Bement Public Library District Board Meeting
September 16, 2026

Board President Mary Postlewait called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Library Director Donna Techau and Board Trustees Jill Lawson, Cathy Thornhill, Jerry Watzlawick, Gail LeFever-Wright, and Kenneth Wright were present. Trustee, Bill Gallagher, was absent.

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

There was no one from the public in attendance.

Old Business

At 5:35 p.m. Kenneth Wright made a motion to adjourn to a closed session to discuss personnel issues. Jerry Watzlawick seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

Board members returned from closed session at 5:44 p.m.

The writing for the following three policies-AI policy, trustee orientation and training, and staff onboarding is still in progress.

Vote on Levy funding: The numbers on the levy funding are the same as the numbers on the appropriation bill, so the board gave the go ahead to vote. Jerry Watzlawick made the motion to approve the levy as presented. Mary Postlewait seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye by a roll call vote. Motion carried.

On-site LEAP training: provided free by IHLS. The library will be closing the afternoon of September 29th so staff members will be able to participate in this onsite free training. Any computer can be utilized for LEAP. It is supported on tablets and phones as well.

Battery collection/recycle program: Recycling of batteries has begun.

New Business

Rise in cost of website hosting: Streamline is being used for website hosting, and it has risen in cost from $80/month to $3000 per year. Jerry Watzlawick made the motion to stay with streamline for one year, but look around for new options. Kenneth Wright seconded the motion. All trustees voted aye by roll call vote, and motion carried.

Staff continuing education report: Daisy Crawford will be taking classes (Master Gardenerer and AA in Library Science). Daisy wants to invest in this library. Du-Page has an online program for obtaining an associate degree in Library Technical Assistance. She will start taking one class at a time. She will pay for the classes out of her annual education fund.

Adopt-A-Highway: Daisy Crawford has shown interest in having the library participate in Adopt-A-Highway. Board members, staff, and children from the library would pick up trash along 2 miles of ditches 4 times a year. This would provide free advertisement for the library. After discussion, the board

members felt that this was not a feasible endeavor. There could be some possible legal issues concerning walking along Highway 105 and also about driving them out there to pick up the trash and back.

Advertisement for library events: Library Trustee, Cathy Thornhill, brought up the idea of advertising our events with the placement of paper fliers at churches, the bank, Dobson's Automotive, Bement Post Office, JTA, and other businesses in Bement and Ivesdale. The library can look into a Canva software account for $400, and staff would use it.

Bement's Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, October 10th. Daisy Crawford will have a table there with crafts and other stuff for the kids who attend the festival.

With no further business, Jerry Watzlawik made a motion to adjourn at 6:07 p.m. Jill Lawson seconded the motion, and all trustees voted aye.

The next board meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. at the library.

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Jill Lawson, Board Secretary