

**STATE LIBRARY OF LOUISIANA  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

**October 28, 2016  
6:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The State Library Board of Commissioners meeting was called to order by Chair, Georgia Brown. Additional members in attendance included Dr. Argiro Morgan, Evelyn Valore, and Louis Covington. Absent from the meeting were Tony Clesi, Patricia Preis, Paulette Holahan. Rebecca Hamilton was present as Executive Secretary.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Georgia Brown called for a motion to approve and adopt the agenda as presented. Motion was offered by Dr. Argiro Morgan and seconded by Louis Covington and unanimously carried.

**MINUTES**

On a motion offered by Evelyn Valore and seconded by Louis Covington, minutes were approved.

**BOARD MEETING DISCUSSION**

Hamilton began the meeting by sharing a story about a friend who is a former teacher with Teach For America who taught in St. Mary Parish when she was employed there. They have been friends for 20 years and recently she went to visit him and his students along with Lt. Governor Nungesser. Hamilton spoke about the impact the Lt. Governor had on these children and how it meant so much to them that, according to one student, "someone so important would come to see us at our little cane field school." Hamilton stated that although this wasn't the normal reporting she would do at a board meeting, she thought it was important to note because those children would remember that day forever. She finished by stating what a joy it was to watch the Lt. Governor speak to the children about the importance of going to school and getting a good education and how that interaction is what all of our hard work is really all about, inspiring and helping the children of the great state of Louisiana.

Hamilton and the board viewed the State Library's quarterly reports and discussed the many pages of hard work performed by each department of employees over the last 3 months while still struggling with staff shortages. She commended and complimented her staff again for the time, dedication and sacrifice they give daily on behalf of the State Library and the State of Louisiana. Hamilton says 44 employees are still doing the work of 78 jobs and although many of them lost everything in the great flood a few months earlier, it is this team and their resilience and hard work that makes the State Library great.

Hamilton reported on the status of the latest waiver request to IMLS due to the loss of additional state funds. The waiver was ultimately denied causing \$400,000 dollars of federal funding to be uncollectable. She said Lt. Governor Nungesser worked hard this first year on behalf of the State Library and was able to get some funding restored. Hamilton reiterated that every state agency was affected by additional mid-year cuts but that under Nungesser's administration she sees many positive improvements for the State Library such as improved funding, the possibility of a coffee

shop inside the State Library, improved communication, especially regarding the marketing and promotion of the Book Festival, and an overall improved relationship between the State Library and the Lt. Governor's office.

Chair Georgia Brown ended the meeting by again commending Rebecca Hamilton, State Librarian and Executive Secretary, as well as Hamilton's Assistant Tabitha Pimlott for the great job they were doing and thanked them for always being ready to assist promptly with whatever was needed. All of the board agreed with Brown and expressed their appreciation for all of their hard work.

**NO OLD BUSINESS**

None

**Next Meeting Date**

**TBD**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Georgia Brown made the motion to adjourn at 6:46 p.m. and Evelyn Valore seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Rebecca Hamilton, Secretary  
State Library Board of Commissioners

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Georgia Brown, Chair  
State Library Board of Commissioners