



Illinois Heartland Library System

MEMO TO: IHLS Board of Directors
FROM: Karen Bounds, IHLS Board President
DATE: August 7, 2023
RE: Open Meetings Act Compliance

At our July 25, 2023, board meeting, we discussed how our board continues to operate in a post-COVID meeting environment. While the bulk of the discussion will occur at Policy and Membership and Executive Committee meetings, it is important that all board members understand the direction we must go as a board to be legally compliant.

The research presented below was shared with the Policy and Membership Committee as part of their August 7, 2023, meeting packet. It represents our legal interpretation and the steps needed to move forward. Following conversations with our colleagues at the Illinois State Library, we are confident that a majority of our board in attendance for meetings at one of the IHLS hubs or other public buildings is required to retain compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

IHLS staff will work to establish additional meeting locations based on the location of our home libraries. The Executive Committee will evaluate the survey responses and let you know. Your participation in this survey is much appreciated. For this reason, I encourage you to respond to the IHLS Board Meeting Location survey sent out last week. For the August 22, 2023, meeting, we need at least 8 of our 15 board members to attend the meeting at one of the IHLS hubs or other public locations identified by IHLS staff. Please consider attendance in a physical location.

Thank you for your work on behalf of our 521 member libraries and for ensuring our board meets following OMA guidance.

IMAGINING TOMORROW ~ DELIVERING POSSIBILITIES TODAY!
