Arkansas Library Association
Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
Saturday, October 18, 2025

Board Members in attendance: President Adam Webb, Vice President Janice Weddle, Past-President Taylor Vanlandingham, Treasurer Ron Russ, Secretary *pro tem* Dan Boice, Crystal Gates, Sarah Mallory, Britt Anne Murphy, and Lacy Wolfe.
Not in attendance: Jim Curry
Also present: Webmaster Oliver Jennings

I. **Call to Order:** President Adam Webb called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

II. **Roll Call and Quorum:** Dan Boice called roll, and President Webb declared a quorum present.

III. **Agenda and Consent Calendar**: Crysal Gates MOVED "Approval of the Agenda and Consent Calendar," which motion was seconded and CARRIED.

IV. **August 2025 Minutes:** Ron Russ MOVED "Approval of the minutes as distributed," which motion was seconded and CARRIED.

V. **President's Report –** Adam noted that the conference was here, with increased registrations and occasional hiccups being handled by the hard work of volunteers. The preconferences and the film had all seen good attendance.

VI. **Treasurer's Report –** Ron Russ reported around $41,000 in conference registration fees, and that the balance, as laid out in his Board Report, looked good.

VII. **Secretary**: Dan thanked Oliver Jennings and Jessica Riedmueller for their help in preparing for the conference meetings.

VIII. **ALA Councilor's Report –** Crystal Gates reported that ALA was about $2 million in the red, and there had been layoffs and program cuts, with more being considered as the organization seeks to establish equilibrium.

IX. **Committee and CI Reports**

a. **Conference Committee:** Janice Weddle reported around 225 attendees – nearly double the number from last year -- registered as well as twenty-three vendors. She expressed thanks for the many volunteers who were helping things run smoothly. Oliver Jennings noted that he hoped to have photographs available on Google Photos.

b. **Nominating and Elections Committee**: Taylor Vanlandingham reported a successful run of two special elections and the general election, and noted that around seventy members had voted in the latter. She announced the roster of the recently elected Executive Board members:

President-Elect: Lacy Wolfe
SELA Representative: LaShonda Campbell
ALA Councilor: Crystal Gates
Secretary: Misty Hawkins
Members-at-Large: Shawna Thorup, Cassandra Barnett, Ashley Cooksey, and Kay Strahan

c. Budget: Ron noted that he had discovered and disputed some improper uses of the debit card, and that President Webb had formed an Ad Hoc Financial Review Committee to look into these records and to propose procedures to help avoid future problems. Ron noted that a draft of procedures was posted in the October Board Reports, and he would welcome comments. He also noted that the task force would be considering switching from a debit card to a credit card.
Ron asked that all committees submit their 2026 budget recommendations by November 7, using the form available on the ArLA website, so that the Committee can present a budget to the Executive Board at the December meeting.

d. COSLLE: Rachel Shankle reported that the group is seeking a co-chair.

e. Public Libraries: Lacey Wolfe announced that Sydney Mullins-Britt would be taking over as president, and that the group was sponsoring a table at the New(ish) Members Reception.

X. Action Items

Membership Committee: Britt Murphy noted that the Committee wished to offer a membership as a door prize for the New(ish) Member Reception, and so MOVED "That the Committee be allowed to award a one-year ArLA membership as a door prize." After discussion, the motion CARRIED, and Britt will send Oliver the name of the winner.

XI. Old Business: There was no Old Business.

XIII. Calendar:

a. The next scheduled meeting will be on Friday, December 12th, at 9:00 a.m.
b. Reports to the Board will be due by Friday, December 5th.

XIV. Announcements :

Janice reminded everyone of the evening's Trivia Contest at 8:00.
Adam expressed his thanks to everyone for their encouragement and assistance during what had been a very difficult period.
On behalf of the Board, Janice thanked Adam for stepping up and taking on the challenge.

XV. Public Comment : There was no comment.

XVI. Adjournment: Crystal's motion to adjourn was carried at 9:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary *Pro Tem* Dan Boice