

REACHING ACROSS ILLINOIS LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD MEETING

Friday, February 22, 2019

Minutes

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Laura Turner, RAILS Board President called the meeting to order at the RAILS Burr Ridge Service Center at 1:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL OF RAILS BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Schmidt called the roll of the RAILS Board members:

Burr Ridge: Dave Barry, Susan Busenbark, Gwen Gregory, Liza Hickey, Jay Kasten, Paul Mills, Scott Pointon, Daisy Porter-Reynolds, Laura Turner

East Peoria: Thomas Stagg

Monmouth College: Michelle Simmons

Phone: Christine Barr, Dee Runnels, Nadia Sheikh

Absent: Michael Campbell

3. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Burr Ridge: Deirdre Brennan, Jane Plass, Jim Kregor, Joe Filapek, Dan Bostrom, Nicole Zimmermann, Brian Smith, Anna Behm, Wesley Smith, Mary Witt, and Margae Schmidt

East Peoria: Kendal Orrison, Mark Hatch, Robert Morgan

Illinois State Library: Gwen Harrison

Monmouth College: Sarah Henderson

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Ms. Porter-Reynolds moved for the adoption of the agenda, Mr. Barry seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

6. APPROVAL OF RAILS BOARD MINUTES, FINANCIAL REPORTS AND EXPENDITURES

6.1 RAILS Board Minutes of January 18, 2019 Regular Meeting

Mr. Pointon moved for the approval of minutes of the January 18, 2019 RAILS board meeting.

Mr. Barry seconded and the motion was approved as amended, changing \$.019% to \$.91% on the financial report.

Abstained: Daisy Porter-Reynolds

6.2 RAILS Financial Report - Jim Kregor

Mr. Kregor reviewed the financial report for January 2019. The January 31, 2019 unassigned General Fund (\$11.5 million) cash and investment balances would fund an estimated 11.9 months of operations. Cash and investment balances decreased \$1.2 million from the December 31, 2018 balance as RAILS received no Area Per Capita (APC) Grant payments in January. An amount of \$3,217,500 of the FY2018 APC Grant funds remains due to RAILS. Total General Fund expenditures of \$6,939,139 were \$548,690 below budget due to favorable budget results in nearly all cost components, the largest being Personnel (\$150,500),

Contractual Services (\$155,929), Buildings and Grounds (\$53,434) and Professional Services (\$66,348) expenditures.

6.3 Approval of Expenditures – January, 2019 – Jim Kregor

Mr. Kregor presented the expenditures report for January 2019. Mr. Barry moved for the approval of the check voucher/register for January 2019 in the amount of \$1,456,135.69. Ms. Porter-Reynolds seconded and roll call vote was taken: Ayes: Christine Barr, Dave Barry, Susan Busenbark, Gwen Gregory, Liza Hickey, Jay Kasten, Paul Mills, Scott Pointon, Daisy Porter-Reynolds, Dee Runnels, Nadia Sheikh, Michelle Simmons, Thomas Stagg, Laura Turner. Nays: none

7. REPORTS

7.1 Report from the RAILS President

Ms. Turner had no report.

7.2 RAILS Board Committee Reports-Committee Chairs

7.2.1 Consortia Committee - Paul Mills

There was no report.

7.2.2 Executive Committee - Laura Turner

There was no report.

7.2.3 Policy Committee - Paul Mills

There was no report.

7.2.4 Resource Sharing Committee - Jane Plass

There was no report.

7.3 RAILS Reports

7.3.1 RAILS Monthly Report

Ms. Brennan reported that the March Board packet may not be posted until Monday, March 18th, due to her scheduled vacation. The Laboratory for Applied Spatial Analysis (LASA) has submitted a proposal for the next phase of the statewide delivery study. There will be no changes to delivery in FY2020. Explore More Illinois has continued to add libraries. The Dreams Take Flight videos debuted on January 28, 2019 with a lot of positive feedback and have been posted on the RAILS website.

7.3.2 Service of the Month Report: Campaign to help libraries tell their stories

Ms. Witt introduced the RAILS Communications Team who have been working on the campaign. The campaign will take place throughout 2019, changing as the needs of member libraries change. A survey has been sent to member libraries regarding how RAILS can best help them tell their individual library stories. The survey will be available on the RAILS website until March 8th. RAILS also plans to partner with other organizations, such as IHLS, ALA, ILA and more on this project. Mr. Smith is creating a website for the project (mylibraryis.org). The website will be used as a venue for libraries to share ideas, templates, marketing plans, graphics, and success stories. Mr. Bostrom is going to help facilitate networking discussions between libraries. Ms. Zimmermann is contacting libraries to inform them about the campaign and is responsible for creating marketing material.

7.3.3 Advocacy report

Ms. Gregory reported that the first meeting was held today, on February 22, 2019. Ms. Turner will be the AISLE liaison, Ms. Hickey will be the liaison to the ILA Public Policy Committee, and Ms. Gregory will be the liaison to the ILA Advocacy Committee. Ms. Witt will develop “elevator” speeches for RAILS Board members to use when asked about RAILS. Mr. Mills is going to attend the legislative meet up that will be held in Oak Brook to discuss the importance of RAILS. Mr. Mills also recently met with State Senator McGuire to discuss how public libraries can help prison libraries gain access to more material. Mr. Mills and Mr. Pointon will bring more information back to the next Board meeting regarding this topic. The next RAILS Advocacy Committee meeting will be held on March 22, 2019.

7.4 Illinois State Library Report- ISL Staff

Mr. McCormick reported on a conference call with Google to discuss the Grow with Google Program. Google is using the Public Library Association (PLA) as an administrative partner. They are offering free digital skills workshops conducted by Google staff at public libraries around the country. Dates have not yet been determined for Illinois. ISL will be working with PLA to identify three public library locations where the training will be conducted. The Census Bureau is in the process of distributing packets for Census 2020 to public libraries in Illinois regarding a poster contest. Public libraries will disseminate the information to the public. Mr. McCormick also reported that Secretary of State budget proposes level funding for all libraries. FY20 APC grant applications will be sent out March 1st. ISL is hosting an ILA trustee training on March 9th with 25 attendees already registered.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Membership Change

Mr. Bostrom presented the recommendation for membership for the Rock Falls School District #13 in Rock Falls, IL. He stated that they are interested in joining the Rock River Library Consortium. Ms. Porter-Reynolds moved to approve the recommendation as presented and request final approval from the Illinois State Library. Mr. Pointon seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

8.2 Appointment of Nominating Committee

Ms. Brennan informed the Board that Kate Hall has agreed to chair the RAILS Nominating Committee. The other members of the committee include Peggy Danhoff, Leora Siegel, Lisa Marie Smith, and Alissa Williams. The next meeting date has not yet been determined.

8.3 March and April board meeting locations

Ms. Brennan suggested the RAILS Board meeting in March be moved to Aurora so the April meeting could be held in East Peoria, due to the Elevate leadership program taking place the following day in Springfield.

Mr. Barry moved for the approval of changes to Board meeting dates. Mr. Kasten seconded and the motion was approved.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9.1 Ratify January Staffing changes and revised organization chart with roll call vote

Ms. Brennan informed the Board that when they voted to approve the revised compensation schedule and organization chart at the January meeting a roll call vote was not taken. It is required when funds are expended.

Ms. Porter-Reynolds moved to approve staffing changes and revised organization chart and Mr. Mills seconded and roll call vote was taken: Ayes: Christine Barr, Dave Barry, Susan Busenbark, Gwen Gregory, Liza Hickey, Jay Kasten, Paul Mills, Scott Pointon, Daisy Porter-Reynolds, Dee Runnels, Nadia Sheikh, Michelle Simmons, Thomas Stagg, Laura Turner. Nays: none

9.2 Strategic plan progress report discussion

Ms. Brennan stated that RAILS has been providing e-books to libraries since 2013 via Axis 360 and BiblioBoard, a geolocated platform, which offers free e-book resources to Illinois residents. She discussed the main goals of the 2018 Ebook Summit, which was to make e-resources more accessible to libraries. Another e-book platform that libraries can use is SimplyE. Pinnacle Library Cooperative is testing this program in Illinois. New York Public Library will support development of the program for two more years and is working with Digital Public Libraries of America (DPLA) to develop a governance structure.

10. BOARD DEVELOPMENT

10.1 Reports on ALA midwinter conference from attendees

Ms. Plass attended an IMLS program that included speakers from state library agencies in Arizona, Wyoming, and Rhode Island. Each state is required to complete a five year plan for LSTA funding. Many plans focused on Talking Book services, service to rural populations, and broadband. Planning is underway for a national conference focusing on virtual and augmented reality. Another program Ms. Plass attended involved a library/publisher/vendor relations group which focused on a report concerning academic library acquisition trends. Ms. Behm attended ASGCLA meetings including a consortial e-book discussion. She also attended a program on Panorama, a project underway to determine how libraries impact e-book sales and awareness of books.

11. RAILS BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Porter-Reynolds has accepted a new position at the St. Louis Public Library. The Board honored her with a plaque for her time served on the RAILS Board.

Ms. Porter-Reynolds shared that her library was recently affected by a mass shooting. For those wanting to contribute to the families of the victims they can donate at <https://www.gofundme.com/AuroraStrong>. Ms. Gregory shared that the University of Illinois at Chicago will be testing a new ILS called Vanguard. Mr. Pointon shared that White Oak Library will be having their annual STEM event which is geared toward all ages on March 2nd at the Romeoville branch. Mr. Mills encouraged everyone to nominate a library staff member for the Intellectual Freedom Award. The deadline for nominations is May 15th.

12. AGENDA BUILDING FOR THE NEXT RAILS BOARD MEETING

Mr. Mills and Mr. Pointon will bring more information back regarding serving prison libraries in Will County. Ms. Gregory will give a report on academic libraries.

13. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.