



Arkansas Library Association

**Arkansas Library Association
Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, August 7, 2025**

Board Members in attendance: President Adam Webb, Vice President Janice Weddle, Past-President Taylor Vanlandingham, Treasurer Ron Russ, Jim Curry, Crystal Gates, Britt Anne Murphy, and Lacy Wolfe.

Not in attendance: Sarah Mallory.

Also present: Dan Boice, Carol Coffey, Allie Gosselink, Clare Graham, Oliver Jennings, Jasmine Jobe, Shenise McGhee, Mary Spears Polk, Jessica Riedmüller, and Jean Waldrop.

- I. **Call to Order:** President Adam Webb called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.
- II. **Roll Call and Quorum:** Attendance was recorded via presence on Zoom, and Adam noted a quorum present.
- III. **Secretary** – Adam appointed Dan Boice secretary *pro tem*.
- IV. **Consent Calendar** – Past President Taylor Vanlandingham noted the addition of reports from the Journal Committee and the Membership Committee. Ron Russ MOVED “Approval of the Consent Calendar,” which motion was seconded and CARRIED.
- V. **Minutes**
 - a. **April 2025:** Britt Anne Murphy MOVED “Approval of the revised minutes as distributed,” which motion was seconded and CARRIED.
 - b. **June 2025:** Discussion noted a problem in the listing of attendance, which should note who was on the Board and who was not, as well as some misspellings. Britt MOVED “Approval of the minutes as corrected,” which motion was seconded and CARRIED.
- VI. **President’s Report** – Adam reported that the resignation of Secretary Melissa Taylor required a new chair for the Bylaws Committee, and that Jessica Reidmueller had agreed to step up to help with this. There will also be a special election for a new secretary, whose office will run through 2026.
- VII. **Treasurer’s Report** – Ron Russ reported that he had paid for the two Zoom accounts in June. He noted that ArLA’s accounts currently included \$132,383.78 in Arvest and \$110,512.48 in Edward Jones (including \$84,154.26 in Scholarship, \$23,858.22 in LEAF, and \$2500 left in the ALA Helpline Grant.)

The Board discussed some concerns about finances, including the use of the ArLA debit cards, especially given the recent theft of one of the cards. Adam asked the Budget & Finance Committee to gather information on and make necessary recommendations to policies on use of the cards, daily spending limits, and an audit of our accounts.
- VIII. **ALA Councilor’s Report** – Crystal Gates reported that there had been a good group present for the ArLA dinner at the ALA conference in Philadelphia. There will not be a midwinter

conference, but there will be a meeting in Chicago during the idyllic winter. ALA's new executive director comes from a background of management. Crystal will continue to keep the membership updated on Council decisions.

IX. Committee and CI Reports

a. Conference Committee: Adam reported 160 registrants to date, and that all preparations were on track.

b. Nominating and Elections Committee: Taylor noted that July had been very difficult for the committee, with two officers resigning and the need for a sudden special election, as well as ongoing challenges with the ArLA listserv. She presented the Committee's draft slate of nominees for the upcoming election. ArLA members are welcome to continue to offer nominations.

Taylor will put together an annual schedule for the committee's work in the future to help ensure that the committee has time for each step, including asking for nominations.

X. Action Items

a. Conference Committee: Adam led a discussion on what days of the week might work best for conferences in the future, especially to encourage attendance by all types of librarians. RFPs to cities can ask for costs for a variety of days, including weekends and/or weekdays. After discussion, Adam presented a motion from the Committee "That the Conference Committee be authorized to send out Requests for Proposals for the next three years." The motion was APPROVED.

b. Budget & Finance: Ron presented a recommendation which came as a seconded motion from the Committee that we "ladder" two CD's of \$20,000 each, one for three months and one for six months. After discussion, the motion CARRIED.

c. Web Services Committee: Oliver Jennings presented three recommendations which came as a seconded motion from the Committee, viz:

1. That the Board approve the transfer of all members on the ARKLIB-L listserv to an Arkansas Libraries Google Group;
2. That the Board approve the creation of email addresses for CI and Committee chairs;
3. That the Board approve an option to opt-in for an arlib.org email address on the Membership and Renewal forms on the website.

There was no discussion, and the motion CARRIED.

Oliver will be implementing a one-week period to test any additions to the website, as well as new deadlines for adding events to the calendar.

XI. Old Business: There was no Old Business.

XII. New Business: Board members reported some confusion on room rates for the conference hotel. Adam noted that two other Hot Springs hotels have offered conference rates, also. Janice will follow up on this.

XIII. Calendar:

a. The next scheduled meeting will be Saturday morning, **October 18th**, at the Annual Conference.

b. Reports to the Board will be due by October 10.

XIV. Announcements : Crystal note that there has been a call for nominations for awards, and the call will be repeated.

XV. Public Comment : There was no comment.

XVI. Adjournment: Ron's motion to adjourn was carried with brio at 10:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary *Pro Tem* Dan Boice

Approved Oct. 18, 2025

