MOBIUS Board Meeting Minutes

MOBIUS
12/19/2025 10:00 AMCST
@ In Person: 2511 Broadway Bluffs, Ste. 101 & on Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81973176913?pwd=AMS2IEuMZbGQeaUU9iSqwiXe2SbPFi.1

Attendance

Absent:
Members: Donna Bacon, Brandy Brady, Maegan Bragg, Sarah Brown, Janet Caruthers, Emily Jaycox, Kim Kietzman, Jill Mahoney, David Morris, Maud Mundava, Jennifer Nutefall, Samantha Perkins, Sarah Smith, Kara Whatley

I. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.

II. Adoption of the Agenda

Sarah Smith motioned to adopt the agenda. Samantha Perkins seconded.

MOBIUS Agenda, 12-19-25.docx

III. Approval of the October 17 Meeting

Sarah Brown motioned to adopt the minutes from the October 17th meeting. Kara Whatley seconded.

MOBIUS Board Meeting Minutes October 17 2025.pdf

IV. Audit Presentation (Presenters: Adrienne Findley, Evers & Company)

The auditor reports everything went smoothly with the preparation of the report. The auditor points out the letter included that states their opinion on the audit. They have an unmodified opinion, also known as a clean opinion, which is the best opinion you can have on an audit. The auditor goes over the audit (attached) in detail. Some items mentioned are:

- Total assets have increased from 2024 to 2025 by approx. $200,00-$300,000.
- Prepaid expenses increased by approx. $407,000 from the previous year.
- Liabilities have increased by about $160,000 (lease liability).
- Statement of activities-- contingency fund, operating fund, and reserve fund. There was a net loss $5,986 during 2025. The largest revenues MOBIUS has are membership fees and electronic resource reimbursements.
- Net cash flow decreased $489,000 between 2024 and 2025.
- Audit suggestions--recommend to deposit checks in a timely manner (within a few days) rather than held for weeks.

MOBIUS final audit report 6-30-25.pdf

MOBIUS final audit report with letters 6-30-25.pdf

V. Treasurer's Report

Sarah Brown presented the Treasurer's report, focusing on our investment accounts. We have reports through November 30, 2025. Our investment accounts are at $1,646,000. November had an increase of about $7,500 and in October was about $14,000. Since July, we have added about $65,000 to our investment account.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Bylaws (Kim)

At their last meeting, the Bylaws committee was asked by the Finance committee to look at some changes in membership. The Bylaws Committee had concerns about the proposal, detailed in the attached document. The board discussed the concerns. Sarah Brown suggested using the listening sessions as a way to gauge membership sentiment towards these changes before asking the Bylaws committee to move forward with a significant amount of work. David Morris explains he plans to write a memorandum detailing financial considerations the consortium would need to take into account. He also mentions the idea of a tiered membership is in the strategic plan. He will send some information out and we can revisit this topic again as a board when we meet in January.

Affiliate Members Bylaws memo-1.docx

B. Circulation and Courier (Jennifer)

Jennifer was unable to attend the last meeting and does not have a report at this time.

C. Digitization (Emily)

Emily Jaycox reports the Digitization Committee reached out to see if Hyku was compatible with DPLA. There were some settings that needed to be implemented and those have been completed by Notch 8.

D. E-Resources (Maud)

The committee is reviewing how to best support membership with digital accessibility and compliance. A toolkit was created and they are still working in it. Maud also mentioned having a panel or forum where members could share questions or concerns about compliance. Also discussed was the possibility to have another committee on AI Issues--whether this should stay with E-Resources or another committee should be formed.

E. Professional Development (Brandy)

The committee is working on awarding grants. Directors have requested more training on FOLIO, as well as training on setting up EDS. Sarah Brown suggested having an EBSCO representative at the trainings.

F. Cataloging (Jill)

The committee has been working on the maintenance of empty instances. Truman has been working on a large weeding project and has created documentation on how to treat local instance records with no holdings attached and offered to share that. The format facet for ebooks in OpenRs--Vivian has submitted a ticket, which is now an enhancement request to determine whether filtering by format in Open Rs can be resolved with a code change. Benedictine asked the cataloging committee for guidance on government documents--whether they could replace the 856 URL at the time of creation with the PURL on records that have been previously cataloged by other libraries and what to do about records dated after 2008, where both the print and e-holdings are attached to the same record. The committee discussed the responses from the Peer Mentorship survey.

G. FOLIO and OpenRS Enhancements (Samantha)

The committee launched the enhancement request form and the Trello tracking board. They made subcommittees based on specialties and look at the submissions to determine if a request should be brought to the full committee. If so, the full committee discusses whether the request is planned in a future update, something we need to push for, etc. They hosted the open hours and showed the Trello board.

FOLIO and OpenRS Enhancements Committee Report December 2025.pdf

VII. Conversation with Gar Sydnor and Harry Kaplanian from EBSCO

This was to discuss the failure of the Sunflower release. Gar said not enough testing was done to identify problems. He said he isn't making excuses, there were bugs they should have caught before the release. One of main problems was that any user who had changed their username, that change was not automatically updated in the central tenet and caused users to not be able to log in. Harry adds that MCO and the implementation team are meeting daily and are working through any issues that come up during testing. The production environment is still available so data can be extracted if libraries did work during the failed upgrade. Harry explains one difficulty is that EBSCO doesn't actually have access to user information. When they test, they have to create accounts and those may not be exactly like accounts that users have.

Downtime for the migration will be the same as last time. Harry said he would look into doing the migration on a weekend and will check to see if LOCATE will be affected by the upgrade. Donna is hesitant about migrating on a weekend because it will require library staff to be trying to log in.

Board members expressed to EBSCO the low trust level MOBIUS membership has with EBSCO right now. Samantha Perkins suggested to EBSCO the idea of having an open discussion that membership can attend with EBSCO. David Morris read EBSCO an email from an unhappy MOBIUS library to express the sentiment the membership has with EBSCO right now. Members do not feel FOLIO is getting better and we want senior leadership at EBSCO to know this as it is causing reputational damage for the consortium.

Kara Whatley asked for the apology and explanation from Gar to be be given in a format the rest of the membership can access. A video message was suggested. Harry said he would like more open communication between EBSCO directly with the member libraries and ways that could be facilitated. Donna mentioned the open hours Zoom calls. Harry suggested having a live communication channel during the migration.

Samantha Perkins asked if there was an estimated date for the migration. Harry said they need a little more time before committing to a date.

VIII. Old Business

A. Shared Print and Research Data Working Groups (David)

David released a call for participation in these groups. He will put out another call on Monday to garner more interest.

IX. New Business

A. Arkansas Trip (Donna and Kara)

Donna Bacon, Steve Strohl, David Morris and Kara Whatley went to Arkansas for meetings with the University of Arkansas. Kara reports the meeting went very well and they had a lot of

questions about resource sharing and the courier. They asked Donna for a quote for membership. Donna will prepare a quote and let the Finance Committee review before sending to Univ of Arkansas.
Jennifer asked about the logistics of bringing on new members when we are also actively exploring making changes to the assessment model. Samantha said it would not be practical to change everyone at once. There may be a new model for new members and we will gradually adjust current members to fit the new model. Jennifer also asked how honest we are being with potential members about the problems with OpenRS. Donna said there are two main issues with OpenRs-the looping problem and there is a solution for that coming soon, the problem with clustering on the catalog, which has an update coming in early January. Kara said she has told everyone she has communicated with that there are growing problems with OpenRS and we want to solve them before we bring new members on.

B. MOBIUS Conference (Donna)

We need to make a decision about where to have the conference. It will not work out to have the conference at the Univ of MO because they are doing renovations and don't have space. We lost our dates at the Wyndham on June 1 and June 2. The only dates the Wyndham had available where June 29 and 30th, which is during ALA, so those dates will not work. The Broadway has two floors and people would have to shuffle up and down stairs and the elevator. Another issue is parking. Stony Creek in Kansas City is booked up because of the World Cup, the Doubletree in Chesterfield has our dates open. The Broadway has June 8 and 9. It was agreed that we would keep the conference in Columbia at the Broadway on June 8 and 9th.

C. Committee Chairs Meeting (David)

David will send out an email with a Doodle to try to find a date.

D. Listening Sessions on Assessment Models (Sarah B. and Sarah S.)

Two meetings will be held simultaneously--one for directors and the other for anyone. Sarah Smith will host at STLCC on February 20th. Donna will schedule other listening sessions in March around the state. The purpose of the listening sessions is to talk about the assessment model and pitch the new model and explain why.

E. Meeting in January (David)

David and Samantha would like to have a special board meeting in January to touch base. We will set up a meeting for January 23rd. We would like at least one person from EBSCO there.

X. Membership Update

No update.

XI. Executive Director's Report

Wichita State would like to go live on OpenRS before their next semester starts. Donna and Steve explained to them the two issues with OpenRS. They will go live on January 20th. Eric Deatherage from Pittsburg State asked Donna to visit with Kansas libraries and give a presentation about MOBIUS. She is visiting with Pitt St, KU, K State, Fort Hayes, Emporia and Washburn on February 6th. Pitt St asked for a quote to join our FOLIO tenet and Open Rs, even though they are with Sierra for 3 more years.

XII. State Librarian's Report

Janet Caruthers reports that they received notification in early January they could put in a request to receive 25% of the previous year's IMLS award, which would be $834,000. They can't award the full amount until they have a full budget. The state library has allocated $20,000 for MOBIUS. We need ideas on how to use the money--can not be used for food, swag, general operations. It could be used for keynote speakers, help to pay for databases. Samantha asked if there was a written out list of things that qualify. Janet will send that to the board.

XIII. Other Business

None.

XIV. Adjourn Meeting

David moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:30PM. Samantha Perkins seconded.