

**BLACK EARTH PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD SPECIAL MEETING**  
**1210 MILLS STREET**  
**BLACK EARTH, WI 53515**  
**05/05/2025**

1. Call to order
  - a. Called to order at 5:00pm
2. Roll call of members
  - a. Schuetz, Wittenwyler, Helmenstine present. Huston also attending.
3. Proof of posting
4. Adoption/amendment of agenda
  - a. Wittenwyler motioned to approve the agenda. Helmenstine Seconded.
  - b. Motion passed.
5. Public comment
  - a. No members of the public present.
6. Discussion/motion to adopt change in library bylaws
  - a. Wittenwyler asked if the bylaws can specify a range for the number of trustees.
    - i. Huston stated that the consultant she spoke with did not specifically state that such an aspect was not allowed.
  - b. Schuetz asked if the Ederer counted as a non-resident even though she is the school district representative
    - i. Huston stated that she counts as both. State law limits out-of-village trustees to only two.
  - c. Huston reported that there are many interested individuals, but many do not live in the village proper.
    - i. Alex Rolfe is interested and lives in the village.
    - ii. Lili Crane is interested and lives in the village.
    - iii. Heather Teale is interested but lives outside of the village.
    - iv. Michele Pisman is interested but lives outside of the village.
    - v. Pat Mommarts was willing to serve, but only to help. He likely would not want to serve a term if others are interested.
  - d. Schuetz said that a seven-member board would help with achieving quorum, would help with having people in the officer roles, and would help with advocacy.
  - e. Schuetz said that right now we do not have enough village residents interested to fully appoint a seven member board.
7. Discussion/motion of new library board appointees
  - a. Wittenwyler is looking to step down from the library board. However, Schuetz requested that she attend the May meeting. Wittenwyler agreed that she would.
  - b. Huston stated that we could appoint two people if Wittenwyler steps down. This helps with onboarding.
  - c. Helmenstine stated Nathan Cavanaugh will likely be the new village board appointee.
    - i. Schuetz stated that it is his preference to avoid adding further responsibilities to the village board and school district appointees.
  - d. Huston stated that she has not heard back from Rolfe yet, and so it is not fully clear if he is still interested. However, Kirstin Rogers speaks highly of him.

- e. Schuetz stated that he would like the Library Board to put forward Crane, Rolfe, and Pisman as trustees for President Moyer to nominated, with the stipulation that Pisman is only appointed in the event that Rolfe cannot or will not serve. However, we will only ask for the appointments for Crane and Rolfe at the May village board meeting.
  - f. Schuetz stated he believes the nominations should have terms that end in a staggered fashion compared to the current board members. Huston stated that the current board members have terms that end in 2026.
  - g. Huston asked about the process that the village uses to appoint the village representative. Helmenstine and Schuetz discussed the process.
  - h. Schuetz motions that the Village President recommend to the village board Lili Crane and Alex Rolfe as trustees to the library board for the currently open seats
    - i. Helmenstine seconds.
    - ii. Motion passed
8. Approval of Rhyme payment
- a. Huston stated that Rhyme will conduct a training on Thursday.
  - b. Wittenwyler asked if the price was reduced after questions from Huston.
    - i. Huston said no, the original price was what we will pay.
  - c. Schuetz motions to approve payment for the Rhyme voucher. Wittenwyler seconded.
  - d. Motion passed.
9. Future agenda items
- a. Library Board Sub-committee for Expansion Project
  - b. Review Board Reorganization Elections
  - c. Status of Federal Funding
10. Next meeting
- a. The regular meeting will be held on May 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm over Zoom
11. Adjournment
- a. Schuetz motioned to adjourn. Helmenstine Seconded.
  - b. Adjourned at 6:00pm