



ARKANSAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Executive Board Meeting

Minutes of the April 3, 2026 Meeting Conducted via Google Meet

Board Members in attendance: President Adam Webb, Vice President Lacy Wolfe, Treasurer Clare Graham, Cassandra Barnett, Crystal Gates, Shawna Thorup, and Secretary Pro Tem Dan Boice.

Not in attendance: LaShonda Campbell, Ashley Cooksey, Kay Strahan, Taylor Vanlandingham.

Also present: Webmaster Oliver Jennings, Sydney Mullins-Britt, Tammie Evans, Bekah Hedges, Britt Anne Murphy, Jessica Riedmüller, and Amy Wallace.

- I. **Call to Order:** President Adam Webb called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and appointed Dan Boice as Secretary *Pro Tem*.
- II. **Roll Call and Quorum:** Attendance was recorded via presence on Google Meet, and Adam noted a quorum present.
- III. **Agenda:** Shawna Thorup MOVED “Approval of the Agenda,” which motion was seconded and CARRIED.
- IV. **Consent Calendar** – Crystal Gates MOVED “Approval of the Consent Calendar,” which motion was seconded and CARRIED.
- V. **Minutes of the February 6 Meeting:** Dan Boice MOVED “Approval of the minutes as distributed,” which motion was seconded and CARRIED.
- VI. **Treasurer's Report** – Clare Graham reported that ArLA’s accounts currently included \$117,685.72 in Arvest, \$107,504.12 in Edward Jones, and \$20,229.23 on a CD at Edward Jones.
Clare brought a motion from the Finance Committee “To approve an audit of the Association’s finances.” The motion was APPROVED.
- VII. **President’s Report** – Adam reported that there were currently 503 members ArLA, but a very large number of expired memberships. He will follow up with several ideas that were brought forward, as will the Membership Committee.
Misty Hawkins had resigned as Secretary, and Adam has asked the Nominations Committee to begin the process of a Special Election for a new Secretary.
Adam had been asked if we could draft some model policies, especially regarding AI and patron confidentiality. Crystal noted that both the ALA and the Arkansas state government have been working on establishing drafting policies on AI, and she will follow up to see if we can use any of

their work.

- VIII. ALA Councilor’s Report** – Crystal reported that there would be an ALA State Legislative Discussion on April 7, and that registration was open for the annual conference, which will be June 25-29 in Chicago, and will include Rachel Maddow and Wayne Brady as keynote speakers.
- IX. Committee and CI Reports**
Committee on Legislation: Adam introduced a proposal for establishing a Committee on Legislation. The Board will study and be prepared to act on this proposal at the next meeting.
- X. Action Items**
- a. Policy on Public Statements:** Clare MOVED “That the Board adopt a simple approval process for public statements,” which motion was seconded. Several Board members offered to work with Clare to draft a statement, and after further discussion, Adam MOVED “To table the motion,” which motion was seconded and CARRIED.
 - b. Communication with Members:** There was discussion about the sometimes seemingly inconsistent communication channels for ArLA and its members. Oliver and Clare reported numerous discussions with StarChapter that had led to some but not all of the desired improvements. Clare and Lacy will work with Oliver and the Membership Committee and bring back a report – and possibly a proposal – to the June Board meeting.
 - c. “Grace Period” for CIs:** Adam noted that a significant number of CIs had not provided filed annual reports for 2025, although these are mandated by the Bylaws for all CIs. The Bylaws stipulate that the E.B. is to place CIs “that have not filed a report in abeyance.” Board members noted that almost all CIs had presented oral reports at the October Membership meeting. There was consensus to allow the CIs extra time this year to provide the required written annual reports.
 - d. Library Champion Award:** Crystal brought from the Awards Committee a MOTION to establish a Library Champion Award, to honor a non-library-professional who had done extraordinary service on behalf of Arkansas libraries. After discussion, the motion PASSED.
 - e. Sustainability CI:** Sydney Mullins-Britt presented a proposal to establish a Sustainability Community of Interest, including a Mission, Objectives, and a petition signed by fifteen individuals. The Board was in consensus in recognizing and welcoming this new CI.
- XI. Old Business: Impact Management:** Dan MOVED “That ArLA renew its contract with Impact Management.” The motion was seconded and discussed, and options involving AAAL were offered, as were distinctions between lobbying, advocating, and educating. After discussion, the motion FAILED.
- XIII. Calendar:**
- a.** Library Legislative Day will be April 23rd, although the logistics and expenses of this will need immediate attention.
 - b.** The deadline for the Spring/Summer issue of *Arkansas Libraries* will be May 1.
 - c.** Proposals for the annual conference are due by May 4.

- XIV. Announcements :** Adam asked that any concerns among ArLA members about his leadership or directions of the association be shared directly with him so that he can respond directly.
- XV. Public Comment :** There was no comment.
- XVI. Adjournment:** Shawna's motion to ADJOURN was vigorously CARRIED at 10:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary *Pro Tem* Dan Boice