



Arkansas Library Association

**Arkansas Library Association
Executive Board Meeting
Thursday February 13, 2025, 9:00 AM
Virtual via Zoom and in-person
at the Laman Library**

Executive Board in attendance (voting members denoted by *): (In-person) *Lynn Valetutti, *Crystal Gates, *Ron Russ, *Lacy Wolfe, Dan Boice, (Via Zoom) *Taylor Vanlandingham, *Melissa Taylor, *Adam Webb, *Britt Anne Murphy, *JP Myrick, Allie Stevens, Rachel, Mary Spears Polk, Angela Black, Melissa Freiley, *Oliver Jennings

Not in attendance: *Jim Curry, *Sarah Mallory

- I. **Call to Order:** President Valetutti called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.
- II. **Roll Call & Minutes and Consent Agenda:** Attendance was recorded via presence on Zoom and in-person. The consent agenda of information-only reports was distributed prior to the meeting. President Valetutti added an action item to the agenda re: Traveler's baseball event. Adam Webb moved that the minutes and the consent agenda be approved as delivered, seconded by JP Myrick. Motion passed.
- III. **President's Report:** President Valetutti reported that she had met with the CIs and had the executive board retreat. She is focusing on advocacy and watching all the bills that are coming out.
- IV. **Financial Report:** Treasurer Ron Russ delivered the financial report. Taxes have been filed with H&R Block and the PO Box was renewed. Arvest account has \$122,623, ArLA has \$112,666.12 in Edward Jones—\$84,154.26 of which is scholarship money and \$23,011.86 of which is LEAF funding. The ALA Intellectual Freedom Helpline grant award has \$5500 left.
- V. **Councilor's Report:** LibLearnX took place on January 24-27, 2025 in Phoenix, AZ and it was the last LibLearnX. An ALA anniversary celebration meeting in January 2026 is being scheduled and it will still include the awards and governance meetings. ALA is trying to hire a new executive director and hopefully will have one onboarded by ALA annual this June in Philadelphia--another ArLA dinner will be taking place at ALA again this year. Crystal is watching the federal actions regarding the terminations at the National Archives and focusing on impacts that will come.
- VI. **Committee and CI Reports**
 - a. **Website Review Committee:** Taylor Vanlandingham presented updates regarding migration priorities of the ArLA website to Star Chapter--going live March 27 with

the new website. She has spent some time de-duplicating the current membership list and updating information.

VII. Business Items

- a. **February 14, 2025** - President Valetutti reports on Love your Library Day at ASL: ArLA has been publicizing this event and are optimistic about the level of support expected. The rally outside begins at 9:00 AM and the board meeting begins at 10:00 AM--all are encouraged to join the board meeting. Adam Webb will be speaking at this event along with Allie Stevens.
- b. **Creating a nonprofit Google account for ArLA** - Oliver Jennings reports that there are some issues with the Google account regarding the domain transfer and how the ListServ communicates with Gmail. This issue is being researched and will be fixed but unsure about the timeline. Once these issues are resolved we can begin moving over to the Google Workspace, but someone used the Arla.org domain in the past, so there are some issues being worked out with reclaiming that original Google Workspace.
- c. **Creating a Legislative Committee** - Crystal Gates entered a motion to create a Legislative Committee comprised of at least 5 members, including an Executive Board rep, in addition to two honorary members comprised of a lobbyist and legal rep, and authorizing President Lynn Valetutti to appoint a chair for 2025. Seconded by Ron Russ. Passed with no dissent.
- d. **MOU with Arkansas Public Libraries for a shared lobbyist** - Crystal Gates entered a motion to enter a MOU with AAAL to support and share responsibility for advocacy work for Arkansas libraries and library workers, including an initial investment in 2025 of \$15,000, comprised of \$3K from Intellectual Freedom fund and \$12K from ArLA Operating Account. Seconded by Melissa Taylor. Passed with no dissent.
- e. **Traveler's ArLA Game Night (walk on)** - President Valetutti was contacted by Traveler's baseball team and we can get tickets for a Friday night game--June 20th. *I love libraries* baseball caps for the night will be priced. Afternoon training may be planned to make the trip to LR extra beneficial to library staff.

VIII. Calendar

- a. Next scheduled meeting is April 11th at 9:00 AM--hybrid meeting planned
- b. Next board reports are due by April 7th

IX. Announcements

- a. Join ArLA tomorrow for the legislative session.

X. Public Comments

XI. Adjournment –President Valetutti adjourned the meeting at 10:34 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary Melissa Taylor