

ILA Public Policy Committee Notes

February 5, 2024

Aaron Skog, note taker

Call to order and roll call - Kyla, Aaron

Voting Members

Present

Kyla Waltermire – Mississippi Valley District Library (CHAIR)

Mike Driskell - Arlington Heights Memorial Library

John Kokoris – Hinsdale Public Library

Laura Long – East Moline Public Library

Jamie Paicely, Flossmoor Public Library

Tana Petrov - Fountaindale Public Library District

Donna Schaal – Argenta-Oreana Public Library District

Aaron Skog – System Wide Automated Network

Tom Stagg - Alpha Park Public Library District

Nikeda Webb – Matteson Public Library

Tana Petrov - Fountaindale Public Library District

Donna Schaal (arrived late 10:30 a.m.)

Absent

Anna Karwowska - Winnetka-Northfield Public Library District

Ex-officio Members

Present

Derek Blaida – ILA Legislative Consultant

Amy Byers – Chatham Area Public Library District, ILA President-Elect

Monica Harris – Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS)

Lou Ann Jacobs – Association of Illinois School Library Educators (AISLE)

Ryan Johnson - O'Fallon Public Library, ILA President

Amanda McKay – Effingham Public Library, Advocacy Committee

Gail Graziani – Indian Prairie Public Library, Advocacy Committee

Ellen Popit – Illinois Heartland Library System (ILHS)

Cynthia Robinson – ILA Executive Director

Introduction of guests

Joe Filapek, RAILS

Betsy Adamowski, Wheaton Public Library, ILA Advocacy Committee

Catherine Yanikoski, Engineering Systems Inc, RAILS Board

Kate Niehoff, RAILS

Dan Bostrom, RAILS

Tina Hubert, Six Mile Regional Library District

Review agenda for changes and additions

Moved with no changes

Approve 2023-12-4 and 2024-1-8 minutes

Moved, Mike

Seconded, Jamie

No corrections, approved both sets of minutes

Advocacy update

Gail Graziani shared that the ILA Advocacy Committee reviewed its tool kit and it was updated.

AISLE update

Lou Ann Jacobs shared the AISLE Certification task force met via Zoom with a multi-year plan to raise awareness with the Illinois legislature to require certification in schools. The school requirement to comply with the book bans is starting to impact districts that decide to not comply with the law.

Lou Ann expressed concern that the school not complying with the requirement is not being tracked by the ISL or other agencies. Monica Harris shared that as the year progresses more information on

The Act will impact the public library per capita grants, but school grants will be impacted later in the 2024 year.

CARLI update

Elizabeth Clarage, CARLI, shared that the academic grant program went live last week Friday, February 2nd.

ILA Executive Board update

Amy Byers summed the actions to-date were the candidates for the board, which has new procedures approved. ALA 2024 LibLearnX conference report was shared by the executive committee representative.

[ALA Council Report - Illinois Library Association \(ila.org\)](https://ila.org)

Illinois State Library update

(absent)

Intellectual Freedom update

(absent)

Library Systems updates

Ellen Popit, Illinois Heartland Library Association, shared that IHLS will hold its annual member day, with 365 registered to attend. Ellen shared one member library has struggled with its compliance with the new act for book bans, but ultimately did approve the required.

RAILS has its My Library grants closing February 7th. The RAILS member update is scheduled on February 14th. Efforts on its digital equity plan and broadband for libraries are underway with IHLS and RAILS partners. See Broadband for Libraries website: [Home | Broadband for Libraries](#)

Federal update

Cyndi Robinson shared the Federal Affordability Connectivity Program (ACP) will be ending so 23 million families will be impacted. ALA has issued a call to action: [Tell Congress: Don't Disconnect US \(oneclickpolitics.global.ssl.fastly.net\)](https://oneclickpolitics.global.ssl.fastly.net)

State update

Derek detailed to the PPC the Illinois legislative calendar that has Friday, February 9, 2024 as the deadline for bill filing, so it will be busy after the deadline to examine the bills. The governor will give his FY25 budget address to the houses, and the initial analysis at this stage is unclear what this budget looks like from a big picture standpoint.

Updates on legislative proposals: 2023-2024 approved legislative agenda items

Raise competitive bidding

SB2787 bill scheduled to go to committee that raised library bid thresholds. Derek is recommending libraries review and sign on the witness slip, which ILA will request action from members.

[Illinois General Assembly - SB2787Witness Slips \(ilga.gov\)](https://ilga.gov)

Acquisition of treasurer bonds for libraries in Illinois

HB4224 is in committee. Follow on ILA bill track: [IL HB4224 | BillTrack50](#)

Equitable Access to Electronic Literacy Materials Act

HB4258 Library-publisher contracts, aka, “electronic access bill” has received a rebuttal from a Washington DC law firm that challenges the constitutionality of the bill. The bill is going to receive a lot of focus over this next year.

[IL HB4258 | BillTrack50](#)

TABLED: 2022-2023 outstanding legislative agenda items

- Amend the Local Records Act to Streamline Disposal of Records
- General fund flexibility

Possible OMA revisions

- Remote meeting attendance legislation
- OMA challenges - IML meeting on 2/6

Derek expressed doubt that OMA will be substantially revised during this legislative session.

Published notices - costs, availability of newspapers, etc.

RAILS has a survey prepared to go out this week and the data should be available next month.

New business

HB 4567 - Amendment to Criminal Code - threats to public officials, including librarians

HB4567 is a bill that seeks to insert library employees into criminal code, placing library staff in a public class that experience threats. The new speaker of the house has avoided

[Illinois General Assembly - Bill Status for HB4567 \(ilga.gov\)](#)

Unemployment Insurance Act amendment - reporting independent contractors

Ancel Glink memo for RAILS

Monica shared that conversations with the law firm Ancel Glink resulted in many questions due to a lack of legal precedent. Derek noted this is for unemployment fraud and no interest groups are opposing this. The administrative load on libraries and other forms of government are of concern, as well as concerns with correct compliance. Derek noted the penalty under this revision is low. Derek also noted other units of government have not raised concerns with this issue.

[RAILS - Memo Independent Contractor Reporting Requirements 4879-0355-7020 v.3_1 \(1\).pdf - Google Drive](#)

Workplace privacy-monitoring

SB0173 Bill impacts employers that engage in workplace monitoring, with requirements to inform employees that tracking mechanisms and employees will need to acknowledge this. This should remain on the PPC watchlist.

[Illinois General Assembly - Bill Status for SB0173 \(ilga.gov\)](#)

BillTrack50 - Bill tracker on ILA website

ILA has bill monitoring on its legislative issues that will be monitored and updated via its Bill Monitoring page: [Bill Monitoring - Illinois Library Association \(ila.org\)](#)

2024-2025 PPC Chair

The next chair will be appointed by the ILA chair Amy Byers. If there is interest as chair, reach out to Kyla or Amy! Others on PPC that are interested in other ILA committees, please contact Cyndi Robinson.

[Committees - Illinois Library Association \(ila.org\)](#)