



RAILS Board Committee Reports

September 25, 2026

Advocacy Committee report - Chair Emily Porter

The committee met on August 20, 2026. The next meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2026.

Gretchen Neidhardt from Chicago Area Archivists on NARA (National Archives and Records Administration) reported on the advocacy needs for the Chicago/Great Lakes Closure. The potential impact this closure will have on the population was discussed along with future advocacy efforts. Janette Derucki reviewed the RAILS statement on School Library Programs Staffed by Licensed School Librarians. Suggestions were made regarding revisions to be presented to the committee in October. The FY 2027 meeting schedule was approved, and the Committee charge was reviewed. Harris provided information on the status of the e-rate program, Senate Bill 4925 on book banning, ALA Annual reports on legislation and Intellectual Freedom, Illinois Jury Act & the Jury Commission Act Public Act 104-0683, and the Public Act 104-0808 for the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. Marek shared on AISLE advocacy and announced a session at the upcoming AISLE conference in November called "Advocacy for Introverts."

Consortia Committee Report – Chair Megan Gove

The Consortia Committee will meet on November 9, 2026.

The Consortial Delivery Data Working Group met on Monday, August 24, 2026, with the next meeting scheduled for Monday, October 26, 2026. The group reviewed standard LLSAP policy documentation, including item status assumptions, related policies, and the effects of items not recorded in the ILS. Members agreed on the reporting format and will gather data to share at the next meeting.

Executive Committee Report – Chair Catherine Yanikoski

No meetings are scheduled.

Nominating Committee Report – Chair Gwen Gregory

No meetings are scheduled.

Policy Committee Report – Chair Amanda Kowalcze

The Policy Committee will next meet on September 23, 2026.



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Resource Sharing Committee Report – Chair Gwen Gregory

The committee met on September 14, 2026. The next meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2026.

New committee members were introduced and welcomed. Barb Miller, Consortial Services Supervisor, gave an overview of Find More Illinois (FMI). The committee discussed library resource sharing policies; specifically, the presence of item-level restrictions on certain materials and procedures regarding lost items through reciprocal borrowing and interlibrary loan lending. Filapek introduced previous committee priorities regarding resource sharing, such as investigating best practices, identifying barriers, locating cost savings, and continuing work for Find More Illinois. The committee discussed how to promote various options for resource sharing to library staff and patrons.

Universal Service Committee Report – Jennifer Cutshall

The Universal Service Committee will next meet on October 2, 2026.