Bement Public Library District Board Meeting
September 16, 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 Jill Lawson, Gail LeFever-Wright, Cathy Thornhill, Jerry Watzlawick, and Kenneth Wright were present. Trustee Bill Gallagher was absent.

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

Old Business-Director Techau reported that it has been too dry, too hot, and too busy in order to get anything done with the wildflower/butterfly garden and landscaping. The audit of library cards/patrons for expired accounts has been started. IHLS has performed an audit of all libraries and contacted Director Techau regarding 700 accounts that have expired. The staff is calling every person who has an expired card to update their information or renew their cards. Director Techau stated that the library has obtained brochures from other libraries to help with ideas for the welcome packets.

The new storage building was installed, and solar lights have been put in place. Daisy Crawford and Katie Levitt were in charge of the 2025 Summer Programming activities held at the library over the summer, and they did a good job. 475 children attended in June and 437 attended in July for a total summer program attendance of 912 children.

IPLAR (Illinois Public Library Annual Report) was submitted. The levy documentation has been prepared for the County Clerks of Piatt and Champaign counties. They can be sent to the counties next week.

New Business-Director Techau reported that there have been rumors of increases in electric bills at other libraries, but there has been no increase at the Bement Library. A new law is coming into effect for NARCAN training. That will be included on the training day scheduled for the library staff in early November.

Bement's Fall Festival will be held on October 12th. Katie Levitt will manage the booth at the festival for the library, and there will be items to hand out to the children who attend. Christmas in Bement will be held off site at Crossroads Church. The library will be borrowing a Bluey costume for the occasion, and the library will have a float in the parade.

The Library Crawl will be held in October. Karmen Nagy took care of the passports and also made cloth Frisbees with our Logo on them to be handed out to participants. Katie Levitt is providing a kick-off for the Library Crawl, and patrons will get prizes at almost every library that they visit. Each board member received a pin to wear for the Library Crawl.

True Value gave the library school/craft supplies, and Barb Hammond donated a projector and screen to the library. Thank you cards have been sent. The library may have a slide scanner donated for people to use, too.

At 5:55 pm, Kenneth Wright made a motion to adjourn to closed session to discuss proposed staff wage increases and staff changes. Jerry Watzlawick seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

Board members returned from closed session at 6:17 pm.

Gail LeFever-Wright made a motion to follow the recommendations of the library director for staff increases immediately and to support staff changes as presented. Jerry Watzlawick seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye by a roll call vote.

Adjournment-At 6:20 pm, Jerry Watzlawick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cathy Thornhill seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

The next board meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2025 at 5:30 pm at the library.

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Jill Lawson, Board Secretary