

## SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN RAIL TRANSIT COMMISSION

1 p.m. on Wednesday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005

Belleville Village Hall \* 24 West Main Street \* Belleville, Wisconsin 53508

- 1) **The Chair, Bob Hoesly, called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.**
- 2) **Roll Call:**

SCWRTC (July 2005)				
ROBERT	HOESLY	Green	Chair	present
JUDY	OLSON	Dane	Secretary	
HARVEY	KUBLY	Green	Treasurer	present
Chris	Klar	Dane		
OSCAR	OLSON	Green		present
PAUL	ZIEHLI	Dane	Vice Chair	present

**Others present for all or part of the meeting:** Joni Graves (SWWRPC Transportation planner / SCWRTC staff); Steve Johnson (DNR); Frank Huntington, Roger Larson, Vicki Schaefer (WisDOT).

- 3) **Motion to accept proof of public notice posted by Graves / Zieli / Olson / Motion passed unanimously.**
- 4) **Motion to approve the Agenda / Olson / Zieli / Motion passed unanimously.**
- 5) **Approval of the Minutes from the Commission's July 2005 meeting, prepared by Graves / Zieli / Olson / Motion passed unanimously.**

### Reports

- 6) **Treasurer's Report / Consideration of Bills – Harvey Kubly**
  - a. Kubly provided a report on the status of accounts; no bills have been received to-date. **Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, as presented / Kubly / Olson / Motion passed unanimously.**
  - b. He reported that since the last meeting, he had looked at the 2003 Audit, found it acceptable, and recommended that the Commission approve it. **Motion to approve the 2003 Audit, prepared by Johnson Block / Kubly / Ziehli / Motion passed unanimously.**
  - c. Johnson Block is working on the **2004 Audit** and all of the information requested to-date has been provided.

### New Business

- 7) **Proposed Amendment One to the Interim Trail Use / Rail Banking Agreement (WisDOT, SCWRTC, and City of Madison) re the City's replacement of the Edgewood Ave Bridge.** Vicki Schaefer, WisDOT Schaefer explained that this is identical to the Spooner St situation in Madison; the Spooner issue had come to light when the Agreement was being written, so it was a numbered item in that Agreement. The City now plans to do the identical thing with this street and Schaefer had drafted language referencing both bridges and the City's responsibilities. The bridge is near Monroe St and Regent St near the stadium. **Motion to adopt Amendment One to the Interim Trail Use / Rail Banking Agreement (WisDOT, SCWRTC, and City of Madison) so that the City can proceed with replacement of the Edgewood Ave Bridge / Kubly / Olson / Motion passed unanimously.**
- 8) **UW Credit Union property, City of Madison – Vicki Schaefer, WisDOT**  
Schaefer explained that this goes back to when WisDOT bought the corridor and, shortly after, the City of Madison Fire Department approached WisDOT because they were planning an expansion. To the east, the Credit Union also expressed interest in an acquisition so they could build an addition and larger parking lot; they then approached WisDOT with a second, larger, proposal for a separate sale, which took longer and access restrictions were included. Both properties were sold but, 25 years later, the Credit Union did a survey and discovered that 45 feet of what everyone had understood to have been sold had actually not been conveyed. The Credit Union has since built the parking lot and has been using it for 20-some years, but the records indicate that it was never conveyed. WisDOT thought they had sold down to Randolph Ave, but WisDOT does not survey – they use legal descriptions – and some of these are not wholly accurate. Schaefer had to explain to the Credit Union that there needed to be concurrence with the City and the RTC. The area is 43' wide and, if rail service were resumed, it

would not affect this property. **Motion to approve the conveyance of property previously sold by WisDOT to the UW Credit Union, but not recorded / Ziehli / Kubly** / Discussion: Kubly asked if the Commission's attorney had reviewed it and Graves said that the information had been provided to her and she had raised no concerns / **Motion passed unanimously.**

**9) Items forwarded from the March 2005 meeting:**

- **8<sup>th</sup> St. Bridge in Monroe.** Schaefer said that WisDOT will generate a three-party Letter of Agreement, as outlined in the earlier Motion, related to the 8<sup>th</sup> St. Bridge in Monroe.

**FOLLOW-UP:** Agreement re the 8<sup>th</sup> St. Bridge in Monroe forwards to the next Agenda.

- **Funds.** Commissioner Ziehli had requested that the next Agenda include discussion and possible action related to requesting that Dane County be asked to contribute half of the costs for the Commission's operations. The group discussed the history of the Commission's funds and its requests for funding from its member counties. Kubly explained that \$209,000 of the funds held by the Commission actually belongs to Green County. Huntington explained that this money was left from rehab and acquisition money forwarded by the County for earlier rehab projects. After further discussion, there was no action.

**Other Reports & Updates**

**10) Staff Report – Joni Herren Graves**

- a. Graves asked for confirmation of the Commission's **calendar of meetings** (with the quarterly rotation, the final meeting of 2005 will be on the fourth Wednesday of October).
- b. She reported that she is working with Steve Ehlbeck, Jane Addams Trail, to resolve the **Illinois Tax Issues** and will continue to track the plans for **iDOT re USH 20**.

**FOLLOW-UP:** Staff will continue to track the Illinois Tax Issues and iDOT USH 20.

**11) WisDOT Updates – Frank Huntington**

- a. **Status of WisDOT's budget** – the budget has been approved with an increase for the freight rail program.
- b. **Statewide activity updates.** With the new budget, WisDOT will be able to take on more projects and WSOR hopes to have those projects be in southern Wisconsin.
- c. **Encroachment issues** – He explained that this doesn't really impact this line, but that on the active rail corridors there are encroachment issues. Schaefer added that, on this line, the DNR is responsible for addressing any encroachments in the City of Madison and elsewhere along the trail.

**12) DNR Update – Dana White Quam**

White Quam was not able to attend, but Steve Johnson, was present to represent the DNR. He explained that the DNR has some money, and some from snowmobile funds, but not nearly enough for all of the work needed. Currently, the tunnel-related projects are out for bids and they hope to get the work done before winter 2005. He said that they had decided not to go with restoring the brickwork but would use a mold. The State Historical Society has neither approved nor denied this and the DNR is hoping that all parties can work together. He noted that, unlike others, there were never doors on this tunnel. Because of the limited funds, the work on the trail will be done in segments. Adjacent to the City of Madison, the trail will be paved; further south, it will be crushed limestone. There was some discussion about the projected schedule, timeline, funds, and the need to coordinate with local communities. The Chair noted that they are seeing a lot of bike activity in New Glarus and Johnson said that trail pass sales on the Sugar River have really picked up. The Chair asked if there was anything that the Commission could do and Johnson said that what is most needed now is money. The DNR's Draft Master Plan is expected to be completed soon.

**13) Annual Election of Officers.**

The Chair asked the group's pleasure. **Motion to re-elect the current slate of officers: Robert Hoesly, Chair; Judy Olson, Secretary; Harvey Kubly, Treasurer; and Paul Ziehli, Vice Chair / Olson / Ziehi / Motion passed unanimously.**

**14) Motion to Adjourn / Kubly / Ziehli / the meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.**

*Minutes recorded by Joni Graves, SWWRPC Transportation Planner.*