

**VIRTUAL MEETING
RAILS CONSORTIA COMMITTEE**

Monday, October 19 2020

MINUTES

1. Welcome

Paul Mills, RAILS Consortia Committee Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. Designation of Minute Taker

Jody Rubel, RAILS Administrative Assistant, was designated minute taker.

3. Roll Call of Members—Jody Rubel

Burr Ridge: Scott Pointon

East Peoria: Kendal Orrison, Tom Stagg

Telephone/Zoom: Emily Faulkner, Kristine Hammerstrand, Rebecca Malinowski, Paul Mills, Aaron Skog, Jennifer Slaney

4. Introductions of Guests; Announcements

Mr. Mills welcomed new representatives, Emily Faulkner, PrairieCat and Jeff Brooks, RSA to the committee.

Burr Ridge: Deirdre Brennan (*ex-officio*), Matt Hammermeister

Illinois State Library: Karen Egan, Jake Magnuson, Greg McCormick

Telephone/Zoom: Anna Behm, Jeff Brooks, Michael Campbell, Carolyn Coulter, Kate Hall, Grant Halter, Leila Heath, Julie Milavec, Stacy Palmisano, Jody Rubel, Anne Slaughter (*ex-officio*)

5. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

6. Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Orrison moved, and Ms. Slaney seconded, that

THE RAILS BOARD CONSORTIA COMMITTEE ADOPT THE OCTOBER 20, 2020 AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Roll Call vote:

Ayes: Emily Faulkner, Kristine Hammerstrand, Rebecca Malinowski, Paul Mills, Kendal Orrison, Scott Pointon, Aaron Skog, Jennifer Slaney, Thomas Stagg

7. Approval of Minutes of the April 20, 2020 Consortia Committee Meeting

Ms. Slaney moved, and Mr. Pointon seconded, that

THE MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 20, 2020 RAILS BOARD CONSORTIA COMMITTEE MEETING BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

Roll Call vote:

Ayes: Kristine Hammerstrand, Rebecca Malinowski, Paul Mills, Kendal Orrison, Scott Pointon, Aaron Skog, Jennifer Slaney, Thomas Stagg

Abstained: Emily Faulkner

8. New Business

a. Updates on eRead Illinois; RAILS deals & discounts

Leila Heath, RAILS Library Resources and Programs Manager, reported on eRead Illinois and other deals and discounts RAILS offers to libraries. Since March, interest in joining eRead Illinois has grown, especially with schools looking to add more e-resources due to hybrid and online learning models. Participation in eRead now comprises nearly 200 schools and 247 public libraries. In response to the urgent need for e-resources, RAILS applied for a \$125,000 Illinois State Library grant to purchase e-books and e-audio K-12 titles to enhance recreational and educational collections. If awarded the grant, purchases would be made month by month from November 2020 through September 2021 to respond to the needs of the users. Ms. Heath will resume exploring other e-book vendors' services and assess how well the vendors serve school and public library users, costs, and how they would fit the RAILS landscape.

Next Ms. Heath stated over 500 titles were added to BiblioBoard collection in June, focusing on self-help, EDI, and history, funded by the Census 2020 grant. Fifty Recovering the Classics titles were also added to collection. Explore More Illinois will relaunch soon with changes now that attractions are reopening. In addition to patrons needing to reserve passes from the library, patrons would need to separately make a reservation through the attraction reservation system. Libraries interested in participating can still sign up. Ms. Heath continued to share news about other deals, new services offered, license extensions, deeper discounts, and added value add-ons. She clarified that existing SWANK agreements with individual libraries would eventually roll over to the RAILS group purchase agreement over the next two years. Committee members expressed the desire that when negotiating group purchases, RAILS be cognizant that a consortium may want the ability to purchase add on products or services, and be mindful at the consortial level there could be challenges therefore limiting choices. It was stated that consortia are appreciative of the efforts in assisting with negotiating group purchases.

b. Annual library certification – Deirdre Brennan and Grant Halter

Ms. Brennan announced that the FY2021 Illinois State Library's Annual Certification would be completed on the new L2, the Library Directory and Learning Calendar. The certification period will likely begin in February to allow more time for development of the certification module on L2. As part of the certification process, RAILS will ask libraries to answer additional standards-related questions. The purpose of the questions is to gather a better sense of operations and expenditures that IPLAR does not capture. Draft standards questions were reviewed and suggestions made to clarify language. It was also suggested to prepare a snapshot to guide libraries on how best to answer certifications questions during the pandemic period when

library operations may be modified. RAILS will have ISL weigh in on drafting a snapshot scenario.

c. Per capita grant application changes

Greg McCormick, Illinois State Library Director introduced Jake Magnuson who is overseeing the per capita grant program. Jake is filling the position that Pat Boze held. It is anticipated once the per capita grant process begins, ISL will schedule more meetings with libraries. Due date for the per capita grant application will be extended. Staff are still making revisions to make the application easier to complete. An announcement will be made soon about timeframe and requirements. The per capita grant will be the focus of an upcoming RAILS Member Update.

9. Unfinished Business

a. Consortia and COVID-19

Mr. Mills invited attendees to ask questions or share information regarding COVID 19 and consortium activities. ISL staff reported that they are awaiting a response from IDPH about quarantining library material. Other questions arose related to mitigation plans, and the need for guidance on how to keep buildings safe and for making decisions. ISL stated that they will draft general recommendations to guide the library decision making process, in collaboration with ILA, IDPH, and DCEO.

10. Reports

a. Consortia Committee Chair

No report.

b. Consortium reports

Ms. Carolyn Coulter shared PrairieCat is pursuing joining IMRF for its employees and noted next steps in the approval process.

c. RAILS report

RAILS received more than 40 applicants that represent all different types and sizes of libraries to participate on the Board EDI committee. Discussion on EDI as it relates to collection development and cataloging is on the table for the committee to address. Ms. Brennan envisions the EDI committee holding a series of town halls to gather more information. Ms. Malinowski congratulated RAILS and the L2 team on the launch of the new L2 site.

11. Adjournment

At 11:46, Paul Mills, RAILS Board Consortia Committee Chair declared the meeting adjourned.