

Bellwood Public Library

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Special Board Meeting Minutes July 27, 2026

Trustee Riales, President, called the Special Bellwood Public Library Board of Trustees meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Present:

Trustee Alice Bey-Pugh
Trustee Mary Clements
Trustee Elizabeth Ramirez
Trustee Constance Riales
Trustee Dorothy Smith

Absent:

Trustee Patricia Crawford
Trustee Reginald Stewart

Also in attendance: Head of Adult & Bibliographic Kara Spizzirri, Business Manager Ashley Matthews, and Administrative Assistant Lili Savage.

Library Attorney Dee Jarad arrived at 6:01 p.m.

Public Comment: None

A motion was made by Trustee Ramirez, seconded by Trustee Clements that the board convene into Closed Session at 6:03 p.m. for:

Pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5ILCS 120/ 2(c)(1) for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, and/or dismissal of specific employees, volunteers, or legal counsel of the library.

AYES: 5: Trustee Bey-Pugh, Trustee Clements, Trustee Ramirez, Trustee Riales, Trustee Smith

NAYS: 0:

ABSTAIN:0:

ABSENT: 2: Trustee Crawford, Trustee Stewart

The motion passed.

Trustee Crawford arrived at 6:06 p.m.

A motion was made by Trustee Ramirez, seconded by Trustee Clements to reconvene to the regular session at 6:03 p.m.
A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 6: Trustee Bey-Pugh, Trustee Clements, Trustee Crawford, Trustee Ramirez, Trustee Riales, Trustee Smith
NAYS: 0:
ABSTAIN:0:
ABSENT: 1: Trustee Stewart
The motion passed.

New Business:

A motion was made by Trustee Ramirez, seconded by Trustee Clements that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Christal Beyer to the position of Library Director of the Bellwood Public Library effective on an anticipated start date September 1, 2026, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Conditional offer of Appointment and Employment letter dated July 20, 2026, including a starting annual salary of \$115, 000 and which letter is hereby approved.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 6: Trustee Bey-Pugh, Trustee Clements, Trustee Crawford, Trustee Ramirez, Trustee Riales, Trustee Smith
NAYS: 0:
ABSTAIN: 0:
ABSENT: 1: Trustee Stewart
The motion passed.

Public Comments: President Riales publicly thanked Attorney Jarad for all her professional assistance and guidance to the board in this hiring process of the new director. Attorney Jarad has been working with the Library Trustees for 10 years.

Adjournment: Trustee Ramirez moved to adjourn the meeting, Trustee Clements seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m. All voted by voice, Aye.

Trustee Patricia Crawford, Secretary