue operating without one.

**MOTION #2:** C. Branton made a motion to refer the matter to the Personnel Committee so that it can be addressed, discussed, and vetted in an open meeting. It was seconded by T. Thompson.

M. Cooper and C. Branton engaged in a discussion concerning the Attorney General's opinion on the matter, during which they expressed differing opinions. M. Cooper requested additional information regarding the Attorney General's opinion and supported following the advice of legal counsel E. Couvillon. C. Branton noted that the legal advice he received from E. Couvillon had changed significantly from Thursday to Friday, leading him to seek clarification from Assistant Attorney General Larry Freeman. C. Branton reiterated that the resolution is incorrect as written because it does not name anyone as Interim Director.

In response to C. Branton's claim that her legal advice had changed significantly, E. Couvillon stated that her advice during their discussion on Thursday pertained to the proposed Personnel Committee, not the resolution to appoint an Interim Director. The advice about the Interim Director was discussed on the previous Friday. There was disagreement between board members and legal counsel regarding when these discussions took place.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Johanna Miner – She spoke in opposition to B. Geiger or T. DiMaggio as Interim Director.

Susan Willie – Folsom, LA. She stated that the Interim Director should represent the Parish and should take politics out of the library issue. She spoke in opposition to hiring a consultant.

Devin McGee – He spoke in support of the Personnel Committee picking the Interim Director or just hiring a Director.

James Prentice – He spoke of not being allotted his five minutes to speak regarding the books for which he submitted Statements of Concerns, nor did he receive his letters in the mail. He spoke of the importance of following the full policy, rather than only certain rules.

Jill Kesler – She suggested including a definition of Interim Director and declare it legally. She expressed concern that an Interim Director may not want to give up the position once a permanent Director is hired.

Bridgett Bennett – She spoke in opposition to appointing T. DiMaggio as Interim Director. She made comments concerning M. Cooper, at which point C. Branton informed her that her remarks were off topic.

Lisa Rustemeyer – She spoke in support of appointing a current staff member as Interim Director for a smooth transition, as it may take a long time to hire a permanent Director.

Kathleen Wiley – She stated that it is not necessary to have an Interim Director if you have a great staff. She read aloud an email that she stated was from T. DiMaggio to the ALA in September 2021. K. Wiley concurred that the community is mostly conservative and she hopes it remains so.

Jeff Corbin – Slidell, LA. He noted there were multiple motions on the floor, only one of which was seconded.

C. Branton acknowledged that J. Corbin was correct. C. Branton reviewed the motions on the floor to clarify and correct the record. He asked if there was a second to M. Cooper's motion, and D. Thanars responded with a second. *Note: Procedural error – M. Cooper had not formally made a motion*.

**MOTION #2 (Restated):** C. Branton restated his earlier motion, seconded by T. Thompson, to refer the matter to the Personnel Committee for review and recommendation back to the Board.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Jeff Corbin — He noted that the task of appointing an Interim Director is not defined as a function of the Personnel Committee in Res. 25-021. He stated that the Board cannot refer the matter to a committee that does not have the responsibility to appoint an Interim Director. C. Branton disagreed, stating that he believes the task falls within the purview of the Personnel Committee.

Doss Hineman – Mandeville, LA. He began speaking about the ALA, and C. Branton reminded him to stay on topic. D. Hineman suggested a litmus test to ensure that anyone who has shared information with the ALA would not be considered for the Director position. C. Branton stated that he politely disagrees, and his goal is to find the very best person for the position, with no preconceived notions about age, race, sex, or other personal characteristics.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

M. Cooper asked legal counsel to clearly state what the library will lack if an Interim Director is not appointed. E. Couvillon stated that she sent a document to the Board last week clarifying that point. Section 113(D)(4) of the Rules and Regulations of the LBOC outlines the duties of the Library Director, and other sections clearly define these responsibilities. She noted an Interim Director serves only until an Acting Director is named. The Director oversees daily staff management, is the only person authorized to sign contracts over \$30,000, and serves as Custodian of Records. The library would be hamstrung in its financial procedures and ability to sign checks without a Director. Her primary concern is ensuring clear leadership over the 155 employees, especially regarding hiring and termination.

C. Branton confirmed that B. Geiger and T. DiMaggio have full signing authority with Chase Bank. He recommended the Personnel Committee meet with them to ascertain their duties and suggested the library could operate without an Interim Director, unless the committee deems it necessary. Board members continued discussion on the topic, with differing viewpoints expressed. C. Branton called for the vote on his previously stated motion, seconded by T. Thompson, to refer the matter to the Personnel Committee for review and recommendation back to the Board.

**VOTE:** Baham: <u>No</u> Cooper: <u>No</u> Myers: <u>No</u> Thanars: <u>No</u> Thompson: <u>Yes</u> Branton: <u>Yes</u>

**RESULT:** Motion to refer the matter to the Personnel Committee for review failed. (Yes  $-2 \mid No - 4$ )

**MOTION #1 (Restated):** G. Baham reiterated his earlier motion to amend the resolution and suggested the following changes:

- 1. Change the title of the resolution to: Resolution to Appoint Co-Interim Directors of the St. Tammany Parish Library.
- 2. In the third paragraph, "name an interim director" should be changed to "name Co-Interim Directors."
- 3. Change the fourth paragraph to: THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL RESOLVES to appoint Co-Interim Directors of the St. Tammany Parish Library, whom shall serve until the selection of a new Library Director.
- E. Couvillon read the revised resolution aloud. The Board and legal counsel continued their discussion on the topic, with differing viewpoints expressed.
- T. Thompson disagreed with it being imperative to have Interim Directors in the plural sense. G. Baham is concerned with overburdening one person with two job duties by having one Interim Director. D. Thanars noted that B. Geiger and T. DiMaggio have worked well together for over 20 years and does not see why that cannot continue. T. Thompson questioned the need for the formal title of Co-Interim Directors and suggested they both remain in their role as Assistant Directors and have the Personnel Committee allocate responsibilities as they see fit. D. Thanars and T. Thompson continued their discussion on the topic, with differing viewpoints expressed.
- E. Couvillon explained that retaining the Assistant Director title limits the individuals to the duties outlined for that role. Naming them as Interim Directors allows them to assume the full responsibilities of the Director as outlined in the Rules and Regulations. The Board and legal counsel continued their discussion on the topic, with differing viewpoints expressed.
- C. Baham called for a second to G. Baham's motion to amend. M. Cooper seconded the motion. T. Myers explained that she would like to focus intentionally on the search for a new Director and to have a seamless transition. C. Branton noted that the names of the Co-Interim Directors were not specified in the motion. E. Couvillon clarified that the current item is an amendment to the original resolution. If the amendment is adopted, naming the Co-Interim Directors will then become the motion under consideration.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

James Prentice – He stated that he was aware of the experience and qualifications of the two Assistant Directors, noting they are adept and work well together, but questioned the need to bestow a title upon them. He inquired if they would be paid the same salary as K. LaRocca.

Johanna Miner – She asked for clarification regarding the motion on the floor. G. Baham provided an explanation. J. Miner addressed C. Branton, stating that she will not be censored again.

Devin McGee – He agreed that the language needs to be precise to prevent meetings from continuing in this manner. He raised a concern about communicating information to external activist groups.

Bridgett Bennett – She stated that the motions and sub motions reek of corruption.

Lisa Rustemeyer – Spoke in favor of appointing Co-Interim Directors.

Jeff Corbin – Spoke in support of the amendment. He addressed T. Thompson and stated that large organizations often have two people in charge after a sudden departure of leadership.

Jean Wiggin – Spoke in support of the amendment. She believes it is unfair to ask them to do the job of a Director without the title.

T. Thompson reiterated that he does not think it is lawful to appoint Co-Interim Directors. C. Branton called for the vote.

**VOTE:** Baham: <u>Yes</u> Cooper: <u>Yes</u> Myers: <u>Yes</u> Thanars: <u>Yes</u> Thompson: <u>No</u> Branton: <u>No</u> **RESULT:** Motion to amend the resolution carried. (Yes  $-4 \mid No - 2$ )

E. Couvillon advised that the Board needs to move on the resolution as amended.

**MOTION #3:** M. Cooper moved to appoint Tanya DiMaggio and Brent Geiger as Co-Interim Directors of the St. Tammany Parish Library to serve until the new Library Director is selected. It was seconded by D. Thanars.

**VOTE:** Baham: <u>Yes</u> Cooper: <u>Yes</u> Myers: <u>Yes</u> Thanars: <u>Yes</u> Thompson: <u>No</u> Branton: <u>No</u> **RESULT:** Motion to appoint T. DiMaggio and B. Geiger as Co-Interim Directors carried. (Yes – 4 | No – 2)

## G. Resolution to Authorize Library Board of Control President to Engage Consultant to Assist in Search for New Library Director – Res. # 25-023 (Cooper)

M. Cooper proposed a resolution to authorize the LBOC President to engage a consultant to assist in the search for a new Library Director. He clarified that the resolution is not a directive, but rather grants the Board President the discretion to engage a consultant if deemed necessary.

**MOTION:** M. Cooper moved to adopt Res. 25-023 – Resolution to Authorize Library Board of Control President to Engage Consultant to Assist in Search for New Library Director. It was seconded by D. Thanars.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Johanna Miner – She stated that C. Branton did not interrupt Ms. Wiley when she spoke about T. DiMaggio and B. Geiger but chose to censor her instead.

James Prentice – He asked how long the consulting agency has been in business. E. Couvillon clarified that no consultant is named; this resolution would give the Board the authority to consult one if needed.

Devin McGee – He stated that he does not think the Board should hire a consultant, but is not opposed to them having the authorization to do so if they choose.

Jill Kesler – She agreed that this should be a prudent process, but she is not in favor of spending \$20,000 of taxpayer money on a consultant.

Lisa Rustemeyer – She spoke in favor of hiring a consultant and stated that C. Branton mentioned it at the previous board meeting.

Kathleen Wiley – She spoke in opposition to engaging a consultant.

Jeff Corbin – He spoke in support of the resolution, noting that \$20,000 equals 0.014% of a \$14,000,000 budget.

Jean Wiggin – She spoke in support of the resolution. She thanked the Board for what they do, but stated she has never received a response from her emails sent to the LBOC.

## **DISCUSSION:**

M. Cooper emphasized that the resolution gives sole authorization to the Board President to hire a consultant if services are needed. T. Myers stated that she would prefer to save the money, but acknowledged that the resolution serves as a safeguard to hire a consultant if need-be. G. Baham noted that \$20,000 may not seem like a lot to some people in the Parish, but it is to others. M. Cooper spoke about the experience of another organization who formed a search committee, and after several weeks they realized how detailed the process was and then hired a consultant to help with the process.

T. Thompson and T. Myers spoke of the success of the Livingston Parish Library Board's search for a new Director and they have not utilized a consultant. T. Myers inquired about the process for hiring a consultant if needed. G. Baham explained the process. C. Branton added that funds are already budgeted should the resolution pass now or in the future.

C. Branton stated there is a lot of talent on the Board and in the community. He spoke of advertising the position nationwide with the State Library and elsewhere. He stated that he wants to be thorough and transparent, noting that he is ultimately accountable. His goal is to find the best person for the position. While he is appreciative of M. Cooper's concern and courtesy, he believes the resolution is premature and stated he would vote no. He then called for the vote.

**VOTE:** Baham:  $\underline{No}$  Cooper:  $\underline{Yes}$  Myers:  $\underline{No}$  Thanars:  $\underline{No}$  Thompson:  $\underline{No}$  Branton:  $\underline{No}$  RESULT: Motion to adopt Res. 25-023 failed. (Yes  $-1 \mid No - 5$ )

#### 4. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by D. Thanars and was seconded by T. Thompson. All were in favor, none were opposed, and no one was absent. Motion carried.

APPROVAL:		_
	Tamarah Myers, Board Secretary/Treasurer	

## 2. OLD BUSINESS

**A. Personnel Committee Report** 

ST. TAMMANY PARISH LIBRARY		AD VALOREM ANI	REVENUE SHARI	NG RECEVED IN 2025
AD VALOREM				
2/19/2025	13 130 500 00	-		
4/2/2025	12,130,560.20	-		
5/7/2025	442,372.28	-		
8/6/2025	156,335.87	-		
0/10/2025	125,602.02			
9/10/2025	95,301.15			
9/24/2025	9,568.59			
	<del></del>			
	10.000			
	12,959,740.11			
TATE REVENUE SHARING				
2/19/2025	89,698.26	-	1	
5/7/2025	89,937.52			
8/6/2025	89,937.51			
5,0,2025	65,557.51			
	269,573.29			

## St. Tammany Parish Library - General Fund Balance Sheet September 30, 2025

## ASSETS

Current Assets Cash Cash - Health Claims Due from Paylocity Due from Bank Returned Checks Ad Valorem Receivable - 2024 Ad Valorem Receivable - 2025 Ad Valorem Receivable - 2023 Due from State of Louisiana Prepaid Expenses	\$	9,966,335.20 (34,208.34) 0.00 3,738.40 0.00 119,479.87 9,712,628.28 0.00 201,697.97 104,485.11		
Total Current Assets				20,074,156.49
Other Assets Deposits Total Other Assets		1,981.00		1,981.00
Total Assets			<b>s</b>	20,076,137.49
LIABILITIE	S AND FUN	D BALANCE		
Current Liabilities Accrued Salaries Deferred Inflows - Ad Valorem Elective Benefits Payable Retirement Payable United Way Payable Health Claims Payable	\$	43,092.09 109,467.00 (10,823.36) 259,023.28 4.00 249,918.55		
Total Current Liabilities				650,681.56
Fund Balance Fund Balance		19,425,455.93		
Total Fund Balance				19,425,455.93
Total Liabilities & Fund Balance			<b>s</b>	20,076,137.49

# St. Tammany Parish Library Statement of Changes in Fund Balance For the Nine Months Ending September 30, 2025

Beginning Fund Balance	\$	19,059,153.63
Net Income		366,302.30
Ending Fund Balance	- \$ _	19,425,455.93

## St. Tammany Parish Library-General Fund Statement of Revenues and Expenditures For the Nine Months Ending September 30, 2025

Revenues		Current Period Actual		Year to Date Actual	<u>Yearly</u> <u>Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	YTD Act to YTD Budget
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$	1,079,180.92	S	9,712,628.28	12,950,171.00	3,237,542.72	75.00
State Revenue Sharing	•	22,464.00	Ψ	202,176.00	269,573.00	67,397.00	75.00
Fines/Fees		17,524.67		86,465.69	102,485.00	16,019.31	84.37
Interest Income		13,722.18		144,581.27	191,745.00	47,163.73	75.40
Insurance Proceeds		0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Donations Received		340.30		38,174.08	57,834.00	19,659.92	66.01
Miscellaneous Income		0.00		1,271.21	1,304.00	32.79	97.49
Summer Reading Shirt Sales	_	0.00		1,292.24	2,000.00	707.76	64.61
Total Revenues	-	1,133,232.07		10,186,588.77	13,575,112.00	3,388,523.23	75.04
Expenditures							
Library Administration		444,723.06		4,212,090.04	5,819,280.00	1,607,189.96	72.38
Employee Benefits		150,133.30		1,580,733.88	2,294,820.00	714,086.12	68.88
Advertising, Dues & Subscriptio		5,272.36		45,278.38	70,500.00	25,221.62	64.22
Signage		99.41		328.83	2,000.00	1,671.17	16.44
Printing, Duplicating & Bindin		380.00		18,000.69	25,500.00	7,499.31	70.59
Promotional Production		3,960.11		18,569.35	22,000.00	3,430.65	84.41
Utilities		32,694.88		270,542.37	353,200.00	82,657.63	76.60
Communications		7,221.42		70,832.93	105,560.00	34,727.07	67.10
Leases		28,976.46		252,433.04	350,850.00	98,416.96	71.95
Maintenance of Property & Equi		31,068.80		465,458.50	592,850.00	127,391.50	78.51
Maintenance Services (Building		48,327.71		237,656.57	332,850.00	95,193.43	71.40
Professional Services		11,668.51		246,740.52	366,925.00	120,184.48	67.25
Insurance and Claims		0.00		298,753.44	310,872.00	12,118.56	96.10
Operating Supplies		17,917.44		167,047.81	230,420.00	63,372.19	72.50
Travel & Continuing Education		5,851.02		40,701.92	69,000.00	28,298.08	58.99
Public Relations/Programming		9,069.18		106,665.15	142,850.00	36,184.85	74.67
Capital Outlay-Non-Book Acq.		40,868.93		232,533.90	473,150.00	240,616.10	49.15
Capital Outlay-library Res. Ac		138,045.50		1,074,049.65	1,530,500.00	456,450.35	70.18
Capital-Send to Parish		220,903.00		416,903.00	416,903.00	0.00	100.00
Outreach	_	0.00		64,966.50	65,000.00	33.50	99.95
Total Expenditures		1,197,181.09		9,820,286.47	13,575,030.00	3,754,743.53	72.34
Excess of Revenues/(Expenditur	\$	(63,949.02)	\$	366,302.30	82.00	(366,220.30)	446,710.12

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

		<u>Current</u> <u>Period</u> <u>Actual</u>		<u>Year to</u> Date Actual		<u>Yearly</u> <u>Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	YTD Actual to YTD
Library Administration								Budget
Library Salaries	\$	444,723.06	\$	4,212,090.04	\$	5,819,280.00	1,607,189.96	72.38
Total	\$	444,723.06	\$	4,212,090.04	\$	5,819,280.00	1,607,189.96	72.38
Employee Benefits								
FICA/ Supplemental Retirement Retirement Contributions	\$	9,885.27	\$	96,340.21	\$	135,340.00	38,999.79	71.18
Health Insurance Expense		40,100.93 26,311.01		396,895.58 224,650.92		554,480.00 381,000.00	157,584.42 156,349.08	71.58 58.96
Health Trust		71,729.95		844,963.50		1,197,000.00	352,036.50	70.59
Worker's Compensation Expense		2,106.14		17,883.67		26,000.00	8,116.33	68.78
Employee Miscellaneous		0.00		0.00		1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Total	\$	150,133.30	\$	1,580,733.88	\$	2,294,820.00	714,086.12	68.88
Advertising, Dues & Subscriptions								
Publication of Legal Notices	\$	774.65	\$	6,603.84	\$	13,500.00	6,896.16	48.92
Membership Dues		0.00		0.00		6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00
Advertising		4,497.71	-	38,674.54		51,000.00	12,325.46	75.83
Total	\$	5,272.36	\$ :	45,278.38	\$	70,500.00	25,221.62	64.22
Signage								
Signage	\$	99.41	\$ .	328.83	\$	2,000.00	1,671.17	16.44
Total	\$	99.41	\$	328.83	\$	2,000.00	1,671.17	16.44
Printing, Duplicating & Binding	\$	200.00	e.	12 105 01	ø	15 500 00	2 204 00	05.12
Printing Book Binding	Ф	380.00 0.00	\$	13,195.91 0.00	\$	15,500.00 5,000.00	2,304.09 5,000.00	85.13 0.00
Patron Cards		0.00		4,804.78		5,000.00	195.22	96.10
Total	\$	380.00	\$	18,000.69	\$	25,500.00	7,499.31	70.59
Promotional Production	œ.	200011	•	10.550.05	^	22.000.00	0.400.65	04.43
Promotional Production	\$	3,960.11	\$ -	18,569.35	\$.	22,000.00	3,430.65	84.41
Total	\$	3,960.11	\$	18,569.35	\$	22,000.00	3,430.65	84.41

		Current Period Actual		<u>Year to</u> <u>Date Actual</u>		<u>Yearly</u> <u>Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	YTD Actual to YTD Budget
Utilities Electricity Gas Water	\$	27,934.77 94.37 4,665.74	\$	236,294.26 1,966.59 32,281.52	\$	304,950.00 3,250.00 45,000.00	68,655.74 1,283.41 12,718.48	77.49 60.51 71.74
Total	<b>s</b> =	32,694.88	\$ =	270,542.37	\$	353,200.00	82,657.63	76.60
Communications Postage Voice Line Data Lines (Internet)	\$	94.00 4,547.04 2,580.38	\$	6,384.77 41,087.71 23,173.16	\$	21,000.00 52,260.00 31,300.00	14,615.23 11,172.29 8,126.84	30.40 78.62 74.04
Courier/Shipping  Total	-	0.00	<b>-</b>	187.29	•	1,000.00	812.71	18.73
10121	<b>\$</b> =	7,221.42	\$ =	70,832.93	\$	105,560.00	34,727.07	67.10
Leases Building Lease Expense Equipment Lease Expense Vehicle Lease Expense	\$	28,278.33 698.13 0.00	\$	249,202.37 3,230.67 0.00	\$	342,100.00 6,000.00 2,750.00	92,897.63 2,769.33 2,750.00	72.84 53.84 0.00
Total	<b>\$</b> =	28,976.46	\$ =	252,433.04	\$	350,850.00	98,416.96	71.95
Maintenance of Property & Equi Custodial and Janitorial Grounds/Lawn Maintenance Maintenance Supplies Fuel & Lube Vehicle Repairs Small Tools Office Machine & Equip Repair Network Utility Software Solinet (OCLC) Cost Polaris Maintenance PC Network Maintenance & Repai Hurricane Disaster Costs	\$	17,309.92 6,823.00 1,748.12 2,713.19 20.00 125.71 443.51 1,462.63 0.00 0.00 422.72 0.00 31,068.80	\$ \$	169,442.19 58,151.50 10,134.52 19,380.70 10,067.91 324.33 443.51 95,912.04 30,942.21 54,999.06 9,777.23 5,883.30	\$ \$ :	223,600.00 85,000.00 12,500.00 33,000.00 12,000.00 1,000.00 108,250.00 32,000.00 55,000.00 11,500.00 16,000.00 592,850.00	54,157.81 26,848.50 2,365.48 13,619.30 1,932.09 2,675.67 556.49 12,337.96 1,057.79 0.94 1,722.77 10,116.70	75.78 68.41 81.08 58.73 83.90 10.81 44.35 88.60 96.69 100.00 85.02 36.77 78.51
Maintenance of Services (Building Physical Plant Plumbing, Heating and AC Electrical Sanitation	gs) \$	43,378.24 1,402.58 1,269.79 1,521.10	\$	168,958.40 48,290.48 5,707.59 5,760.10	\$	205,000.00 74,000.00 13,000.00 12,000.00	36,041.60 25,709.52 7,292.41 6,239.90	82.42 65.26 43.90 48.00

		Current Period Actual		Year to Date Actual		Yearly <u>Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	YTD Actual to YTD
Pest Control		756.00		5,735.00		7,550.00	1,815.00	<u>Budget</u> 75.96
Termite Contract Carpet Cleaning	_	0.00 0.00	_	3,205.00 0.00		3,300.00 18,000.00	95.00 18,000.00	97.12 0.00
Total	<b>\$</b> =	48,327.71	\$ =	237,656.57	\$	332,850.00	95,193.43	71.40
Professional Services								
Payroll Service Fees	\$	2,490.05	\$	27,304.78	\$	38,600.00	11,295.22	70.74
Financial		1,445.00		41,962.67		51,000.00	9,037.33	82.28
Consultants		1,863.46		39,393.87		100,000.00	60,606.13	39.39
Security		5,870.00		35,584.04		49,000.00	13,415.96	72.62
Web Design Consultant		0.00		84,474.82		94,325.00	9,850.18	89.56
Movers		0.00		0.00		15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00
Proposals (Ballot)	_	0.00	_	18,020.34		19,000.00	979.66	94.84
Total	<b>\$</b> =	11,668.51	\$ =	246,740.52	\$	366,925.00	120,184.48	67.25
Insurance and Claims Library Property Insurance Flood Insurance Vehicle Insurance LBOC Liability General Liability	\$	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	\$	188,228.44 33,497.00 45,716.00 4,574.00 26,738.00	\$	200,000.00 33,600.00 45,716.00 4,676.00 26,880.00	11,771.56 103.00 0.00 102.00 142.00	94.11 99.69 100.00 97.82 99.47
Total	<b>s</b> _	0.00	\$	298,753.44	\$	310,872.00	12,118.56	96.10
Operating Supplies Office Supplies Bank Service Charges Book Preparation Supplies Computer/Printer Supplies Programming Supplies Total	\$ - \$	2,843.73 1,410.41 5,313.28 6,999.77 1,350.25 17,917.44	\$ - \$	24,081.68 12,705.88 32,720.28 88,715.88 8,824.09	\$	33,000.00 17,200.00 49,000.00 120,000.00 11,220.00 230,420.00	8,918.32 4,494.12 16,279.72 31,284.12 2,395.91 63,372.19	72.97 73.87 66.78 73.93 78.65
Travel and Continuing Education	ф	2.051.72	<b>C</b>	17,202,75	ď	22 000 00	5 717 25	74.01
Staff Travel - Local Library In-service Training	\$	2,951.62	\$	16,282.65 2,239.28	\$	22,000.00	5,717.35 9,760.72	74.01 18.66
Conventions & Seminars		1,171.55 1,727.85	_	22,179.99		12,000.00 35,000.00	12,820.01	63.37
Total	<b>\$</b> _	5,851.02	\$_	40,701.92	\$	69,000.00	28,298.08	58.99

		Current Period Actual		Year to Date Actual		<u>Yearly</u> <u>Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	YTD Actual to YTD Budget
Public Relations/Programming Summer Reading Program Summer Reading T-shirts Adult Programming Young Adult Programming Juvenile Programming	\$	569.58 0.00 7,976.40 136.30 386.90	\$	35,233.55 6,938.92 35,580.57 14,433.75 14,478.36	\$	50,000.00 8,350.00 42,000.00 17,000.00 25,500.00	14,766.45 1,411.08 6,419.43 2,566.25 11,021.64	70.47 83.10 84.72 84.90 56.78
Total	\$ =	9,069.18	\$	106,665.15	\$	142,850.00	36,184.85	74.67
Capital Outlay-Non-Book Acq Landscape Additions Imp Phys Plant Office Equip, Furn & Shelving PC Network Integrated Lib Automation Sys Cameras Audio/Visual Equipment	\$ - \$ =	5,840.00 0.00 3,648.20 3,831.71 0.00 0.00 27,549.02 40,868.93	\$	36,163.95 13,710.00 14,368.01 136,864.97 3,025.06 773.91 27,628.00 232,533.90	\$ \$	52,000.00 155,000.00 73,117.00 151,500.00 9,000.00 1,500.00 31,033.00 473,150.00	15,836.05 141,290.00 58,748.99 14,635.03 5,974.94 726.09 3,405.00	69.55 8.85 19.65 90.34 33.61 51.59 89.03
Capital Outlay-Library Res. Acq. Adult Books Lease/Purchase Books Juvenile Books Young Adults Music Recordings Adult Reference Juvenile Reference Periodicals Audio Recordings Video Recordings Video Recordings Genealogy Microfilm Downloadable Media CD/Software Internet Database Subscription  Total	\$ - \$ -	21,897.54 0.00 20,874.45 2,282.89 0.00 11,729.87 8,318.36 33.25 332.94 5,898.76 2,081.67 0.00 28,743.06 1,624.95 34,227.76 138,045.50	\$ \$	154,187.50 10,966.20 72,594.82 7,037.59 1,636.60 79,065.31 42,458.52 47,676.27 6,088.36 38,528.81 5,162.90 2,493.00 297,360.22 45,204.80 263,588.75	\$ \$ :	235,000.00 11,400.00 110,000.00 15,000.00 2,500.00 116,000.00 45,000.00 50,000.00 7,000.00 7,000.00 2,500.00 475,000.00 65,000.00 323,000.00	80,812.50 433.80 37,405.18 7,962.41 863.40 36,934.69 2,541.48 2,323.73 10,011.64 18,471.19 1,837.10 7.00 177,639.78 19,795.20 59,411.25 456,450.35	65.61 96.19 66.00 46.92 65.46 68.16 94.35 95.35 37.82 67.59 73.76 99.72 62.60 69.55 81.61
Capital Expenditures Capital-Send to Parish	\$	220,903.00	\$	416,903.00	\$	416,903.00	0.00	100.00

age: 5

		Current Period Actual	<u>Year to</u> <u>Date Actual</u>	<u>Yearly</u> <u>Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	YTD Actual to YTD
Outreach Vehicle	_	0.00	64,966.50	65,000.00	33.50	<b>Budget</b> 99.95
Total	\$	220,903.00	\$ 481,869.50	\$ 481,903.00	33.50	99.99

## **Director's Report**

October 27, 2025

#### **FACILITIES**

The roof and clerestory windows on Lacombe Branch has been repaired with a waterproof coating. The application by the Parish Finance Department for reimbursement was approved. Our receipts will be submitted in the next week or so and we will be informed how much the reimbursement will be.

Quotes were received for the construction at the Slidell Reading Garden. There was only one response, Rotolo Consultants, Inc. for \$71,060.00.

## **MARKETING AND OUTREACH**

Jess Troske, Covington Children's Librarian, Tracey Angerdina, Causeway Children's Librarian, Mariam Rizaeva, Christa Chautin, Library Associates and Jillian Boudreaux, Adult Programming Coordinator provided outreach at Bootique Spooktacular on September 26th.

Amy Strain, Folsom Branch Manager, provided outreach at the Folsom Fall Festival on September 27th.

Rhonda Spiess, Lacombe Branch Manager, promoted the October 1st Friends of the Slidell Library Concert to area businesses and other groups in the Lacombe area on September 24th. She also provided storytime at A-Z Preschool on September 24th and October 1st.

Erica Gottardi and Robin Hendricks, Library Assoiates, promoted library services at City of Slidell's Night Out Against Crime event on October 2nd.

Jackie Riecke, Public Relations and Community Coordinator, Eva Saladino, PR Assistant, Brandon Blanchard, South Slidell ERC Manager, and Jillian Boudreaux, provided outreach at COAST Resource Festival on October 2nd.

Jennifer Rifino, Teen Services Coordinator, Byron Holdiman, Reference Coordinator, and Jackie Riecke promoted TeenTober and library programing on the Lake 94.7 and the Highway 104.7 radio stations on October 3rd.

Barbara Vidacovich, Mandeville Children's Librarian, Cathy Badon, Slidell Children's Assistant, Mariam Rizaeva, and Tracey Angerdina provided outreach at Olde Towne Pumpkin Fest on October 4th.

Eugenie Brignac, Madisonville Children's Librarian, Maria Condatore, Children's Assistant, and Jess Troske, provided outreach at Bluesberry on October 4th.

Abby Mayfield, Charlene Barrett, Teen Librarians and Jennifer Rifino promoted Teen Services at the St Tammany Parish Schools Career and College Expo on October 7th and October 8th.

Jenny Mayer, Children Services Coordinator, and Jennifer Rifino and attended the St. Tammany Commission on Families on October 14th.

Eva Saladino, Jillian Boudreaux, and Jackie Riecke provided outreach at Explore Northshore Business & Community Expo on October 16th.

Erika Dawson, South Slidell Children's Librarian, Tracey Angerdina, Jess Troske, Barbara Vidacovich, Cathy Badon, and Jenny Mayer provided outreach at Monster Mash on October 18th.

Kellie Nelson, Jacob Cunningham, Library Associates, Eugenie Brignac and Tracey Angerdina provided outreach at Wooden Boat Festival on October 18th.

Barbara Vidacovich provided outreach at STEM Night at Gayle Sloan Middle School on October 23rd.

Erika Dawson provided storytime at the Slidell Headstart on September 25th, at Helping Hands on September 29th and October 20th, at Honeycomb Preschool on October 6th, and at Charlotte's Web on October 27th.

Cathy Badon held storytime at Saint Margaret Mary on September 26th.

Alexis Davis performed storytime at Appletree on October 16th and at Saint Margaret Mary on October 24th.

Jess Troske provided storytime at Kids Learning Center on September 24th, at Covington Montessori on September 29th and October 20th, at Little Red School on October 10th, and at St. Peter's School on October 27th.

Tracey Angerdina provided storytime at St. Timothy's Preschool on September 22nd, at Tiny Tumblers on October 8th, and at Fontainebleau Children's Academy on October 20th. She also provided outreach at Madisonville Elementary Literacy Night on September 24th and at Sloan Middle School STEM Night on October 23rd.

#### **MOBILE BRANCH OUTREACH**

From September 23rd to October 27th, Nichola Kleyle, Mobile Library Branch Manager and Emily Blackwell, Mobile Library Assistant made a total of 24 Lobbystops were completed with the Mobile Library. The team visited the following locations:

**Pontchartrain Nursing** 

Azalea Estates of Slidell Assisted Living

Covington COAST Senior Center Sage Lake Folsom COAST Senior Center St. Anthony's Gardens Mandeville COAST Senior Center Rouquette Lodge Brookdale **Avanti Senior Living** Oak Park Senior Living Summerfield Assisted Living Heritage Manor Mandeville Christwood **Bush COAST Senior Center** Lacombe COAST Senior Center Trinity Trace Madisonville COAST Senior Center Heritage Manor Slidell

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Co-Interim Directors Ms. DiMaggio and Mr. Geiger met with the LBOC President, Mr. Branton, and Vice-President, Mr. Bayam, to discuss the division of duties during the interim.

Reference Librarians attended an information session on the Employment Service Center that is sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on October 9th.

Nichola Kleyle and Emily Blackwell attended the Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services Conference from October 7th to October 10th.

Ramona Elder, Covington Genealogy Librarian, attended a training on Family History at the Historic New Orleans Collection on October 18th.

All Staff Training was held on October 13th.

#### PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

Covington Branch Children's Services, in partnership with Teen Services, launched a new prpgram gcalled Book Buddies. Book buddies is an early literacy program for children in grades K-5. Dedicated teen volunteers from Hannan High School's Book Club listen as children practice reading aloud to a supportive buddy. This drop-in program is held on Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Adult Programming partnered with several of the St. Tammany Master Gardeners to create the Master Gardeners Lecture Series. Some topics included Native Plants, Toxic Plants. Pollinator Gardens, Square Foot Gardening, Vegtable Gardening, Citrus Trees, and Bats as Pollinators.

#### **CONTRACTS**

#### New

Waterproofing Solutions	Lacombe Branch	\$11,766.60	Silicon coating of roof and windows
The Author Village	Vera Brosgol (author)	\$5,000.00	Author visits in 2026
Innovative Interfaces	Server migration	\$5,000.00	For online public catalog
Rotolo Consultants, Inc.	Slidell Reading Garden	\$71,060.00	Concrete & walking path work

#### STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 2. The St. Tammany Parish Library will proactively reduce barriers to participation and involvement by increasing accessibility to all community members in its physical facilities and its digital presence.

A ribbon cutting for the Mobile Branch Library is schedule for Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30, at the COAST Lacombe Activity Center. Invitations were sent to public officials as well as through the St. Tammany Chamber of Commerce. The general public is also invited.

Goal 4. The St. Tammany Parish Library will serve as a platform for creativity, innovation and community interaction.

The Maker Space committee continues to work on devoloping policies.

## **PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS**

Since the September meeting, we have received 3 new public records request, one of which was completed. There is one public records request still pending from September. Emails and documents that answer the three open requests are being collected and are undergoing review and redaction.

## STATEMENTS OF CONCERN

We have eleven active statements of concern on titles as of the writing of this report. We have not received any new statements of concern since the last meeting. As directed by the Library Board of Control at the July 28th meeting, letters were sent to complainants who filed a statement of concern and then a later board directive, policy, or staff review process moved the item to a different collection.

## Of those:

• Six statements of concern were closed with no appeal so far.

- Seven statements of concern were closed and have been appealed by the complainant.
- There has been no response from complainants to letters regarding 27 statements of concern including:
  - Five that were always in Adult (two complainants)
  - Two statements on the same title that has been restricted behind the desk per the graphic novel resolution (two complainants)
  - Ten statements that were always e-book or e-audiobook only that were in adult or are now coded adult (two complainants)
  - Ten statements concerning titles that were in the teen fiction section but have been moved to the adult section per our tiered minor card system and the definitions in La. R.S. 25:225 (four complainants.)

Committees have been formed to address the eleven statements that are still under review and the plan is to have the committees meet in November.

#### CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE

Mandeville Renovation – The Parish Council approved the additional funding for the project at the October Parish Council meeting. The bid is expected to be released in the new year.

Lacombe Replacement - RCL Architecture, Paul Dimitrios, Architect, is actively working on plans.

Slidell Renovation - Meyer Engineering, Alton Davis, Architect, is actively working on plans.

#### TRANSITION OF MATERIALS

229 YA titles were reviewed since September 10, 2025. Seventeen were moved to Adult Fiction. 117 were moved to Teen Fiction. To date, 1,707 titles have been reviewed out of 4,004 which is 42% of the collection.

#### Books Moved from YA to Adult Fiction Because of Sexual Conduct

Lightlark	Aster, Alex
Nightbane	Aster, Alex
How it feels to float	Fox, Helena
Icebreaker	Graziadei, A. L.
Confessions of an alleged good girl	Goffney, Joya
How Moon Fuentez fell in love with the universe	Vasquez Gilliland, Raquel
Off the record	Garrett, Camryn
Belladonna	Grace, Adalyn
A thousand pieces of you	Gray, Claudia
The way I used to be	Smith, Amber
The last star	Yancey, Richard
Parachutes	Yang, Kelly

Everything, everything	Yoon, Nicola
Namesake	Young, Adrienne
Everything beautiful is not ruined	Younge-Ullman, Danielle
American street	Zoboi, Ibi Aanu
Nigeria Jones	Zoboi, Ibi Aanu

## Books in YA Reviewed and Determined to Not Have Sexual Conduct (become Teen Fiction)

Sooks in YA Reviewed and Determined to Not Have Se	
Queen of the tiles	Hanna Alkaf
17 first kisses	Allen, Rachael
What beauty there is	Anderson, Cory L.
Mad, bad & dangerous to know	Ahmed, Samira
Tales from the Hinterland	Albert, Melissa
Love, Creekwood : a Simonverse novella	Albertalli, Becky
The night country	Albert, Melissa
Imogen, obviously	Albertalli, Becky
Let's get lost	Alsaid, Adi
The impossible knife of memory	Anderson, Laurie Halse
The astonishing life of Octavian Nothing, traitor to	Anderson, M. T.
the nation. 1, The pox party	
Forge	Anderson, Laurie Halse
The impossible knife of memory	Anderson, Laurie Halse
Forest of ruin	Armstrong, Kelley
The masked truth	Armstrong, Kelley
I loved you in another life	Arnold, David
Then again, maybe I won't : a novel	Blume, Judy
The queen of nothing	Black, Holly
Vinyl moon	Browne, Mahogany L.
Ironside : a modern faery's tale	Black, Holly
The wicked king	Black, Holly
Never fade	Bracken, Alexandra
The darkest part of the forest	Black, Holly
Lockdown	Black, Peter Jay
Feather and flame	Blackburne, Livia
The witch hunter	Boecker, Virginia
Into the sublime	Boorman, Kate A.
The scorpion rules	Bow, Erin
Summer bird blue	Bowman, Akemi Dawn
The Infinity courts	Bowman, Akemi Dawn
My lost and found life	Bowsher, Melodie
Falcon Quinn and the black mirror	Boylan, Jennifer Finney
Falcon Quinn and the crimson vapor	Boylan, Jennifer Finney
In the afterlight	Bracken, Alexandra

Passenger	Bracken, Alexandra
The whole thing together	Brashares, Ann
The final gambit	Barnes, Jennifer Lynn
Call me by my name	Bradley, John Ed
The Knowing	Cameron, Sharon
Last bus to Everland	Cameron, Sophie
A thousand heartbeats	Cass, Kiera
Happily ever after	Cass, Kiera
The betrayed	Cass, Kiera
The betrothed	Cass, Kiera
The crown	Cass, Kiera
The Elite	Cass, Kiera
The heir	Cass, Kiera
The one	Cass, Kiera
The Selection	Cass, Kiera
The siren	Cass, Kiera
The light in hidden places	Cameron, Sharon
100 days of sunlight	Emmons, Abbie
All he knew	Frost, Helen
Mirrored	Flinn, Alex
The invaders	Flanagan, John
The outcasts	Flanagan, John
Girls of July	Flinn, Alex
The wind rises	Fombelle, TimotheÌ⊡e de
All is fair	Garretson, Dee
Curses and other buried things	George, Caroline
Dragon flight	George, Jessica Day
Princess of the silver woods	George, Jessica Day
Silver in the blood	George, Jessica Day
Until Friday night	Glines, Abbi
The innocence treatment	Goelman, Ari
BZRK	Grant, Michael
Leia, Princess of Alderaan	Gray, Claudia
Wild is the witch	Griffin, Rachel
Where secrets lie	Gibson, Eva V.
Girl mans up	Girard, M-E
Now	Gleitzman, Morris
Then	Gleitzman, Morris
BZRK relaoded	Grant, Michael
Football genius	Green, Tim
Game changer	Greenwald, Tom
Don't turn around	Gagnon, Michelle

Interworld	Gaiman, Neil						
Dead end in Norvelt	Gantos, Jack						
Dragon slippers	George, Jessica Day						
Dragon spear	George, Jessica Day						
Princess of glass	George, Jessica Day						
Princess of the Midnight Ball	George, Jessica Day						
Throwback	Goo, Maurene						
The court of miracles	Grant, Kester						
Break the fall	Iacopelli, Jennifer						
Woven in moonlight	Ibanìfez, Isabel						
Raybearer	Ifueko, Jordan						
Redemptor	Ifueko, Jordan						
Deathless divide	Ireland, Justina						
Dread nation	Ireland, Justina						
Rust in the root	Ireland, Justina						
The librarian of Auschwitz	Iturbe, Antonio						
Fat witch summer	Ives, Lizzy						
This is my America	Johnson, Kim						
Invisible son	Johnson, Kim						
13 little blue envelopes	Johnson, Maureen						
The last little blue envelope	Johnson, Maureen						
Scarlett fever	Johnson, Maureen						
The shadow cabinet	Johnson, Maureen						
The box in the woods	Johnson, Maureen						
The hand on the wall	Johnson, Maureen						
Hello, cruel heart	Johnson, Maureen						
Nine liars	Johnson, Maureen						
Truly devious	Johnson, Maureen						
The vanishing stair	Johnson, Maureen						
Life is short and then you die : first encounters with i	murder						
Legend	Lu, Marie						
Accomplished	Quain, Amanda						
Late to the party	Quindlen, Kelly						
The beast player	Uehashi, Nahoko						
The beast warrior	Uehashi, Nahoko						
Daughters of Oduma	Utomi, Moses Ose						
We are the Wildcats	Vivian, Siobhan						
Spin me right round	Valdes Greenwood, David						
Bad best friend	Vail, Rachel						
Bridge of Clay	Zusak, Markus						
Punching the air	Zoboi, Ibi Aanu						

## September 2025 Service Statistics

	Adult											Total	Computer	Door	Wireless	Wireless
Branch	Books	CD	DVD	Exp Pass	ILL	Juv Bks	Mag	Pbks	Playaway	YA/Teen	Virtual	Circulation	Usage	Count	Inside	Outside
Admin/Annex	58	3	3	0	0	26	0	0	0	4		94				
Abita	620	29	135	0	20	529	1	0	0	9		1,343	1,388	1,558	83	170
Bush	215	16	226	0	6	173	1	0	0	8		645	480	562	48	86
Causeway	1977	122	660	0	42	2460	22	0	0	91		5,374	5,242	5,699	863	757
Covington	3318	273	1467	2	31	4410	60	65	1	203		9,830	8,421	8,504	2481	892
Folsom	359	17	395	2	7	488	37	0	0	34		1,339	1,377	1,583	114	136
Lacombe	277	28	143	2	6	479	2	2	0	21		960	1,251	1,423	118	139
Lee Road	283	16	70	0	2	300	1	0	0	9		681	668	822	44	158
Madisonville	1121	108	273	2	39	2259	33	0	0	132		3,967	4,543	4,606	900	379
Mandeville	2506	198	668	2	39	3859	55	0	8	136		7,471	6,484	6,598	765	508
Mobile	340	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		341				
Pearl River	458	4	179	0	22	290	6	13	0	18		990	1,405	1,659	125	213
Slidell	3684	233	1153	2	54	3666	170	151	3	448		9,564	16,867	17,151	1594	2,652
South Slidell	704	72	537	0	16	831	26	4	0	81		2,271	5,109	5,374	985	1,154
Virtual 1				20							36840	36,860				
Total	15,920	1,119	5,910	32	284	19,770	414	235		1,194	36,840	81,730	53,235	55,539	8,120	7,244

<sup>1 -</sup> Virtual stats include Check Out Louisiana Museum Passes, Overdrive, Tumblebooks, 3M Cloud Library, Rbdigital, Hoopla

 ${\tt CD=CompactDisc;\ DVD=DigitalVersatileDisc;\ ILL=InterLibraryLoan;\ Mag=Magazines}$ 

Ppks=Paperbacks; YA=Young Adult

Patrons Registered: 762

## Jan. - Sep. YTD 2025 Service Statistics

Downsk	Adult	<b>0</b> D	D1/D	5 D		l Dis-	M	Distri	Discourse	VA/T	Matazal	Total	Computer	Door	Wireless	Wireless
Branch	Books	CD	DVD	Exp Pass	ILL	Juv Bks	Mag	Pbks	Playaway	YA/Teen	Virtual	Circulation	Usage	Count	Inside	Outside
Admin/Annex	3,318	386	464	0	179	1,032	4	0	0	2,872		8,255				
Abita	5,658	359	1,531	0	168	4,787	61	0	0	253		12,817	2,615	14,105	870	1682
Bush	1,760	152	2,248	0	50	1,847	55	0	0	76		6,188	1,067	5,768	386	761
Causeway	19,085	1,392	6,704	0	281	22,413	496	0	1	1,406		51,778	9,286	48,800	7348	6730
Covington	30,953	2,041	14,794	3	263	36,443	602	573	1	2,001		87,674	16,223	71,037	19019	7504
Folsom	3,518	280	3,350	2	92	3,809	544	0	0	276		11,871	2,687	12,226	909	1166
Lacombe	2,365	276	1,528	7	73	3,606	43	69	0	224		8,191	2,941	12,868	1175	1239
Lee Road	2,731	215	927	0	26	3,376	42	5	1	156		7,479	1,002	7,124	445	1289
Madisonville	11,425	804	3,744	2	319	20,330	238	0	0	1,191		38,053	7,524	43,006	7590	3345
Mandeville	23,399	1,942	8,103	11	362	37,388	587	23	12	1,699		73,526	13,989	57,865	6855	4263
Mobile	1,483	2	20	0	2	3	8	0	0	1		1,519				
Pearl River	3,492	120	1,545	0	183	2,617	41	321	0	110		8,429	3,203	13,614	1097	1941
Slidell	32,498	2,055	10,436	4	370	35,661	1,404	1,500	3	3,409		87,340	31,909	141,515	12782	21427
South Slidell	5,961	371	4,397	0	142	8,768	128	52	0	619		20,438	15,694	47,613	8404	10051
Virtual 1				20							329,743	329,763				
Total	147,646	10,395	59,791	49	2,510	182,080	4,253	2,543	18	14,293	329,743	753,321	108,140	475,541	66,880	61,398

<sup>1 -</sup> Virtual stats include Check Out Louisiana Museum Passes Overdrive, Tumblebooks, 3M Cloud Library, Rbdigital, Hoopla

CD=CompactDisc; DVD=DigitalVersatileDisc; ILL=InterLibraryLoan; Mag=Magazines

Ppks=Paperbacks; YA=Young Adult

Patrons Registered: 7099





## St. Tammany Parish Library Board of Control

## Resolution No. 25-024

Resolution to Amend the Duties of the Library Director as Defined in Sec. 113(D)(4)(f) of St. Tammany Parish Library Rules and Regulations

October 27th, 2025

**SPONSOR:** Charles Branton

**WHEREAS**, Louisiana Revised Statute 25:215 addresses the statutory duties of the Library Board of Control; and

**WHEREAS**, Act 647 of the 2024 Louisiana Legislature amended the provisions of R.S. 25:215 and no longer requires that a head librarian who is also the library director be certified by the State Board of Library Examiners; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 113(D)(4)(f) of the Rules and Regulations requires the Library Director to "obtain/maintain certification by the Louisiana State Board of Library Examiners;" and

**WHEREAS**, the Library Board of Control wishes to bring its Rules and Regulations into compliance with Act 674 of the 2024 Louisiana Legislature.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that subsection (f) of Section 113(D) of the Rules and Regulations is hereby stricken and removed from the Rules and Regulations of the St. Tammany Parish Library system as follows:

Section 113. Officers and Director

- D. Duties
- 4. Director: The Director shall be appointed by a majority vote of the membership of the Board. They shall serve as agent of the Board in accordance with the Act, shall have their compensation determined annually by a resolution of the Members, and shall have the following responsibilities:

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
1112 WEST 21<sup>ST</sup> AVENUE COVINGTON, LA 70433
PHONE: (985) 871-1220 Fax: (985) 871-1224





- a. Keep on file at all times a complete copy of the Bylaws and the rules and regulations of the Board, all as amended, as well as keep an archive of the meeting agendas and minutes.
- b. Direct the day-to-day operations of the library system in a manner consistent with said rules and regulations and directives of the Board.
- c. Faithfully assist the Secretary/Treasurer with their respective duties as directed by such officers.
- d. Perform all duties incidental to the office of chief administrative officer of a library system, and such other duties as may be properly prescribed by the Board Members or officers thereof.
- e. Be subject to all rules and regulations in the St. Tammany Parish Library Employee Handbook unless an exemption to a specific code number has been granted by the Board.
- f. Obtain/maintain certification by the Louisiana State Board of Library Examiners.

WAS AS FOLLOWS:

Moved for adoption by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_,

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

THIS RESOLUTION HAVING BEEN SUBMITTED TO A VOTE, THE VOTE THEREON

AND THIS RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED DULY ADOPTED ON THIS DAY, THE 27th DAY OF OCTOBER 2025, AT A MEETING OF THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL, A QUORUM OF THE MEMBERSHIP BEING PRESENT.

Charles Branton, Board President

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE 1112 WEST 21<sup>ST</sup> AVENUE COVINGTON, LA 70433 PHONE: (985) 871-1220 Fax: (985) 871-1224

ABITA SPRINGS (985) 893-6285 FOLSOM (985) 796-9728 MANDEVILLE (985) 626-4293 Bush (985) 886-3588 LACOMBE (985) 882-7858

PEARL RIVER (985) 863-5518

CAUSEWAY (985) 626-9779 LEE RD (985) 893-6284

SLIDELL (985) 646-6470

COVINGTON (985) 893-6280

MADISONVILLE (985) 845-4819

SOUTH SLIDELL (985) 781-0099

# ST. TAMMANY PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL

## **MEETING DATES – 2026**

February 23, 2026	Koop Drive (Parish Council Chambers)
March 23, 2026	Koop Drive (Parish Council Chambers)
April 20, 2026	Koop Drive (Parish Council Chambers)
June 1, 2026	Koop Drive (Parish Council Chambers)
July 27, 2026	Koop Drive (Parish Council Chambers)
August 24, 2026	Koop Drive (Parish Council Chambers)
September 28, 2026	Koop Drive (Parish Council Chambers)
October 19, 2026	Koop Drive (Parish Council Chambers)
December 14, 2026	Koop Drive (Parish Council Chambers)

All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise scheduled.

## ST. TAMMANY PARISH LIBRARY Holiday Schedule – 2026

Thursday, January 1, 2026 New Year's Day

Monday, January 19, 2026 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, February 16, 2026 Presidents' Day

Tuesday, February 17, 2026 Mardi Gras Day

Friday, April 03, 2026 Good Friday

Saturday, April 04, 2026 System-wide closed day

Monday, May 25, 2026 Memorial Day

Friday, June 19, 2026 Juneteenth

Friday, July 3, 2026 Independence Day Saturday, July 4, 2026 System-wide closed day

Monday, September 7, 2026 Labor Day

Wednesday, November 11, 2026 Veterans Day

Thursday, November 26, 2026 Thanksgiving Day

Friday, November 27, 2026 Day After Thanksgiving Saturday, November 28, 2026 System-wide closed day

Thursday, December 24, 2026 Christmas Eve

Friday, December 25, 2026 Christmas Day

Saturday, December 26, 2026 Systemwide Closed Day

Floating Holiday – Birthday

15 paid holidays; 4 system-wide closed days