November 5, 2026 – Minutes

On November 5, 2026, the Red River Parish Library Board of Control met at 5:00 pm at the library. President Mike Waters called the meeting to order at 5:07 pm. Present were Merrit Cason, Mike Waters, Sharon Jenkins, Kathy McDuffy, Karen Squires, and Acting Director Dr. Mary Adkins. Absent were Heather Wren, Lillie McDonald, and Tray Murray. The only visitor was Mrs. Teal Lowring. The prayer was led by Mike Waters and the pledge was led by Karen Squires.

The minutes of the last meeting held on September 10, 2026, were read by Dr. Adkins. Sharon Jenkins moved that the minutes be accepted as read, and Karen Squires seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously by the board.

President Waters opened old business by stating that, on Saturday, November 14, at 9:00 am, the District Attorney Julie Jones would conduct a training on open meeting laws, using a power point presentation created by the Attorney General's office. This is one of the requirements that the board must meet in order to continue with the process of selecting a new director. President Waters added that he thought that the D.A. might also speak about the background check policy and procedures that we need.

The discussion of new business began with Dr. Adkins talking about the purchase of security cameras to be installed both inside and outside the library. The quote on the cost of equipment and installation was less than $10, 000 and will be done at the beginning of 2027. Meritt Cason made a motion that the cameras be bought and installed; Kathy seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously for the cameras to be purchased and installed.

The second item of new business was about the purchase of an LED sign to be placed in front of the library. After discussion, Merritt Cason made a motion that the sign be purchased and installed after the first of the year. Sharon Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Dr. Adkins invited the board members to a Christmas party with the staff to be held on Dec. 18 at 12:00 noon. Board members were told that they could bring a guest. She said that no gifts are required. Everyone is asked to bring their favorite dish if able to do so.

The final discussion was about ideas to help improve the ability of the library to reach more people throughout the parish. It was suggested that we conduct a survey of less that 10 questions that would allow community members to tell what they might be interested in having. Another suggestion was to have movie nights during good weather, and classes for teens, such as Driver's Prep and Adult 101. President Waters brought up the ideas of a bookmobile or satellite libraries. Karen Squires volunteered to research bookmobiles and President Waters said he would research the idea of satellite libraries.

The next meeting will be on Saturday, November 14, 2026 at the library at 9:00 am. This will be a special called meeting.

Karen Squires made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, and Merrit Cason seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.