



## RAILS Board Committee Reports

### *Advocacy Committee Report - Chair Monica Caldicott*

The Advocacy Committee met on September 19. The next meeting is November 14.

### *Consortia Committee Report - Chair Alex Vancina*

The Consortia Committee met on October 21. The next meeting is January 27, 2025.

Slaughter shared a written update provided by the Illinois State Library on the status of the Statewide Online Resources project, which is in the implementation phase for public and school libraries. Milavec said that libraries should not market the availability of these resources to the public until the Secretary of State's office officially announces the program. Hall congratulated Anne Slaughter on her appointment as Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Broadband Advisory Council Chair. Slaughter reported on broadband expansion in Illinois. Rounds one through three of the Connect Illinois funding have been awarded. Digital Equity Act funding is still unavailable, but Illinois is expected to receive approximately \$23 million to be sub-granted out. The RAILS Digital Equity Networking group for library workers across the state is meeting on November 18 at 2:00 pm. Halter proposed a rough timeline for gathering and testing Delivery data in the ongoing effort to eliminate or greatly reduce the physical, quarterly hand-count. The committee discussed potential challenges, including aligning LLSAP data with non-LLSAP libraries, accounting for Community Delivery Partnerships, and capturing margins of error for libraries who receive delivery less than five times a week. Slaughter stated that in September, MARCIVE announced its closure in December, 2024. The committee discussed alternatives for LLSAPS including Backstage Library Works and Mitinet Library Services.

### *EDI Committee Report - Chair Dianne Hollister*

There is no upcoming meeting scheduled.

### *Executive Committee Report - Chair Rene Leyva*

There is no upcoming meeting scheduled.

### *Policy Committee Report – Chair Gwen Gregory*

The Policy Committee met on September 30. The next meeting is October 28.

The September 30, 2024, meeting was the first meeting of fiscal year 2025. Three new committee members were welcomed; Jean Carroll, Anupam Goel, and Amanda Kowalcze. The committee discussed and made valuable recommendations for six policies from the RAILS employee handbook. Three policies were related to vehicles, and three were topics in human resources.

## ***Resource Sharing Committee Report - Chair Julie Milavec***

**The Resource Sharing Committee met on October 18. The next meeting is December 9.**

The Resource Sharing committee welcomed new members Karen Voitik (Shorewood-Troy Public Library and RAILS Board) and Laura Goleszewski (Normal Public Library). Filapek noted the proposed change of contract with CTL: CTL will still provide delivery services, but sorting will be moved to the Bolingbrook center. At last week's ILA conference, several RAILS staff and board members presented; the committee discussed their favorite session. Miller reported that Find More Illinois now has 82 libraries, including 1 academic library, 71 public libraries, 9 school libraries, and 1 special library. Find More Illinois is working with CARLI to establish a participation model for academic libraries in hopes to expand academic participation across the state. Filapek reported on the status of the Statewide Online Resources project and emphasized that libraries should not market the availability of these resources to the public until the Secretary of State's office officially announces the program. Filapek provided an update on the data captured by 15 libraries in an effort to establish the percentage and nature of items sent in Delivery that is not captured by ILS data. The committee approved the FY25 meeting schedule and reviewed the Resource Sharing components of the RAILS Operational Plan. Committee members would like to know more about how RALS is working to serve the unserved community in Illinois, and how resource sharing policy information uploaded to L2 can play a role in more equitable resource sharing among members.

## ***Universal Service Committee Report - Chair Catherine Yanikoski***

**The Committee met on September 6. The next meeting is scheduled for December 13.**