

Louisiana Historical Records Advisory Board

MINUTES

May 20, 2026 | 2:00pm | Louisiana State Archives Gallery

I. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 1:43 pm

II. **Roll Call**

Present: Chancellor Ann Boltin, Christina Bryant, Dr. Angelique Bergeron, Alan Davis, Melanie Montanaro, Dr. Ed Benoit, Amy Moran, Dr. Zachary Stein, and Zach Tompkins

Not Present: Debbie Hudnall, Debbie Henton, Meg Placke, Trey Williams, Gail Wilking, and Jennifer Waxman

Others Present: Ashley D. Simmons

III. **Order of Business**

1. **Approval of Agenda** - On motion of Christina Bryant and seconded by Dr. Angelique Bergeron, the board approved the agenda. **Motion Passed.**
2. **Approval of Minutes** – On motion of Amy Moran, seconded by Dr. Edward Benoit, the board approved the minutes. **Motion Passed.**
3. **Welcome** – Melanie Montanaro welcomed Louisiana Sheriffs' Association representative Alan Davis to the Board.
4. **Strategic Plan**
 - a. Amy Moran presented the Board with the final draft of the Strategic Plan. Zach Tompkins recommended that the first Action item under Goal 2 should identify "legislature" as "Louisiana Legislature".

On motion of Melanie Montanaro, and seconded by Zach Tompkins, the Board voted to approve the Strategic Plan as amended. **Motion Passed.**

- b. Upon approval of the Strategic Plan, the Board discussed the implementation of several of the Action items.
 - i. Develop a statewide network of historical records repositories...Dr. Edward Benoit noted his office has been completing a nationwide directory with over 77,000 institutions and their URLs. He noted the directory was not publicly accessible, and research on contact information is ongoing. It was also noted that Jennifer Waxman has catalogued a significant number of institutions and would be a good resource to aid in a Statewide network.
 - ii. Maintain a webpage...Amy Moran reported that the Secretary of State's webpage is currently being updated, and she has notified IT Director Brad Harris that an LHRAB page should be included. The Mission Statement would be added, and resource links would be added over time.

- iii. Monitor and proactively communicate with members of the LHRAB regarding legislation...Amy Moran volunteered to monitor legislation, as this is already part of her job duties at the Louisiana State Archives.

5. Federal Funding Open Discussion

- a. Melanie Montanaro reported that the NHPRC funding is still paused.
- b. Dr. Edward Benoit noted that the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities is still offering grants.

6. Items for Discussion

- a. Angelique Bergeron noted the Creole Immersion Camp for all ages will be held June 1st – 5th.
- b. Zach Tompkins reported that Hill Memorial Library was launching a semi-permanent exhibit on the 2nd floor in the student research area.
- c. Dr. Zachary Stein and Dr. Michael Martin co-authored the book *University of Louisiana at Lafayette*.
- d. Alan Davis informed the Board that the Louisiana Sheriffs Association Conference would be held in Destin, FL, July 26 – 30, 2026.

IV. Adjournment

On motion of Melanie Montanaro, and seconded by Christina Bryant, the Board voted to adjourn at 2:43 pm. **Motion passed.**

The next meeting is August 12, 2026, at 2 pm.


Trey Williams, Chairman

Date

