Minutes for Special Called Library Board of Control Meeting on August 20, 2026

At 5:00 pm, on Thursday, August 20, 2026, President Mike Waters called the meeting of the Library Board of Control to order. Present were Sharon Jenkins, Merritt Cason, Karen Squires, Lillie McDonald, Kathy McDuffy, Heather Wren, and Acting Director Mary Adkins. Also present was Jessie Davis, who was taking the place of Tray Murray, ex officio member and President of the Police Jury. Mr. Murray was absent due to family illness. Visitors present were Teal Lowring, Dr. Virginia Webb, and District Attorney Julie Jones.

The prayer was led By President Waters. The pledge of allegiance was led by Dr. Adkins, after which Dr. Adkins read the minutes of July 24, 2026. There were two errors that were corrected. Karen Squires moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Kathy McDuffy. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Ms. Sharon Jenkins moved that the board go into executive session. Ms. Merritt Cason seconded the motion. At this point, District Attorney Julie Jones stopped the meeting because there was not enough reason to go into executive session. Therefore, Ms. Jenkins rescinded her motion and Ms. Karen Squires seconded the motion and the board went back into regular session.

The first old business was the report from the Finance Committee. After much discussion it was moved by Karen Squires that the salary for the director would be in the range of $74,880 to $80,000, depending on education, experience, and the successful completion of a 90-day probationary period. The motion was seconded by Ms. Heather Wren. Ms. Squires then moved to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wren, and the board entered executive session at 5:40.

The board returned to the regular session a 7:30. At this time, Ms. Squires made a motion to bring back the top two or three applicants to the next meeting for a second interview. Ms. Cason seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The Personnel Committee gave Acting Director Mary Adkins permission to hire two fulltime workers to take the place of staff members who recently resigned. Ms. Squires moved that Dr. Adkins should meet with the two people recommended by the personnel committee. Ms. Wren seconded the motion. Dr. Adkins said that she would contact the two people mentioned as soon as possible. Dr. Adkins asked when the new salary schedule would be approved. The Finance Committee said that they would report again at the next meeting.

The next meeting of the board will be another special called meeting on August 27, 2026.

The motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Squires and seconded by Ms. Cason. The meeting of the board was adjourned at 8:30.

Mary O Adkins

Board President

Acting Director