

Bement Public Library District Board Meeting
April 21, 2026

Board Vice President Jerry Watzlawick called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Library Director Donna Techau and Board Trustees Bill Gallagher, Jill Lawson, Gail LeFever-Wright, and Kenneth Wright were present. Trustees Mary Postlewait and Cathy Thornhill were absent. There was no one from the public in attendance.

Bill Gallagher made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Gail LeFever-Wright seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

Old Business

The raised beds for the garden area north of the building arrived. Home School students put them together. True Value in Monticello is donating cardboard to fill the beds. We are using donated seeds, flowers, and vegetables that the children in the summer programming will be planting.

The welcome packets should be finalized soon along with new library cards. The folders were shown to the board members by Director Techau.

The semiquincentennial celebration and summer programming plans for June and July at the library have been completed. They were shared with the board members, and there is something offered each day that the library is open. STEM and art activities along with chess club and LEGO club are some of the activities being offered. American Revolution by Ken Burns will be shown at the library during the summer, and the library will be participating in the 4th of July Parade.

The creation of an AI policy along with a Staff onboarding plan are in progress. Trustee orientation and training was discussed with the board members. Each member is to record the hours put in on training and give it to Library Director Donna Techau.

Library Director Techau is still awaiting an estimate from Design Glass and Aluminum for fixing the atrium (east doors) of the library. As they have been slow to respond, Director Techau is looking at other means of intervention such as better door insulation. This is a necessary step of the continued consultation on energy efficiency for the library.

Security Upgrade: Library Director Donna Tehau met with Securitas for an estimate on increased security for the library. If we receive the state grant, then the library will likely implement this system.

New Business

Proposed Staff Wage Increase for FY 26-27: A motion was made by Kenneth Wright and seconded by Bill Gallagher to adapt the wage increase per Director Techau's recommendations. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

Budget Review for FY 27: A 5% increase is planned for 2027. A motion was made by Bill Gallagher and seconded by Gail LeFever- Wright to increase the 2027 Budget by 5%. A roll call was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

Introduction to Kanopy: Library Director Donna Techau gave the trustees an introduction of Kanopy which provides access to its film database of over 31,000 films, TV series, independent films, documentaries, world cinema, and more to our patrons. A subscription for this free screening service through our library to our patrons would be a \$1000/year flat rate. Following the presentation, a motion was made by Gail LeFever-Wright to approve the subscription for Kanopy. The motion was seconded by Bill Gallagher, and a roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Review of SERVPRO estimate for ventilation system cleaning: A motion was made to approve the SERVPRO estimate for cleaning the library's ventilation system by Kenneth Wright and seconded by Gail LeFever-Wright. A roll call was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

It was noted that there was a CGB NFL Football Event in Cerro Gordo on April 18th. The Cerro Gordo and Bement Libraries joined together to participate in this event, however, since inclement weather kept the libraries from participating that day, Bement Library is having a Trivia Football Book giveaway.

A staff AED training will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 7th. All board members are welcome to attend.

With no further business, Bill Gallagher made a motion to adjourn at 6:20 p.m. Gail LeFever-Wright seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

The next board meeting is scheduled for May 19th at 6:00 p.m. at the library.

Jill Lawson, Board Secretary