

**Rapides Parish Library**  
**Finance Committee of the Board of Control**  
**February 24, 2025**

Minutes

A meeting of the Finance Committee of the Rapides Parish Library Board of Control was held at the Huie-Dellmon House, 430 St. James Street, Alexandria, LA.

Committee members present were Ms. June Arrington (Chair), Mr. Morris Taft Thomas, and Board President Suelynne Mickey (ex officio). Also present were Library Director Celise Reech-Harper, Business Manager Stacy Dubrock, and Administrative Assistant Kendra Bertrand.

Ms. Arrington called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

Mr. Thomas motioned to approve the agenda. Ms. Arrington seconded, and the motion passed.

Ms. Dubrock previewed the December 2024 financial report, which will be presented to the full Board at the March regular meeting. The report showed that final spending for 2024 was \$1,050,364.45 less than budgeted. Therefore, the library requests an addendum to the 2024 budget to allow for additional spending to be funded by the amount saved.

Ms. Dubrock provided a breakdown of the projected expenses for the requested projects as follows:

- A return to the EBS payroll system, to include upgrades and additional HR software integration - \$50,000
- Moveable shelving and furniture updates at four locations - \$500,000
- Huie-Dellmon House roof replacement - \$60,000
- Starting costs for a new Operations Building to house Technical Services, Acquisitions, Loans, and other support departments - \$440,000. This expenditure would prevent the need for loans with costly interest rates.
- Vehicle purchases – funds were set aside for this project in previous years; state contracts are now open and suitable vehicles are available.

Ms. Dubrock also requested that the committee consider an addendum to the 2025 budget. In addition to the approved 3% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for all staff, a further 2% could be supported by the existing budget, with board approval.

Mr. Thomas motioned to bring the 2024 Budget Addendum proposal before the Board for approval. Ms. Arrington seconded, and the motion passed.

Mr. Thomas motioned to bring the 2025 Budget Addendum proposal before the Board for approval. Ms. Arrington seconded, and the motion passed.

At the committee's recommendation, both proposals will be sent to the full Board of Control two weeks ahead of the meeting on March 18.

With no further business before the committee, Ms. Arrington motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Thomas. The meeting was adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Celise Reech-Harper  
Secretary

June Arrington  
Committee Chair