

Bement Public Library District Board Meeting
May 27, 2025

Board President Mary Postlewait called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm, and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Director Donna Techau and Board Trustees Bill Gallagher, Connie Kinsella, Jill Lawson, Gail LeFever-Wright, Cathy Thornhill, Jerry Watzlawick, and Kenneth Wright were present.

Bill Gallagher made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Connie Kinsella seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

In public comments, Board Trustee, Gail LeFever-Wright presented a Thank You note to Director Donna Techau from the Tuesday Morning Senior Coffee Hour members. A monetary donation to the library was enclosed.

Procedural Tasks-Mary Postlewait, Gail LeFever-Wright were re-elected and Cathy Thornhill was newly elected to the board on April 1, 2025. Cathy was present at the meeting and was welcomed by the board members. This left the board with one 4-year vacancy unfilled.

Mary Postlewait made a motion, seconded by Kenneth Wright, to nominate and appoint Jerry Watzlawick to fill the 4-year term board trustee vacancy. All trustees voted aye.

All newly elected and appointed trustees then completed the Oath of Office. Each Oath of Office Form was notarized by Kady A. Wright, and then Connie Kinsella, former board Secretary, and Kady excused themselves from the meeting.

Jerry Watzlawick nominated Mary Postlewait for the office of President. Bill Gallagher seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

Kenneth Wright nominated Jerry Watzlawick for the office of Vice President. Gail LeFever-Wright seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

Mary Postlewait nominated Kenneth Wright for the office of Treasurer. Gail LeFever-Wright seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

Gail LeFever-Wright nominated Jill Lawson for the office of Secretary. Jerry Watzlawick seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

Old Business-Director Techau reported that the tabled items still remain tabled for now. Since the company we were using for the welcome packets was sold, the work on these packets will need to be started over.

Director Techau continued to look at options for a storage building and provided an estimate of \$8,000 to \$9,000 for a 12x10 metal unit and an estimate of \$5,000 to \$6,000 for a wooden unit. The storage unit will need a floor, electricity, some form of insulation, shelving, and it will need to be lockable. Director Techau needs to talk to the Village of Bement about using the blacktop where the lot enters into the alley as the pad for the unit we purchase. If that cannot be utilized, then she will have to look into a concrete pad. Director Techau asked for a committee to be formed to help her in choosing the storage building. Mary Postlewait, Jill Lawson, and Gail LeFever-Wright volunteered to be on the committee.

New Business-Trustee Training Day by IHLS: Senate Resolution has been introduced regarding trustee training. SR0 104 urges all public library trustees to participate in ongoing training programs provided by the Illinois Secretary of State to strengthen their ability to effectively oversee library operations and services. Encourages the Illinois Secretary of State to expand and enhance library trustee training opportunities, ensuring that all library board members have access to comprehensive education on governance, ethics, and policy matters. A Library District can send someone free to the 3 hour session on this or online training can be utilized.

iLEAD Trustee Orientation packets were distributed to each board member. Mandatory Trainings for Board of Trustees are FOIO training , Open Meetings Act training, and Sexual Harassment Prevention training. Director Techau suggested that the trustees and she could have a meeting together in order to get these completed. Trustees were receptive to this suggestion.

A list of potential new programming that would start in the fall was provided to the trustees. These programs were: Coffee & Conversations for Moms, Middle/High School Study Group, College Applications/Scholarship Prep, After School Story Hour, and Book Club for Adults. Staff members Katie Levitt and Daisy Crawford would be in charge of these programs.

Non-Resident fees-Our Non-Resident Policy states that the Bement Public Library does not currently offer non-resident cards, but will honor a non-resident card from other libraries in the IHLS System. Kenneth Wright made the motion to keep this policy as written. Bill Gallagher seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

Budget review-Kenneth Wright, Board Treasurer, stated that he felt that we need to go with the 5% increase without Truth and Taxation Hearing. Jerry Watzlawick made the motion to go with that stated increase. Bill Gallagher seconded the motion. A roll call was taken, and all trustees voted aye. The motion was carried.

Director's merit-based bonus- All trustees took part in the discussion concerning the merit-based bonus for Director Techau. Kenneth Wright made the motion that the Board of Trustees give Director Techau an approximately 5% merit based bonus of \$2,000. Jerry Watzlawick seconded the motion. A roll call was taken, and all trustees voted aye. The motion was carried.

Adjournment-At 6:22 pm, Bill Gallagher made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gail LeFever-Wright seconded the motion and all trustees voted aye.

Jill Lawson, Board Secretary