

**Minutes of the  
West Baton Rouge Library Board of Control  
Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, May 28, 2024, 4:14 – 4:49 PM  
6311 LA HWY 1 S., Brusly, LA 70719**

**Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance led by Ms. Tamie Martin**

**Roll Call by Ms. Martin - Present:** Ms. Joanne Bourgeois, President; Mr. Henry Henderson; Ms. Laurie Moreau. and Ms. Andrea Kent; Ms. Kelson Swancy arrived at 4:14 **Absent:** Ms. Scarlet Callicoatte, Vice President; Ms. Brenda Morgan, Treasurer; Mr. Carey Denstel, Ex Officio. **Also present** were Tamie Martin, Executive Director.

**Public Comment**

Ms. Bourgeois asked that the minutes reflect that efforts to expand the WBR Library began in 1980 with Ms. Fran Cole, Judge Landry, and other library supporters. Due to lack of political support and funding, plans were not realized. Under the financial stewardship of previous Directors Anna Marchiafava and Beth Vandersteen funding was saved, but could not reach the level needed for a new library due to economic fluctuations. Tamie Martin became Director in 2019 and was able to accomplish the long-held goal of establishing a new branch for the WBR Library. She achieved this goal through the state legislature's additional revenue, community and political support, and determination. Ms. Bourgeois emphasized that choosing Ms. Martin as Director was the best decision for West Baton Rouge.

**Minutes of March 19, 2024, Meeting**

After reviewing the minutes, Ms. Bourgeois asked for any comments or corrections. Ms. Kelson Swancy made a **motion to accept** the minutes as presented, **seconded** by Ms. Laurie Moreau. Ms. Bourgeois called for a voice vote. The minutes were **approved** unanimously.

**Consideration of 2024 Organizational Chart**

Ms. Martin explained that with the opening of the South Branch several staff positions needed new definitions and designated managers. She pointed out the reclassification of jobs to titles and descriptions that gave more authority to handle the day-to-day operations of each branch without the need for the Director to make every small decision. She also explained that some positions were already responsible for duties that were not reflected in their title or job description.

**Motion to approve** by Mr. Henry Henderson, **seconded** by Ms. Laurie Moreau . The **motion passed** unanimously.

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**Reports**

Ms. Martin gave reports on statistics, finances, and daily operations. She noted the great number of visitors and new cards at the South Branch. She also discussed the many programs offered for all ages during Summer Reading. Ms. Martin recognized Angela Germany, Frenisha Ross, and Bridgette Johnson for their participation in professional development training and their contributions to outside organizations that further the Library's mission and community engagement. Ms. Martin also discussed the investment of staff and resources to participate in the state inter-library loan and the very low return on that investment. She stated that the money of

WBR taxpayers would be better used by purchasing items requested and no longer loaning our books to other parishes.

### **Adjourn**

There being no further business, **motion to adjourn** by Ms. Laurie Morea, **seconded** by Mr. Henry Henderson. The motion **passed** unanimously.

### **Conclusion – Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled Library Board of Control meeting will be **July 16, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.** Meeting adjourned at 4:49 PM.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_

**Ms. Joanne Bourgeois, President, Library Board of Control**

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_

**Submitted by Tamie Martin, Director**