

**VIRTUAL MEETING  
RAILS CONSORTIA COMMITTEE**

Monday, July 19, 2021  
125 Tower Drive  
Burr Ridge, IL 60527

**MINUTES**

**1. Welcome**

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

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. This meeting will be recorded as per the statutory requirements.

**2. Roll Call of Members**

Jody Rubel, RAILS Administrative Assistant called roll.

*Burr Ridge:* Paul Mills, Scott Pointon,

*East Peoria:* Tom Stagg

*Telephone/Zoom:* Emily Faulkner, Kate Hall, Jennifer Slaney, Aaron Skog, Alex Vancina

Absent: Kristine Hammerstrand, Rebecca Malinowski, Kendal Orrison

**3. Introductions of Guests; Announcements**

*Burr Ridge:* Deirdre Brennan, *ex-officio*, Dawn Bussey, Matt Hammermeister, Jody Rubel

*Telephone/Zoom:* Carolyn Coulter, Karen Goyer, Leila Heath, Anne Slaughter, *ex-officio*; Debra Wischmeyer

**4. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**5. Adoption of the Agenda**

Pointon moved, and Faulkner seconded, that

THE RAILS BOARD CONSORTIA COMMITTEE ADOPT THE JULY 19, 2021 AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Emily Faulkner, Kate Hall, Paul Mills, Scott Pointon, Jennifer Slaney, Aaron Skog, Tom Stagg, Alex Vancina

The motion carried.

**6. Approval of Minutes of the April 19, 2021 Consortia Committee Meeting**

Slaney moved, and Pointon seconded, that

THE RAILS BOARD CONSORTIA COMMITTEE APPROVE THE APRIL 19, 2021 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Emily Faulkner, Kate Hall, Paul Mills, Scott Pointon, Jennifer Slaney, Aaron Skog, Tom Stagg, Alex Vancina

The motion carried.

## 7. New Business

### a. ICOLC report on OCLC concerns

Brennan updated the committee by explaining that both her and Slaughter served on the International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC) OCLC Task Force to look into member concerns about pricing transparency, interoperability with third-party products, and WorldCat sustainability. Slaughter added that a task force survey of ICOLC members revealed similar concerns internationally and across library types that echoes concerns amongst Illinois libraries. It was shared some ICOLC consortia are exploring alternative interlibrary loan products. In response, OCLC released a video message and a member survey for a better understanding of the concerns and value on its products and services. ICOLC encourages its members to reach out to OCLC directly with the concerns outlined in the report. Brennan also nominated herself for the OCLC Global Council ballot.

The committee members discussed thoughts on pricing equity and how changes in the current pricing structure could impact libraries both positively and negatively. It was noted that it would be nice to add a few new products to the OCLC bundle that the Illinois State Library negotiates. The committee would like to invite an ICOLC task force member to a future meeting, as well as someone from OCLC to another meeting. The committee would like to see a breakdown of Illinois libraries' OCLC costs and to continue OCLC discussions with ISL. Members also expressed interest in seeing a demonstration of Folio's open-source ReShare software.

### b. LLSAP Sustainability Working Group charge

Mills read the draft LLSAP Sustainability Working Group charge and invited feedback from the committee members. Mills clarified the understanding is to develop a new grant-based support model and draft a plan to ensure LLSAPs are in a self-sustaining position if there were a system financial crisis. A member suggested to add a bullet point that examines the possibility that LLSAPs directly receive state funds. Most members were of the opinion that adding such a statement would be premature and limits the scope of the charge, but the matter could be reflected as part of the group's recommendations. Hall made a motion to approve the charge as presented. Pointon seconded the motion. It was noted that the charge could be amended after further discussions are held.

THE RAILS BOARD CONSORTIA COMMITTEE APPROVE THE LLSAP SUSTAINABILITY WORKING GROUP CHARGE AS PRESENTED.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Emily Faulkner, Kate Hall, Paul Mills, Scott Pointon, Jennifer Slaney, Tom Stagg, Alex Vancina

No: Aaron Skog

The motion carried.

Working Group Members:

- Paul Mills (Chair)
- Scott Pointon, Thomas Stagg, Alex Vancina (RAILS Board)
- Carolyn Coulter, Rebecca Malinowski, Kendal Orrison, Dawn Bussey (LLSAP representation)

Mills thanked the committee for their input and looks forward to the future discussions.

## 8. Unfinished Business

### a. Consortia and COVID-19

Hall noted CCS is back to pre-COVID settings. PrairieCat is back to pre-COVID settings as well and prepared to address change in service due to any future mitigations imposed. Others are keeping desk shields and masking requirements due to parts of the population being unable to vaccinate. Indoor programming is still impacted. Pinnacle is back to normal with the exception of one networking group still meeting remotely. SWAN would remove pandemic settings September 1. Extending pandemic settings through September 1 allowed SWAN libraries to consider going fine free. Circulation is still low and hold queues are falling for both SWAN and PrairieCat. SWAN is looking for ways to improve broadband. Skog plans to continue monthly SWAN member meetings as long as there is interest. RAILS passed a staff vaccination and mask policy and is asking the board to adopt as well. RAILS is still limiting meeting rooms to board and committee meetings only at this time. Brennan stated more staff have returned to the office and anticipates as fall approaches a hybrid staff work model. CCS is in the early process of evaluating building and meeting/training space needs. Some consortia have moved away from compensating staff for working from home as it now an employee perk rather than a requirement.

## 9. Reports

### a. Consortia Committee Chair

Mills reported his term on the RAILS Board has ended.

### b. Consortium reports

Brennan added the RAILS Board appreciates reading the reports and thanked the committee.

### c. RAILS report

Mills highlighted that RAILS will sunset support for the SHARE Illinois project as noted in the RAILS report, and is embarking on a new strategic plan.

## 10. Adjournment

Mills thanked everyone for attending and at 11:30 a.m. adjourned the meeting.