

RAILS RESOURCE SHARING COMMITTEE MEETING

September 15, 2025, | 10:00 am

RAILS Burr Ridge and Videoconference Sites

125 Tower Drive, Burr Ridge, IL 60527 | 630.734.5000

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Call to Order
Hovanec called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.
2. Roll Call of Committee Members
Present in Burr Ridge: Dr. Marlo Barnett (arrived at 10:09 am), Guillermo Gasca, Jennifer Hovanec, Laura Long, Beth Ryan.
Present via Zoom: Jesse Henning, Laura Golaszewski
Absent: Karen Voitik
3. Recognition of Guests and Announcements
Guests at Burr Ridge: Monica Harris, Joe Filapek, Stacy Palmisano (designated notetaker), Gwen Gemmell, Leila Heath, Barb Miller, Kortni Springer, Maggie Thomann
Guests via Zoom: Mark Hatch, Anne Slaughter, Eric Bain
4. Public Comments
There were no public comments.
5. Consent Agenda
 - 5.1. Adoption of the Agenda
 - 5.2. Approval of the RAILS Board Resource Sharing Committee Minutes of April 28, 2025
 - 5.3. Approval of the FY2026 Committee Meeting Schedule
Long moved to approve the consent agenda. Gasca seconded.
6. Committee Member Introductions
Each committee member introduced themselves. Filapek mentioned that this committee represents all four types of libraries: academic libraries, public libraries, school libraries, and special libraries.
7. Reports
 - 7.1. RAILS Report
Filapek introduced the newest Deals & Discounts team member, Kortni Springer, Library Resource Specialist, who was in attendance. Filapek shared that RAILS has launched a new interactive resource sharing map that can be broken down by library, library system, and county. On Wednesday, September 24, at 2:00 p.m., Grant Halter, Data Analysis Manager, will host a webinar to present the map's capabilities. Committee members were encouraged to attend the webinar. Filapek shared that the RAILS Universal Service Committee plans to revise

the 2019 Community College Library survey to gather information on how community colleges provide services to their residents and, more specifically, services to individuals without access to a public library. Several RAILS staff will present at the upcoming Illinois Library Association (ILA) Annual Conference in October. Three sessions that are most relevant to this committee: “E-Resources for All: Building an Inclusive and Demand-Driven Digital Collection”, “A Million Illinoisans Without Libraries? Let’s Change That”, and lastly, a poster session titled “Click, Connect, Community: Getting the most from L2”.

8. Find More Illinois Overview

Miller, Consortial Services Supervisor, gave an overview of Find More Illinois (FMI). Find More Illinois is an interlibrary loan platform that provides access to a growing number of library holdings in one seamless interface. The program has 86 participating libraries, and several additional libraries are in the onboarding process. FMI recently launched an academic lender-only pilot program with Northern Illinois University, adding 1.3 million items to the collection. Miller shared that FMI focuses on Illinois resources only and does not replace a library's OCLC account, but may represent an additional or alternative solution for borrowing and lending. Hovanec reported that the LaGrange Public Library District recently joined FMI as the only SWAN library in the program. Heath announced that a new fee formula will soon be in place to address a more sustainable and equitable model.

9. Legislative Update

Filapek reported that Illinois Public Act 104-0036 was signed into law in August, authorizing Illinois public libraries and library districts to bill nonresident fees quarterly or biannually. Also highlighted were the ILA Library Legislative Meetups scheduled for November 18 and 19 and December 2 and 3 in various locations within the state. Filapek encouraged committee members to attend one of the meetups as an opportunity to network with local legislators and library representatives. Harris shared an update on federal funding and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). On July 31, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved its 2026 fiscal year spending bill, which included nearly full IMLS funding. Also, the House Appropriations Committee similarly endorsed a budget providing IMLS funding. The Museum and Library Services Act (MLSA), which is renewed by Congress every five years, is up for renewal on October 1, 2025. The Illinois Library Association’s Public Policy Committee (PPC), as reported by Harris, at their recent meeting, discussed several policy proposals, one of which requires public library trustees to complete training. Currently, there is no training requirement in place. The Public Policy Committee will bring three priorities to the ILA Executive Board for approval.

10. New Business

10.1. Current State of Resource Sharing

During this part of the agenda, committee members discussed the current state of resource sharing at their libraries. Several members shared notable changes in circulation patterns, such as the increase in electronic materials, especially audiobooks, and also in print materials. Filapek stated that RAILS sees this trend with increasing delivery numbers. Ryan and Hovanec are running out of space at their libraries for physical holdings and rely on e-resources to

expand the collection. Dr. Barnett said that Calumet Park School District 132 relies heavily on e-resources, but does not have an extensive collection. Henning and Gasca discussed a trend in students asking for print materials rather than e-books. The group discussed the social expectations of getting items delivered much quicker through platforms like Amazon and how that relates to library patrons. Another discussion point focused on interlibrary loan with challenges and staffing. Lastly, Gasca and Hovanec talked about lending materials specifically for book clubs. Hovanec highlighted that the LaGrange Public Library District has a procedural outline on book clubs on their website, which she recommended for review.

11. Meeting Recap and Agenda Building for the Next RAILS Board Resource Sharing Committee Meeting on December 8, 2025

The December meeting agenda will include an update on Find More Illinois and, if available, data from the academic library survey. A delivery or a deals and discounts update will also be on the agenda. Hovanec requested information on which public libraries utilize the new non-resident payment option law.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 am.