

SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN RAIL TRANSIT COMMISSION

2:00 pm • Wednesday, 23 April 2008 • DNR Office, 3911 Fish Hatchery Rd, Fitchburg

AGENDA

Graves said she'd been told that Chair Robert Hoesly was ill and circulated a get-well card.

- 1) **Vice Chair Paul Ziehli called the meeting to order at 2 p.m.**
- 2) **Roll Call:** Dane Co. – Judy Olson and Paul Ziehli; Green Co. – Harvey Kubly and Oscar Olson. Others present for all or part of the meeting: Joni Graves (SWWRPC); Frank Huntington and Vicki Schaefer (WisDOT).
- 3) **Consensus action accepting Graves's proof of having given public notice for the meeting.**
- 4) **Consensus action accepting Graves's the Agenda prepared by Graves, SWWRPC.**
- 5) **Motion approving the draft Jan. 2008 Minutes, prepared by Graves / OOlson / Kubly / Passed Unanimously.**

REPORTS & COMMISSION BUSINESS

- 6) **Correspondence & Communications – NA**
- 7) **Financials / Treasurer's Report** - Harvey Kubly said that following the last meeting, he had paid bills that had been received by the Commission from legal counsel Eileen Brownlee and from SWWRPC for 2007 staff services. He distributed a copy of the Commission's quarterly financial report and said there were no new bills.
 - **Motion accepting the Treasurer's Report, as presented / JOlson / OOlson / Passed Unanimously.****Update - 2007 Audit of the Commission's Finances** – Kubly said the Audit of the Commission's 2007 finances is underway and that about a week earlier he had received a request for more information. He said that he expects it will be done in a few months.
- 8) **Illinois Tax Issues** – Graves provided an update on the status of IL taxes and responded to questions about Illinois' position and requirement that they pay, per a letter dated 29 October 1997 and signed by Brent Manning, Director of the Illinois DNR. It stated in part: "IDNR is willing to assume full responsibility for ... the payment of any taxes or assessments that thereafter may be lawfully be levied against it."
- 9) **Crossing Request from Earl Sager, Freeport, IL** – Graves read an email from Steve Ehlbeck, dated March 9th, which referenced the purpose of the request as providing access to a new house that the man would like to build and noted that the letter from the applicant had not referenced a house. Kubly suggested tabling action, pending receipt of more information regarding the use, or that the Commission approve an ag crossing only adding that he would not support access for a new house without more information. Graves said she had asked Ehlbeck if the Jane Addams Trail Commission had taken action but had not heard back. Huntington said the issues would be safety and clarification of use – whether the corridor was in use as active rail or as a trail.
 - **Motion tabling the Crossing Request from Earl Sager, Freeport, IL, pending clarification of the applicant's proposed use / Kubly / JOlson / Passed Unanimously.**
- 10) **Staff Report** – Joni Graves, SCWRTC Administrator, said she had no report other than those items on the Agenda.
- 11) **WisDOT Report** – Frank Huntington provided a brief update on rail program rehab grants, loans, and acquisitions.
- 12) **DNR Report** – Dana White-Quam, DNR Regional Park Specialist, had left a message that she had another commitment and hoped to arrive before the meeting concluded.
- 13) **Belleville Property Maintenance / Drainage Issue** – Commissioner Paul Ziehli asked that it be deferred until White-Quam arrived and, as the Agenda was nearly concluded, he recommended that the Commission authorize him, as Village President, to convey an update to the DNR and request that the DNR clean up the site.
 - **Motion that Belleville Village President Paul Ziehli contact the DNR and convey the recommendation of the Commission that the DNR clean up the site adjacent to the new church / no time frame was established / Kubly / JOlson / Passed Unanimously.**
- 14) **Adjournment.** Ziehli said he had recently learned that no action was needed as a call for adjournment can't be debated and he called the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.
 - Ziehli thanked everyone for attending and said the next meeting would be at 2pm on July 23rd.
 - *Note: White-Quam arrived at 3 p.m. and apologized that she had been at the funeral of a colleague.*