

1

PUBLIC COMMENT – JUNE 23, 2025  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL  
RULES & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

Please print all information. Please return to designated library staff member.  
Please use one form for each agenda item you wish to comment on.

✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item:

# 1A  
(Example: # 1A)

Speakers must list an item that is printed on the agenda.  
Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.

COMMENTS: ALL RESOURCES ARE IMPORTANT

---

FULL NAME:

JAMIE SEGURA

ADDRESS:

[REDACTED]

COV.

PHONE NUMBER:

[REDACTED]

EMAIL:

[REDACTED]

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COMMENTS: New Bsn.

FULL NAME: James Pentice

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_



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COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FULL NAME: Lisa Rusteneyer

ADDRESS: Mandeville

PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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# 1A  
(Example: # 1A)

4

Speakers must list an item that is printed on the agenda.  
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COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FULL NAME: Jean Wiggins

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

Abita

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_



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#

1A

(Example: # 1A)

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COMMENTS:

FULL NAME:

Becky Behm

ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

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13

*waived*

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# 1A  
(Example: # 1A)

Speakers **must** list an item that is printed on the agenda.  
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COMMENTS:

Jamies comment about throwing out  
complaints,...

FULL NAME:

Susan Willie (BPEC chair)

ADDRESS:

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER:

\_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL:

\_\_\_\_\_

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2

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item:

# 1-B  
(Example: # 1A)

Speakers must list an item that is printed on the agenda.  
Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.

COMMENTS: LIMITS ON LIBRARY USE SHOULD  
FOCUS ON INSURING MATERIALS ARE SAFE  
FROM THEFT & DESTRUCTION - OVERDUE FEES  
SHOULD INCLUDE REPLACEMENT  
COSTS

FULL NAME: JAMIE SEGURA

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] COV.

PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: [REDACTED]

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waived

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# 1B  
(Example: # 1A)

Speakers must list an item that is printed on the agenda.

Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FULL NAME:

Jean Wiggan

ADDRESS:

Abita

PHONE NUMBER:

\_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL:

\_\_\_\_\_

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10

*waived*

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# 1B  
(Example: # 1A)

Speakers must list an item that is printed on the agenda.  
Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FULL NAME:

*Lisa Rustemeyer*

ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

[REDACTED]

EMAIL:

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19

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*waived*

✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item:

# 1C  
(Example: # 1A)

Speakers must list an item that is printed on the agenda.

Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FULL NAME: Jean Wiggins

ADDRESS: Abita

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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12

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# 1C  
(Example: # 1A)

*waived*

Speakers must list an item that is printed on the agenda.  
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COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FULL NAME:

*Karl Hestmeyer*

ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:



EMAIL:

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3

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✓ I request to speak on the following Agenda Item:

# 2 A  
(Example: # 1A)

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Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.

COMMENTS: LIBRARY CONDUCT SHOULD REFLECT  
SAME CONDUCT BY PATRONS

FULL NAME: JAMIE SEGURA

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] COV.

PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] MAIL: [REDACTED]

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# 2A  
(Example: # 1A)

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COMMENTS:

old Bsn.

FULL NAME:

James Prentice

ADDRESS:

[REDACTED]

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

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# 2A  
(Example: # 1A)

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Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FULL NAME:

*Jean Wiggins*

ADDRESS:

*Abita*

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

This information is a Public Record.

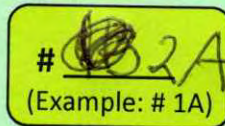


11

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Your name will be called to approach the Board to speak.

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FULL NAME: Lisa Rustemeyer

ADDRESS: 70448

PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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(Example: # 1A)

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COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FULL NAME:

Daphne Misuraca

ADDRESS:

[REDACTED]

Mandeville

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

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15

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# 2A  
(Example: # 1A)

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COMMENTS: Code of Conduct 2 - When would a LBOC member  
<sup>information</sup>  
be denied a requested document? 3 - Meeting time - please  
restrict meeting times to evening whenever possible. 4 - Rules &  
Regulations Com. prior to placement on agenda?

FULL NAME: Maurreen O'Brien

ADDRESS: Mandeville


PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Fw: Concerns with Code of Conduct item on agenda tomorrow**

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 1 attachment (433 KB)  
boardpacketlink.png;

**From:** David Cogle <dcogle@stpgov.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 22, 2025 9:35:03 PM  
**To:** lboc <lboc@stpl.us>  
**Cc:** Emily G. Couvillon <ecouvillon@22da.com>  
**Subject:** [External] Concerns with Code of Conduct item on agenda tomorrow

LBOC,

Good evening,

The agenda for your committee meeting/special meeting tomorrow has an item of particular concern to myself and at least some other members of the council.

A. Section 106 – E or F. Code of Conduct

The packet for this meeting is accessible here:

<https://www.sttammanylibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/44/2025/06/LBOC-RR-062325.pdf>

But the board packet link for the June 23rd meeting off the main page here is still not active as of 7:30PM tonight(I had to go through the search engine). That of course means members of the public are also unlikely to be able to actually view the packet.

<https://www.sttammanylibrary.org/library-board-of-control/>

[Upcoming Meetings](#)

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Jun

**23**

Jun 23rd | 10:00am - 12:00pm



First, I have spoken to a majority of the board since Friday and of those members, not a single member was aware that this Code of Conduct was going to be introduced, was being developed, etc until it was emailed out to them Friday. This, alone, raises questions of transparency. And, considering the link on the main page is not active as of tonight, the public is unlikely to be able to even read what is contained in this code of conduct prior to the meeting tomorrow.

But to the issue at hand, what is even more concerning is the content of this code of conduct. It is extremely onerous, overbroad, restrictive and presumes authority that no member of your board has. In addition, much of the document seems unnecessary. La. R.S. 25:215 already determines the "Duties and powers of the board; employment of librarian, assistants, and other employees," and specifically states that you, the LBOC, employ the Library Director, assistant librarians and other employees.

Although the overall document is quite concerning, I understand it is an update, but wanted to address at least some specific items of concern:

## **2. Professionalism and Ethical Behavior**

*Requests by individual LBOC Members for documents or information held by the library must be submitted in writing to and approved by the STP Library Director or obtained by the passage of a resolution.*

This is extremely problematic. As per La. R.S. 25:215, the Library Director is employed by the LBOC. The idea that he or she needs to approve document requests, conducted for lawful oversight, is not justifiable. There is no reason, at all, to limit the oversight authority of individual LBOC Members or require they wait until a meeting to pass a resolution to request a document.

## **4. Attendance and Participation**

*If an LBOC Member is interested in introducing a resolution for consideration by the full Library Board of Control to modify or add to STPL policy and/or procedures, the resolution must first be presented to the Rules & Regulations Committee prior to placement on a meeting agenda for discussion and/or vote.*

This is extremely onerous, unnecessary, inconvenient for board members and the public, and comes across as an attempt to further restrict the abilities of individual LBOC Members to present resolutions that we appoint them to ability to present.

1. Does this give a majority of the board or the committee the ability to keep a member's resolution from appearing on the actual regular meeting agenda?

2. Doesn't this mandate an additional committee meeting each month if someone wants to introduce a resolution at the main meeting, which will inconvenience those who work during the day?

3. Doesn't this give far less time prior to a meeting for a resolution to be submitted for consideration, making the cutoff date far shorter between meetings?

4. For any particular resolution, this will require twice as much debate as normal because it will be subject to public debate twice.

## 6. Collegiality and Collaboration

*Under Rules and Regulations for the STP LBOC, Section 113, D, the President is the spokesperson for the LBOC. LBOC Members should notify the President of any requests from media outlets.*

It should be clear that this in no way inhibits the speech of individual LBOC members, should they desire to speak to the media or to the public as an individual LBOC Member.

## 7. Accountability

*Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may result in removal from the LBOC.*

Under state law, the parish council has the sole authority to appoint and remove LBOC Members. This item implies authority to LBOC members that the law has not provided to them.

Finally, I understand President Shaw has said this item will not be voted on June 23rd. It is concerning to me that there is a disclaimer on your website stating the following:

*\*This special meeting is being called as a quorum or more of board members expressed interest in attending the Rules and Regulations Committee meeting. A special meeting will only occur if four (4) or more board members are in attendance. Otherwise the Special Meeting will not occur and the meeting will be a Rules and Regulations Committee meeting.\**

There is concern that you could decide to vote on items if you turn a meeting into a special meeting, but possibly not if you have it as a committee meeting.

Thanks for your time and your service,



**David Cougle**  
**Councilman, District 9**  
**St. Tammany Parish Government**  
21490 Koop Drive, Mandeville, LA 70471  
p: 985-898-2591 e: [dcougle@sttammany.gov](mailto:dcougle@sttammany.gov)  
[www.sttammany.gov](http://www.sttammany.gov)  
[www.facebook.com/cougledistrict9](https://www.facebook.com/cougledistrict9)  
[www.x.com/Cougledistrict9](https://www.x.com/Cougledistrict9)

**DISCLAIMER:** Any e-mail may be construed as a public document, and may be subject to a public records request. The contents of this e-mail reflect the opinion of the writer, and are not necessarily the opinion or policy of St. Tammany Parish Government.