

---

## RAILS Bylaws – Section C – E

### **C. Nominations**

1. Each year, the President of the System Board will appoint a Nominating Committee that selects and confirms candidates for election to the System Board. The committee shall be comprised of no less than five individuals. Of these individuals, no more than the Chair of the Committee and one other Director shall be appointed to the committee from the sitting Board. All other committee members shall be appointed from general RAILS membership. No Nominating Committee Member may be slated for election to the System Board.
2. The Nominating Committee shall make every effort to recruit a diverse, equitable and inclusive roster of candidates for the RAILS board so that the board will truly represent, as much as possible, the diverse membership of RAILS libraries and their communities. The call for nominations will be publicized to the Members of the System and any Member may propose names for the Nominating Committee's consideration
3. Further nomination may be made upon written petitions of ten (10) Member Libraries represented by the type of seat on the System Board to be filled. Such petitions, accompanied by written acceptance of the nominee, must be filed with the System Board Secretary, who will convey the nominations to the Chair of the Nominating Committee. Timing of such petition will be appropriately publicized.
4. No individual may be a candidate for more than one Board seat in a specific election. No individual may hold two RAILS board seats simultaneously.
5. An individual may not serve on the RAILS board if the individual's election or appointment to the board would result in there being on the board at the same time two individuals who are employed by and/or on the governing board of the same member library. If two candidates from the same member library both receive enough votes to be seated on the board in the same election, the candidate with the lowest number of votes between the two candidates will be disqualified and the candidate with the highest number of votes between the two candidates will be seated on the board.

### **D. Election of Directors**

1. The Nominating Committee will determine the design and the timetable for the distribution and return of ballots.

- 
2. Each Member library shall receive one ballot with all the names of the candidates with instructions for casting the ballot. The individual designated by the Member will cast the ballot.
  3. When the votes are tallied, the candidate(s) receiving the highest number of votes in his/her category is elected to the vacant seat(s). In case of a tie, the seat holder will be decided by a flip of the coin.

**E. Term**

The term of office of Directors shall be three years, but no Director shall serve more than a total of six years unless two years have elapsed since his/her sixth year of service. The terms of office of one-third of the Directors shall expire each year. The term of office begins with the first Board meeting after the start of the fiscal year.