
MINUTES

RAILS BOARD CONSORTIA COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, April 20, 2026 | 10:00 a.m.

RAILS Burr Ridge and Videoconference Sites

125 Tower Drive, Burr Ridge, IL 6057 | 630.734.5000

1. Welcome and Call to Order
Vancina called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Roll Call of Members
RAILS Burr Ridge: Elizabeth Clarage (CARLI), Rebecca Malinowski (CCS), Matt Hammermeister (Pinnacle), Michelle Krooswyk (PrairieCat), Alex Vancina (RAILS), Laura Van Cleve (SWAN)
RAILS East Peoria: Kendal Orrison (RSA)
Sterling Public Library: Jennifer Slaney (RRLC)
A quorum was present.
3. Recognition of Guests and Announcements
Guests in attendance at RAILS Burr Ridge: Alice Grabowski (designated notetaker), Monica Harris, Mark Hatch, Mary Kate Murray, Anne Slaughter, Kortni Springer, Maggie Thomann
Guests at East Peoria: Antony Deter
Guests via Zoom: Janette Derucki, Larisa Good (10:16 am), Megan Gove, Grant Halter (10:05 am), Leila Heath, Ryan Hebel, Barb Miller
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 Minutes of January 26, 2026
Clarage moved and Malinowski seconded the approval of the consent agenda as presented.
The motion was unanimously approved.
6. Reports

6.1. Chair Report

No report is available at this time.

6.2. Consortia Report

There were no comments on the Consortia report as presented in the meeting packet.

6.3. RAILS Reports

Slaughter stated that Strategic Planning survey responses are due on April 22, 2026. A thank you was expressed to consortia staff for following up with feedback on the cataloging guidance documents and training needs discussed at the previous meeting. Harris attended the International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC) conference.

6.4 Resource Sharing Committee Report

Harris stated the Resource Sharing Committee Report highlighted some legislative updates, universal services survey for community colleges, information on new L2 onboarding handout, and the eRead Palace Project update.

7. Unfinished Business

7.1. Updates on legislation and funding

Harris reported the United States Department of Justice issued an interim final rule that extends all Digital Accessibility compliance deadlines by one year. Legislation on the amendment to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, Books Save lives Act of 2026, the Right to Read Act, and Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) funding were highlighted. Illinois House Bills on the proposed increase in library system grants, the public library per capita grants, and the school district grants plus the Digital Library Protection Act both passed unanimously bipartisan in the House.

7.2. Use of Artificial Intelligence

Slaughter said the RAILS staff early testing of an AI platform is currently in progress to determine training protocols and ensure data protection. Consortia are welcome to share about issues they've encountered, protections in place, communication with vendors around library records confidentiality, and AI best practices.

8. New Business

8.1. Approval of the RAILS Board Consortia Committee Meeting Schedule for FY2027

Discussion took place on the possibility of moving future meetings to a different Monday of the month. Additional review will occur to determine the best fit for FY2027. A new motion was proposed:

Approval for the July 2026 meeting on July 13, 2026, at 10 a.m. and bring back FY2027 schedule to the committee in July.

Hammermeister moved, and Krooswyk seconded the approval of the RAILS Board Consortia Committee Meeting on July 13, 2026, at 10 a.m. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

8.2. Approval of the Consortial Delivery Data Working Group

Halter presented the details of the Consortial Delivery Data Working Group, explaining the interest in using consortium ILS transit data to obtain delivery counts. Due to the scale and complexity of the environment, more information and insights on the consortia and libraries' processes, policies, and reporting methods would provide a better understanding of requirements and considerations before committing to potentially replacing the physical count.

The charge directs the development of recommended strategies for reporting standardized transit data.

Malinowski moved, and Hammermeister seconded the approval of the RAILS Board Consortial Delivery Data Working Group as presented. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

8.3. Community College Survey Results

Durecki shared the RAILS Board Universal Service Committee's work on the Community College Survey. The survey was conducted to better understand how community colleges currently serve their residents within districts that include residents not taxed for public library services. The results showed most community colleges offer district resident library cards, but there is minimal tracking and outreach to residents, intergovernmental agreements are not common, and public and academic library services are designed to address notably different needs.

9. Meeting Recap and Agenda Building for the next RAILS Board Consortia Committee Meeting
The next Consortia Committee meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday, July 13, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

An email discussion list for all Consortial staff was suggested. Additional ways to connect consortia staff were discussed.

A thank you was given to Vancina for his leadership, insight, and years of service to the Consortia Committee.

10. Adjournment

Vancina adjourned the meeting at 10:49 a.m.