

Bement Public Library District Board Meeting
September 17, 2024

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 Jill Lawson, Connie Kinsella, Gail Wright, and Kenneth Wright were present. Trustees Bill Gallagher and Jerry Watzlawick were absent.

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

In old business, Director Techau reported on the current status of the fence art project. She shared that Streamline will go live on our website in late November or early December and is pleased with some of the features it provides in addition to making the website ADA compliant. Language for a fine free policy for kids was shared with the board, and Director Techau reported that there is research to show that these policies are effective in improving on-time book returns. A donation box for monetary donations has been added to the curriculum desk. The previous month's electric bill was much higher than normal, and the electric company stated it was a result of especially hot weather. Maintenance work was done on the AC unit to ensure it is working efficiently. The director succession plan is complete and was shared with the board. The library's Certificates of Deposit balances were reviewed in preparation for upcoming payments for new furnishing expenses.

Trustee Kenneth Wright made a motion to approve adopting the fine free policy for kids for a one-year trial period starting January 1, 2025. Gail Wright seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

In new business, Director Techau reminded the board to read the Serving our Public 4.0 Standards for the Per Capita grant. She will write the grant and submit it for board approval. Also, email links will be sent soon to board trustees for completing annual mandatory trainings. It is also time to review the Board By-Laws. These will be approved at the next meeting after the board has had the opportunity to review the current ones.

Director Techau suggested that board trustees in officer positions such as secretary and treasurer develop succession plans documenting their job duties.

There was recently some confusing information shared with the library suggesting that board trustees could be financially compensated. To provide clarification, Director Techau looked into this and found that state law does not allow library trustees to earn any salary, but they can be compensated for any personal expenses accrued while carrying out library business.

Director Techau provided a summary of upcoming events and informed the board she will be on vacation October 5-23.

With no further business, Jill Lawson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Connie Kinsella seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

There will be no board meeting in October. The next board meeting will be November 19, 2024, at 5:30 pm at the library.

Connie Kinsella, Board Secretary