

### **COMMUTER RAIL BOARD MEMBER DUTIES**

The Commuter Rail Board consists of 11 directors, including generally one director appointed by the Chairman of each of the 6 County Boards with the advice and consent of the respective County Board and shall reside in such County. 70 ILCS 3615/3B.02(b). The mayor of Chicago and suburban cook county commissioners also appoint members.

The director's term shall be 4 years. 70 ILCS 3615/3B.03. Compensation is \$15,000 annually. 70 ILCS 3615/3B.06. Under Section 2.20 of the RTA Act, directors, at no additional compensation, also serve as directors of a separate public corporation, known as the Northeast Illinois Regional Commuter Railroad Corporation (aka "NIRCRC"), which is Metra's operating corporation.

No director, while serving as such, shall be an officer, a member of the board of directors or trustee or an employee of any transportation agency, or be an employee of the State of Illinois or any department or agency thereof, or of any county, municipality, or any other unit of local government or receive any compensation from any elected or appointed office under the Constitution and laws of Illinois. 70 ILCS 3615/3B.02(c).

The Board provides their collective input to senior management in conjunction with receiving operational reports for the 6-county region covered by the RTA. The director's duties include appointing an Executive Director, 70 ILCS 3615/3B.05, and attending monthly meetings. 70 ILCS 3615/3B.07.

- Board Meetings are held monthly, typically on Wednesdays for about 2-4 hours
  - Agenda topics include
    - Review and approval of annual budget and ability to borrow
    - Setting fare policies
    - Review and approval of 5-year capital plan and 2-year financial plan
    - Review and approval of various procurement contracts at different financial thresholds
    - Settle lawsuits and claims at certain thresholds
- Board Members may be asked to join the Finance Committee or temporary working groups to review specific issues with senior officials. These will take on additional time responsibilities as warranted.
- Board members are encouraged to attend the public hearing for the annual budget in their jurisdiction with staff.
- Board Members must comply with:
  - the Illinois Open Meetings Act
  - Illinois Freedom of Information Act
  - Illinois State Officials and Employees Ethics Acts (annual training)