

**Belleville Area District Library
Meeting Minutes
Date: April 8, 2025**

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Sharon Peters called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.
2. **Roll Call:** The following board members were present: Joy Cichewicz, Dan Fleming, Dr. Maria Jackson-Smith, Sharon Peters, Linda Priest, and Tanya Stoudemire. Excused: Alma Hughes-Grubbs. Also present: Library Director Mary Jo Suchy, Assistant Director Hilary Savage, and Library Assistant Nikki Pickeral.
3. **Approve Agenda:** Motion by Priest, seconded by Stoudemire, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **Approve March 11, 2025, Minutes:** Motion by Stoudemire, seconded by Jackson-Smith, to approve the March 11, 2025, Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.
5. **Public Comments:** No public comments.
6. **Library Government Accounting Software:** The library's existing accounting software is being discontinued by the company. Library staff evaluated three software products and recommend BS&A ERP Software for Local Government. BS&A was the lowest quote and is used by the City of Belleville as well as other libraries. Motion by Cichewicz to approve the BS&A Library/Government Software acquisition, seconded by Priest. The motion carried unanimously. The transition to the new software will take three to five months.
7. **Committee Reports:**
 - A. **Building:** O'Neal Construction met with the electrician and the company who will install the automatic bathroom door openers. Installation is tentatively scheduled for April 25, since the library will already be closed for the staff in-service day. There was a leak on the green roof outside the teen loft during the last rainstorm. Duke Roofing could not definitively locate the leak but patched some potential trouble spots.
 - B. **Bylaws:** No Report.
 - C. **Finance:** No Report.
 - D. **Outreach:** Jackson-Smith reported that she met with Suchy, Savage, and Pickeral to talk about plans for the committee. They discussed updating the library's strategic plan, including getting input from the community.
 - E. **Personnel:** No Report.
 - F. **Policy:** No Report.
 - G. **Art:** Student art from Van Buren Schools is currently on display. There will be a one-month gap in exhibits in June which will be filled with a library staff art display.
8. **Approve Accounts Payable:** Motion by Cichewicz, seconded by Stoudemire to approve the accounts payable as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

- 9. Director's Report:** The Wayne County Ways and Means committee met regarding penal fines and Suchy was in contact with our Wayne County Commissioner; however, there has been no official communication from Wayne County about penal fines. Suchy described the federal executive order that calls for cuts to the Institute for Museum and Library Services and its potential impact on library services such as MeLCat and the MeL Databases. The library celebrated National Library Week with pop-up activities and programs. Library street signage at the media center was discussed.

10. Trustee Comments:

Cichewicz: Was happy Suchy had brought information on the IMLS situation. Cichewicz is hoping to be more involved now that she is retired. She is currently a substitute at the Ypsilanti Library.

Priest: Commented on the amount of support for libraries during the recent rallies.

Stoudemire: Excited Suchy is going to get her new accounting software and the new possibilities it will bring.

Jackson-Smith: Excited for the changing of the weather and ability to go outside and see people.

Fleming: Nothing new to report but agrees with Jackson-Smith.

- 11. Chair Comments:** Peters expressed appreciation to the library staff for their hard work in staying on top of challenges affecting the library and for informing the board in a way that is easy to understand. She is confident that the staff and board can meet the job at hand. She encouraged everyone on the board to reach out to their representatives.

- 12. Adjournment:** Motion by Fleming, seconded by Priest, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.