

REACHING ACROSS ILLINOIS LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD MEETING
Friday, January 15, 2021 | 1:00 PM

Minutes

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Michael Campbell, RAILS Board President called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, January 15, 2021 and welcomed all attendees.

2. ROLL CALL OF RAILS BOARD MEMBERS

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

RAILS Burr Ridge: Michael Campbell, Paul Mills, Scott Pointon, Becky Spratford, Alex Vancina

RAILS East Peoria: Thomas Stagg, Dianne Hollister (joined at 1:08 p.m.)

Telephone/Zoom: Sue Busenbark, Halle Cox, Kris Kenney, Sarah McHone-Chase, Jennifer McIntosh, Jenna Nemec-Loise, Beth Tepen

Absent: Percy Harris

3. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Mr. Campbell read the following: In accordance with the Government Emergency Administrative Act PA100-0640, the RAILS Board of Directors finds an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent and believes it is in the best interest of RAILS to hold a virtual meeting to perform essential business.

Burr Ridge: Deirdre Brennan, Monica Harris

East Peoria: Kendal Orrison

Illinois State Library: Greg McCormick, Karen Egan, Gwen Harrison

Via telephone/Zoom: Anna Duff, Jody Rubel, Jim Kregor, Brian Smith, Ryan Hebel, Joe Filapek, Dan Bostrom, Mark Hatch, Mary Witt, Anne Slaughter, Nicole Zimmermann, Emily Fister

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. CONSENT AGENDA –

5.1 Adoption of the Agenda

5.2 Approval of RAILS Board Minutes of November 20, 2020 Regular Meeting

5.2.1 Review of Closed Session Minutes –May 22, 2020, August 28, 2020

5.3 Approval of Expenditures: November-December, 2020

Mr. Pointon asked that the Review of Closed Session Minutes be removed from the consent agenda. Mr. Pointon moved for the adoption of the consent agenda. Ms. McHone-Chase seconded and a roll call vote was taken: Ayes: Susan Busenbark, Halle Cox, Dianne Hollister, Kris Kenney, Sarah McHone-Chase, Jennifer McIntosh, Paul Mills, Jenna Nemec-Loise, Scott Pointon, Becky Spratford, Tom Stagg, Beth Tepen, Alex Vancina, Michael Campbell. Nays: none

5.2.1 Review of Closed Session Minutes –May 22, 2020, August 28, 2020

Mr. Pointon moved that the minutes of both the May 22, 2020 and the August 28, 2020 closed session meetings remain closed because they still require confidential treatment.

Ms. McHone-Chase seconded and a roll call vote was taken: Ayes: Susan Busenbark, Halle Cox, Dianne Hollister, Kris Kenney, Sarah McHone-Chase, Jennifer McIntosh, Paul Mills, Jenna Nemec-

Loise, Scott Pointon, Becky Spratford, Tom Stagg, Beth Tepen, Alex Vancina, Michael Campbell.
Nays: none

6. RAILS Financial Report

Mr. Kregor reported the total General Fund revenues of \$8,547,177 through December were \$1,964,789 above budget with the receipt of Area and Per Capita (APC) Grant payments of \$1,614,386 on September 30 and \$5,362,500 on October 1.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Report from the RAILS President

There was no report.

7.2 RAILS Board Committee Reports

7.2.1 Advocacy Committee

Ms. Nemec-Loise reported on recent Advocacy Committee activities. She said an introductory email to the RAILS special library listserv was created by Ms. Cox for specialized libraries wanting to learn more about RAILS services. At the latest meeting, potential partnerships between school and academic libraries were discussed and e-resources were pinpointed as an important common factor among all library types. Next steps for the ILA Trustee Forum were laid out at the meeting and RAILS will be holding an online roundtable for trustees on January 20, 2021. She said efforts will also be made to ensure libraries are well represented at upcoming ILA Legislative Meetups.

7.2.2 Consortia Committee

Mr. Mills stated Mr. Gregory Pronevitz, RAILS Delivery Consultant, reported on RAILS delivery at their latest meeting. Other presenters at the meeting included Mr. Grant Halter, on survey results from a RAILS statewide database survey and Ms. Leila Heath, on the new RAILS privacy policy page for libraries. Mr. Mills mentioned the RAILS Executive Team received communication from the SWAN Board of Directors regarding the consortia funding formula. He said RAILS has requested to attend the next SWAN Board meeting.

7.2.3 Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Ms. Hollister reported that the Committee's first meeting, on December 2, 2021, was a success with great attendance and productive discussion.

7.2.4 Executive Committee

The Committee has not met.

7.2.5 Policy Committee

The Committee has not met.

7.2.6 Resource Sharing Committee

The Committee has not met.

7.2.7 Universal Service Committee

The Committee has not met but will meet on February 5.

7.3 RAILS Reports

Ms. Brennan reported that the RAILS Board Advocacy Committee meeting was zoom-bombed with pornography. She said since RAILS Board meetings are public meetings and must comply with the Open Meetings Act, the meetings cannot be made private. RAILS Administration and IT are discussing different options to prevent this from happening again. Mr. Mills mentioned that Zoom came out with guidelines that may be helpful. Ms. Brennan said RAILS reported the incident to the FBI and will to consult with RAILS' attorney about available options.

7.3.1 RAILS Monthly Report

Ms. Brennan stated she and Ms. Harris have been attending library Networking Group meetings and preparing for ILA meet ups. RAILS will work with library groups to create posts and content for the My Library Is... website. RAILS is continuing meetings with IHLS and fostering a partnership with AISLE. She announced the Illinois State Library Certification will begin in February and future discussion on RAILS Board engagement in equity, diversity, and inclusion efforts can be expected in the future.

7.3.2 RAILS Service of the Month Report: "My library is..." campaign

Ms. Witt, reported on the My Library Is... campaign to help libraries demonstrate their value to stakeholders. Mr. Smith shared his screen to showcase the mylibraryis.org website. Mr. Bostrom spoke about My library Is... grants for libraries, to be awarded in early March. He said the My Library Is... Advisory Team has been working on creating an infographic template for library advocacy purposes. Ms. Witt added that RAILS is building partnerships with ILA and IHLS to expand content on the site, get members to contribute, and create a survey for all Illinois libraries to ensure the campaign remains on the right track. Ms. Zimmerman spoke about talking points made specifically for each library type. Board discussion ensued about promoting library user experience and possibly making a series of webinars with library workers who have added blog posts to the My Library Is... site.

7.4 Illinois State Library Report

Mr. McCormick reported it is the intent of the Secretary's office to move forward with library grant programs as they were appropriated this past summer. The State Library will continue to work with library systems on the FAQ document and will participate with the RAILS Board Universal Service Committee. Mr. McCormick said efforts continue to ensure that the increase in the public and school library per capita grants is appropriated in the budget.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Membership Change

Mr. Bostrom reported that the Henry George School of Social Science is an academic library applying for system membership in order to access interlibrary loan delivery, continuing education, grants, and support for e-books. Ms. Nemeč-Loise moved to approve the Henry George School of Social Science for full membership in RAILS as presented, and request final approval from the Illinois State Library. Ms. Cox seconded and the motion was unanimously approved on a roll call vote: Ayes: Susan Busenbark, Halle Cox, Dianne Hollister, Kris Kenney, Sarah McHone-Chase, Jennifer McIntosh, Paul Mills, Jenna Nemeč-Loise, Scott Pointon, Becky Spratford, Tom Stagg, Beth Teppen, Alex Vancina, Michael Campbell. Nays: none

8.2 Board engagement and expectations

Ms. Brennan opened the discussions regarding Board members expectations when they ran for the RAILS Board, versus the reality once they were seated. She said the RAILS EDI Staff climate team was working on how staff and the board interact and she wanted the board members' perspective. Ms. Witt said RAILS could do a survey and ask what items RAILS staff could approve upon. Ms. Cox suggested putting a synopsis on the website about what the RAILS Board does and their responsibilities. Other suggestions included adding bullet statements on the differences and similarities between RAILS Board members and library board members; the benefits of being a RAILS Board members to oneself as well as their organization. Many board members act as a liaison to report news between their libraries and RAILS.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

10. BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Advocacy opportunities for RAILS Board members

Ms. Brennan reported on the various sources for advocacy items that RAILS Board members could use, including "My Library is...", Board Advocacy meetings as well as materials on the ALA and ILA websites. The ILA legislative meet ups will be held virtually and registration is now open. Ms. Fister will send the links to all board members and will compile a list of who is attending which meet ups.

11. RAILS BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. Vancina shared that the New Lenox Public Library District will be fine-free starting in March. Ms. Hollister suggested getting together with ILA for a presentation on organization's boards and committees. It could be a recruitment and informational tool for joining RAILS board or committees by covering the aspects, benefits and responsibilities of each.

12. AGENDA BUILDING FOR THE NEXT RAILS BOARD MEETING

The next board meeting will be held on Friday, February 26, 2021 at 1 p.m. Items for the agenda include an update on RAILS EDI initiatives, and a report by board members Ms. McHone-Chase and Ms. McIntosh on "Academic Libraries – Trends and Challenges" .

13. CLOSED SESSION

The Board moved into closed session to discuss matters pertaining to litigation, as per *5 Illinois Compiled Statutes*, chapter 120, paragraph 2, section (c) 1, which states:

Exceptions. A public body may hold closed meetings to consider the following subjects: Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.

Ms. McHone-Chase moved that the Board move into closed session. Mr. Mills seconded and the motion was unanimously approved on a roll call vote: Ayes: Susan Busenbark, Halle Cox, Dianne Hollister, Kris Kenney, Sarah McHone-Chase, Jennifer McIntosh, Paul Mills, Jenna Nemec-Loise, Scott Pointon, Becky Spratford, Tom Stagg, Beth Tepen, Alex Vancina, Michael Campbell. Nays: none

Non-board member zoom meeting participants were moved in a “waiting room” until the board votes to move out of closed session.

Ms. Hollister moved that the Board move back into open session. Mr. Pointon seconded and the motion was unanimously approved on a roll call vote: Ayes: Susan Busenbark, Halle Cox, Dianne Hollister, Kris Kenney, Sarah McHone-Chase, Jennifer McIntosh, Paul Mills, Jenna Nemec-Loise, Scott Pointon, Becky Spratford, Tom Stagg, Beth Tepen, Alex Vancina, Michael Campbell. Nays: none

14. ACTIONS IN FOLLOW-UP TO CLOSED SESSION

None.

15. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.