



220 W. 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave.  
Coal Valley, IL 61240  
877-542-7257  
support.prairiecat.info

## **PrairieCat Engagement Committee Minutes August 21, 2025**

The Committee met from 10:00 am to 11:00 am via Zoom. Registration link: <https://prairiecat-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/L4p8ln2LRvSeL6O2uj1xCw>

Charge: The Engagement Committee works to actively engage members at all levels, to create connections and advance the organization through activities like PrairieCat's annual conference PUG Day, peer networking opportunities, and more.

Meeting Frequency: Bi-monthly meetings in even-numbered months. August, October, February, April, June. 3rd Thursdays at 10 am via Zoom.

### **1. Welcome and introductions**

Present: Elizabeth Smith (PrairieCat), Shelby O'Hara (PrairieCat), Karrah Kuykendall (RP), Chelsey Knippel (PrairieCat), Melissa Landis (PrairieCat), Brianna Rodgers (MX), Victoria Blackmer (CV),

Absent: Katelynn Clark (FR), Amy Fry (SL), Magda Bonny (PrairieCat), Kathy Peschang (RD), Dana Fine (PR), Austin Nord (WO)

### **2. Upcoming Member Events**

Smith (PrairieCat) stated that there is an upcoming Back-To-School event on September 9<sup>th</sup>. We will be giving an update on PrairieCat with RAILS giving a brief overview of their resources for schools. PUG Day will be held on September 26, 2025. PrairieCat has also scheduled a Demco Book Doctor Workshop on June 10, 2026, at Moline Public Library. This will be a full day workshop from 10am-2pm. There will be a limited number of attendees, 40-50. A save the date will be sent out later this fall.

### **3. Traveling Scrapbook Program – Update**

Smith (PrairieCat) stated that the traveling scrapbook is slowly making its way around to the libraries that signed up. The scrapbook will be displayed at PUG Day, however, because it's

taking longer to circulate among libraries, we will send it back out after PUG Day and display it at the in-person Delegates Assembly meeting in April 2026.

#### 4. PUG Day 2025

##### 4.1. Review final schedule – poster sessions

Smith (PrairieCat) reviewed the final schedule for PUG Day 2025. The first round of mini sessions has the full seven sessions. The second round of mini sessions will only have six sessions. There have been five poster sessions submitted which will be displayed. We will also have tables for RAILS, Innovative and PrairieCat that will be informative and have giveaways.

Smith shared the floor plan of the Bend XPO, stating there will likely be a curtain that divides the main hall. The general session and welcome presentation will be held in room X, which can seat 360 people in theater style. After discussion, the Committee decided to use a classroom setup for most breakout rooms and keeping theater style in room X due to capacity concerns.

The Committee discussed room assignments for various sessions, focusing on room X. It was decided to keep RAILS in room X for both his general session and his Board Strengthening presentation. It was agreed to place Michelle Krooswyk's session on "Take Care: A Practical Guide to Workplace Resilience" in room X due to its broad appeal to attendees. Smith asked which breakout sessions should be held in room X. The Committee determined that the mental health topics would be the best sessions for that room.

##### 4.2. Review draft program

Smith (PrairieCat) shared the printed program for PUG Day. This will be placed in the folder along with venue details, a map and a survey link. Smith also plans to include a one-page "PrairieCat at a Glance" document.

##### 4.3. Day of volunteers

Smith (PrairieCat) reminded the Committee that additional help on the morning of PUG Day would be greatly appreciated. Anyone who is able to arrive early and help greet and direct attendees would be helpful.



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4.4. Review final event survey - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8HMGJ7B>

Smith (PrairieCat) went over the survey for PUG Day, which includes questions about overall rating, relevance, session mix and specific feedback.

5. Discuss next meeting date

Smith (PrairieCat) discussed the next meeting has been scheduled for October 16<sup>th</sup>. However, due to the ILA conference that day, she suggested moving the next Engagement Committee meeting from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October. The Committee agreed to move the meeting to October 23, 2025.

**Next meeting - Thursday, October 23, 2025 10:00 am via Zoom**