

Bement Public Library District Board Meeting  
January 16, 2024

Board President Mary Postlewait called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Director Donna Techau and Board Trustees Bill Gallagher, Jill Lawson, Connie Kinsella, Jerry Watzlawick, Gail Wright, and Kenneth Wright were present. No one from the public attended.

Bill Gallagher made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Jill Lawson seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

In old business, the butterfly/wildflower garden is still being planned for a spring installation. The iLead training is still pending IHLS finalization. The Per Capita Grant was completed and sent. Director Techau reminded newly elected or re-elected trustees to complete OMA and FOIA training if they have not yet done so. The microfiche donation will be accepted and picked up soon by the Piatt County Historical and Genealogical Society. The contractor has ordered the materials for the new director's office and plans are in place to have the space ready for the project when it begins. The library received an anonymous donation of a new desk for the director's office.

In new business, Director Techau reported that there was recently a problem with the furnace that needed repaired. There was also a need to hire a plumber to repair a clogged toilet that appears to have occurred during Saturday kids' programming. Someone forced multiple rolls of toilet paper and a box of Narcan into the toilet drain. Similar acts have happened during previous Saturdays, and the board discussed several options for addressing the problem. It was agreed that additional supervision was needed and to start a practice of locking the doors and requiring kids to request a key from the front desk to use the bathrooms.

The board discussed the details in the Library Director Compensation Package draft that was created by committee on January 3, 2024 and shared with all trustees. After noting a typo and suggesting some minor edits to wording, the board indicated satisfaction with the committee's work and did not have any further questions or comments.

Jerry Watzlawick made a motion to approve the Director Compensation package with the suggested corrections noted. Bill Gallagher seconded the motion and all trustees voted aye.

At 6:16 pm, Connie Kinsella made a motion to move into closed session to discuss employee compensation. Gail Wright seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

Board returned from closed session at 6:38 pm.

Jerry Watzlawick made a motion to approve a new hourly wage for Library Director Donna Techau representing a 3.2% (cost of living) increase and a monthly stipend of \$500 in lieu of

providing health insurance and retirement benefits, effective January 1, 2024. Mary Postlewait seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye by a roll call vote.

At 6:42 pm, Connie Kinsella made a motion to adjourn. Ken Wright seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2024, at 5:30 pm.

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Connie Kinsella, Board Secretary