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RAILS Board Universal Service Committee Meeting

Friday, March 21st, 2025 | 1:00 pm

MEETING MINUTES

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Yanikoski called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm and welcomed the committee members present.

2. Roll Call of Committee Members

Krempl called roll of the members.

Present:

Catherine Yanikoski, Chair – Burr Ridge
Angela Campbell – RAILS Coal Valley
Emily Porter – Rockford University
Su Reynders – Mount Prospect Public Library
Michelle Roubal – RAILS Burr Ridge

Absent:

Jennifer Cutshall
Brooke Sievers
Alissa Williams

3. Recognition of Guests and Announcements

Guests in Burr Ridge: Monica Harris, Joe Filapek, Renya Krempl (designated note taker) – RAILS. On Zoom: Kate Niehoff - RAILS

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5. Consent Agenda

5.1. Adoption of the Agenda

5.2. Approval of the RAILS Board Universal Service Committee Minutes of September 6, 2024

Roubal moved, and Porter seconded the approval of the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Unfinished Business

6.1 Updates from committee members on the 2024 Universal Service Plan

The committee reviewed and discussed the document submitted by Sievers, containing definitions relating to the concepts of non-residents and universal service, plus descriptions of methods other states use to provide library services to all residents. The Committee also discussed current sources of funding for various types of libraries and possible upcoming changes to the funding structure. The

committee members will continue their work and research on existing ways to provide coverage to all residents of a state.

7. New Business

7.1. Unserved Survey 2019 review

Next, Harris presented the surveys that were sent out to public and community college libraries in the past regarding the issue of unserved and shared, and summarized their findings at that time. The committee discussed repeating those surveys, additional questions, the timeline, and the best format for it. The Community College survey would be the priority. Members also proposed the idea of submitting a proposal for a presentation or a poster session regarding the Unserved for the Illinois Library Association (ILA) Conference in the Fall.

7.2. Illinois Legislative Update

Harris highlighted some of the Bills being considered in the current legislative session that have the potential to impact libraries, including IL HB1737, the Broadband Deployment Act, IL HB 2966 School District Consolidation Analysis, IL SB1062 Century Network Priorities, IL SB0078 Community Mental Health Library Districts, and IL HB1589 Library Trustee Card Required. She also referred committee members to the ILA legislative action page, which hosts the complete list of all the Bills being monitored by them, and answered their questions related to the legislation in question.

8. Meeting recap and agenda building for the next RAILS Board Universal Service Committee meeting
The members will continue research into the coverage for the Unserved options and will discuss the text of the survey for Community Colleges in the next meeting on June 13th.

9. Adjournment

Yanikoski adjourned the meeting at 2:20 pm.