

**STATE LIBRARY OF LOUISIANA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
August 19, 2021
Baton Rouge, La
10:00 am**

CALL TO ORDER

Due to COVID-19 restrictions in place regarding social distancing, the quarterly meeting of the State Library Board of Commissioners was held virtually.

The State Library Board of Commissioners meeting was called to order by Chair Georgia Brown. Additional members in attendance included Louis Covington, David Johnson, James Lee, and Gail Waters. Rebecca Hamilton was present as Executive Secretary. Also present was John Lovelace facilitating the meeting. Absent from the meeting was Argiro Morgan.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Brown called for a motion to approve and adopt the agenda as presented. Motion was offered by Brown, seconded by Johnson, and unanimously carried.

MINUTES

On a motion offered by Brown and seconded by Lee, the minutes were approved.

QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Hamilton informed the board that the State Library remains short staffed at a time when usage is at an all time high. In spite of being short staffed and lacking the support and resources needed to properly respond to the needs of the State Library's users (the public libraries and the general public), State Library staff continue to go the extra mile every to accomplish as much as possible to support our users. Response times are longer which means clients have to wait longer for their answers and we are unable to focus on new initiatives because it takes all current resources to maintain our current level of service. The State Library stands out among the other DCRT agencies in this regard.

Library Development continues to host virtual meetings every other week and to provide training on demand to libraries across the state as well as scheduled trainings open to all librarians. Library staff continue to create new content for training programs to address library issues amid the pandemic. The public libraries continue to spend and track their CARES Act funds and ARPA funds administered by the State Library to respond to the local needs of their users.

Hamilton let the board know of cancelation of LBF due to ongoing Covid restrictions and that the book festival will be held virtually in 2021 with a selection of programs that are still in the process of being decided.

OLD BUSINESS

Hamilton reported that Paulette Holahan, former State Library Commissioner passed away and that she would send additional information.

NEW BUSINESS

Hamilton reported that this fall the State Library would begin to evaluate their current federal 5 year LSTA plan. She explained that this is a comprehensive process that determines what areas the State Library succeeded in and what areas the State Library may have fallen short. This has to be done by an outside evaluator. She also reported that in the spring of 2022 the State Library would have to draft the new 5 year federal LSTA plan that will inform the direction of State Library services from FY22-23 through FY26-27. She informed the board that both of these processes would require input from stakeholders across all areas including State library board members, local board members, the department of education, the LSU SLIS, the Louisiana Library Association, and representatives from local government, state government, city government and all constituent groups.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Hamilton, Secretary
State Library Board of Commissioners

Georgia Brown, Chair
State Library Board of Commissioners