**Approved 1/27/2025**
125 Tower Drive
Burr Ridge, IL 60527
630.734.5000
630.734.5050
railslibraries.org

# Minutes
## RAILS Board Consortia Committee Meeting
Monday, October 21, 2024 | 10:00 am
RAILS Burr Ridge and Videoconference Sites
125 Tower Drive, Burr Ridge, IL 60527 | 630.734.5000

1. Welcome and Call to Order
   Vancina called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

2. Roll Call of Members
   Present in Burr Ridge: Elizabeth Clarage (CARLI), Kate Hall (CCS), Jennie Mills (Pinnacle), Julie Milavec (RAILS Board), Alex Vancina (RAILS Board), Aaron Skog (SWAN, arrived at 10:08 am)
   Present at Coal Valley: Carolyn Coulter (PrairieCat)
   Present at East Peoria: Kendal Orrison (RSA)
   Present at Sterling Public Library: Jenni Slaney (RRLC)

3. Recognition of Guests and Announcements
   Guests in Burr Ridge: Joe Filapek, Matt Hammermeister, Monica Harris, Leila Heath, Rebecca Malinowski, Mary Kate Murray (Designated Note-Taker), Maggie Thomann, Anne Slaughter
   Guests in Coal Valley: None
   Guests in East Peoria: None
   Guests at Sterling Public Library: None
   Guests via Zoom: Eric Bain, Janette Derucki, Larisa Good, Grant Halter, Mark Hatch, Barb Miller, Stacy Palmisano, Anna Wassenaar

4. Public Comments
   There were no public comments.

5. Adoption of the Consent Agenda
   5.1. Adoption of the Agenda
   5.2. Approval of the RAILS Board Consortia Committee Meeting Minutes of July 15, 2024
   Hall moved and Slaney seconded the approval of the consent agenda as presented. The movement was approved by unanimous vote.
   Ayes: Clarage, Coulter, Hall, Mills, Milavec, Orrison, Slaney, Vancina
   Nays: None

6. Reports
   6.1. Chair Report
   6.2. Consortia Reports
   6.3. RAILS Report
   The RAILS Report was included in the meeting packet. Heath introduced newly hired RAILS Library Resource Specialist, Maggie Thomann. Thomann has worked in libraries in Illinois for over 20 years, most recently in Adult Services Management at the Glen Elyn Public Library.

6.4. Resource Sharing Committee Report

The Resouce Sharing Committee Report was included in the meeting packet. Filapek reported that RAILS board members Julie Milavec and Karen Voitik as well as Laura Golaszewski of Normal Public Library joined the Resource Sharing Committee as other members moved on. Filapek highlighted the newly modified contract between RAILS and Continental Transportation Logistics (CTL). CTL will still provide delivery services to the Chicagoland area, but sorting will be moved to the RAILS Bolingbrook service center. This will be cost saving and will hopefully result in increased efficiencies. Hall congratulated Anne Slaughter for being named the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Broadband Advisory Council Chair.

7. Unfinished Business

7.1. Update on Statewide Database Access

Harris stated that Suzanna Jones and Ryan Franklin of the Illinois State Library could not be present at this meeting. Jones shared a memo with the committee in place of her report. Slaughter shared that the Illinois State Library is currently in the implementation phase of the statewide database program, working to get schools and public libraries connected with EBSCO resources. An informational website is in progress and will hopefully be ready in the spring. A temporary access link to all content is available through the Illinois State Library, but the site is not polished. Libraries are asked to wait until the Illinois State Library has made an official announcement regarding the statewide database package before publicizing the program to the public. Jones and Franklin will be at the AISLE conference in November. Any questions can be directed to Suzanna Jones at sjones@ilsos.gov.

7.2. Update on Broadband Expansion in Illinois

Slaughter stated that, for more information on broadband in Illinois, resources include the RAILS Pulse Page on Broadband and Digital Equity and Broadband for Libraries. Slaughter reported that rounds 1-3 of the Connect Illinois grants have been awarded and projects are underway. The Illinois Office of Broadband map will be updated to reflect those projects. Illinois has been allocated $1.04 billion of federal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program (BEAD) funding and is waiting on approval from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) before the fourth Connect Illinois funding opportunity can be announced. The Office of Broadband  has an updated broadband map with a new interface and updates to the location of served vs. unserved residents. Libraries and other community anchor institutions are encouraged to engage with internet services providers to advocate for their locations and track projects. The Office of Broadband and Illinois Broadband Lab has also overlaid the library service area map on the broadband map.

Illinois expects $23 million to be awarded to the Illinois Office of Broadband from federal Digital Equity Act funding, most of which will be sub-granted out. When that funding is approved and received, there will be a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for which libraries will be eligible to apply. State Digital Equity Act sub-grants will be three-year grants with anticipated awards of $30,000-$300,000 per year. Slaughter noted that guests are always welcome at Internet Broadband Council meetings. There is also RAILS Digital Equity Networking Group, which is open to all library workers across the state, and their next meeting is November 18, 2024.

7.3. Discussion of Delivery Data

Filapek stated that, in assessing the feasibility of an automated delivery count, RAILS surveyed fifteen libraries that vary in geography and LLSAP participation in order help identify differences in how materials are processed by individual libraries. RAILS hopes to compare the November delivery results to the survey results. Halter discussed the potential benefits of an automated delivery count including reduced staff labor, increased accuracy, more detailed analyses, and more reliable reporting to make operational decisions. The current challenges to implement an automated delivery count include standardizing data collection across Integrated Library Systems (ILS), data storage, tracking items not captured by ILS data, accounting for standalone and non-automated libraries, and aligning ILS reporting with delivery driver data. Halter presented an ideal timeline for collecting data. In November, RAILS will try a hybrid method for the fifteen surveyed libraries that includes ILS reporting in addition to the quarterly physical audit. In February, RAILS will ask LLSAPs to send full reports alongside the physical audit. In May, non-LLSAP libraries will be invited to participate in the data collection process. The physical delivery count will continue throughout the proposed timeline, and the timeline will be adjusted as the project progresses. For November, Halter asked for aggregated reports from the LLSAPs for the sake of simplicity. After that, Halter may request raw data to see a wider picture. Halter will request data from the LLSAPs via email.

8. New Business

8.1. Discussion of MARCIVE Closing, Impact, and Solutions

In September, MARCIVE, which provides a comprehensive range of cataloging services, announced their closure. Skog stated that SWAN has used MARCIVE for a long time, and they were looking at alternatives, including a SirsiDynix and Backstage Library Works, but pricing was prohibitive. CCS has also received similar pricing from Backstage Library Works and found that Mitinet may be in talks with MARCIVE about transferring customers, but pricing on that is unclear. Pinnacle uses Backstage Library works, but they are a smaller consortium, and that likely affects pricing. Hall asked about the possibility of a Deals and Discounts offer across the LLSAPs for a cataloging service. Orrison shared that RSA had been in talks with MARCIVE about going live with their services within the year.

9. Meeting Recap and Agenda Building

The next RAILS Board Consortia Committee meeting will be Monday, January 27, 2025, at 10:00 am. The agenda will include a continued discussion of Delivery count data and updates on the statewide database package and broadband expansion in Illinois.

10. Adjournment

Vancina adjourned the meeting at 11:36 am