Belleville Area District Library
Meeting Minutes
Date: December 9, 2025

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Sharon Peters called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

2. **Roll Call:** The following board member were present: Joy Cichewicz, Dan Fleming, Sharon Peters, Linda Priest, and Maria Jackson-Smith.
   Also present: Library Director Mary Jo Suchy, Library Assistant Nikki Pickeral
   Excused: Alma Hughes-Grubbs, Tanya Stoudemire

3. **Approve Agenda:** Motion by Priest, seconded by Fleming, to approve the December 9, 2025, agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

4. **Approve November 18, 2025, Minutes:** Motion by Cichewicz, seconded by Priest, to approve the November 18, 2025, minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **Public Comments:** No Comments.

6. **Approval of 2026 Regular Board Meeting Dates:** Motion by Cichewicz, seconded by Jackson-Smith, to approve the 2026 regular board meeting dates as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

7. **Approval of 2026 Library Closure Dates**: Motion by Priest, seconded by Fleming, to approve the 2026 library closure dates as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

8. **Health Insurance:** Due to unresolved negotiations between UnitedHealthcare (UHC) and Corewell Health to extend their contract beyond December 31, Suchy requested quotes for other health insurance providers. The library's insurance agent provided quotes from Blue Cross and Health Alliance Plan. The deadline to switch health insurance is December 15th, but if Corewell Health and UHC reach a settlement in time, the library can remain with UHC. Motion by Cichewicz, seconded by Priest, to move the library's health insurance to Health Alliance Plan, if the negotiations between UHC and Corewell are not successful. The motion carried unanimously.

9. **Committee Reports:**
   A. **Building:** No Report.
   B. **Bylaws:** The committee will meet in January to review the bylaws. Suchy will obtain a library board bylaws template from library attorney Anne Seurynck for comparison purposes.
   C. **Finance:** The first quarter budgetary comparison schedule was presented by Suchy.
   D. **Outreach:** No Report.

E. **Personnel:** Priest handed out the director's evaluation, and asked that they be returned by January 5th.
F. **Policy:** No Report.
G. **Art:** No Report.

10. **Approve Accounts Payable:** Motion by Priest, seconded by Cichewicz, to approve the accounts payable as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

11. **Director's Report:** See attached. Kone Elevator Company will complete the CAT5 elevator test on Thursday, December 11th. The library's annual audit is nearing completion and will be presented at the January board meeting. Winter Fest was a success with around 200 people visiting Santa and about 300 participating in the hot cocoa and cookies before the parade.

12. **Trustee Comments:**
Jackson-Smith: Taking care of sick kids and finishing the semester. Looking forward to the new year.
Priest: Had a meeting at the library with one of her groups and afterwards played Mahjong with the library's Mahjong kits.
Cichewicz: Wanted to highlight the flyer from the board packet that has information about Libby. You can have the app on your phone or computer and it gives you access to hundreds of audiobooks, eBooks, and magazines. The consortiums that participate in Libby gives you access and ability to utilize their collections as well.
Fleming: Has been coming to library quite a bit lately the past month and loves looking at the art. He has really enjoyed the "take and make" adult crafts. He wished everyone a happy holiday and a happy new year.

13. **Chair Comments:** Was here for Winter Fest. The hot cocoa and cookies were such a welcoming environment. She was here for staff closing the library and preparing for Santa's visit. The fireworks were great, and the back staff stairs was a perfect place to view them. The museum's Holiday Festival of Trees opening party was wonderful.

14. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Fleming, seconded by Priest. The meeting adjourned at 8:43pm.