

SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN RAIL TRANSIT COMMISSION

719 Pioneer Tower • 1 University Plaza • Platteville, Wisconsin 53818
 Harvey Kubly, Chair • Commission Office Phone 608.342.1636 • Fax 608.342.1220
 MEMBER COUNTIES: DANE • GREEN

ADOPTED MINUTES

Wed. April 22nd, 2009, 2:00pm, Dane County Highway Garage, 2302 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg, WI

- 1) Harvey Kubly, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.
- 2) Roll Call / Establishment of Quorum:

Commission members present for all or part of the meeting:			
Dane	Jim Haefs-Flemming		
	Judy Olson	Secretary	
	Paul Ziehli	Vice Chair	X
Green	Harvey Kubly	Chair	X
	Oscar Olson	Treasurer	X
	Ron Wolter		X

Others present for all or part of the meeting:	
Amy Seebth	SWWRPC & SCWRTC Administrator
Frank Huntington, Vicki Schaefer	WDOT

- 3) **Certification of Public Notice** – Seebth, PRTC Administrator
- 4) **Motion approving the Agenda, prepared by Seebth- O.Olson/ Wolter – Passed Unanimously**
- 5) **Motion approving the draft Minutes from January 2009, prepared by Joni Graves (outgoing PRTC Administrator)** – Ziehli moved that mention of O. Olson’s visit to Stephenson County last November to talk with their Land Record’s Office about SCWRTC parcel ownership be added to Item 10. **Motion to approve with the noted addition: Ziehli / O.Olson / Passed Unanimously**
- 6) **Correspondence & Communications** – Seebth received email communication from Earl Sager requesting a crossing for his agricultural land near Freeport, IL.

FOLLOW-UP: Seebth will contact Sager to learn more about the requested crossing and get him on the July agenda, if appropriate.

REPORTS & COMMISSION BUSINESS

- 7) **Treasurer’s Report** – Oscar Olson, SCWRTC Treasurer, distributed copies of the Treasure’s Report and provided an overview. Reported on bills (one bill: for Q1 SWWRPC Administrator services and expenses (\$1825.27). Seebth noted that this puts the ScWRTC budget for SWWRPC series at nearly 50% and she will take care to balance the budget as possible over the rest of the year.
 - **Motion approving Treasurer’s Report - Ziehli / Wolter - Passed Unanimously**
 - **Motion approving payment of Bills – Ziehli / Wolter - Passed Unanimously**
- 8) **IL Tax Issue Update** – Seebth reported that Eileen Brownlee (SCWRTC Legal Council) wasn’t able to attend today, but sent an update saying that she has emailed Stan Yonkauski twice to establish a meeting with Illinois DNR about the issue, and has not heard from him. Huntington suggested that Brownlee make a phone call rather than email. Ziehli suggested that SCWRTC send three registered letters regarding this issue, one to the Stephenson County Board Chair, one to the DNR and one to the governor of IL. Explain what is happening and that if SCWRTC does not get a full response that they go full media on this. Kubly pointed out that if Brownlee is stymied on this, this makes it a doubly tough goal for the Commission. O. Olson pointed out the importance of acting on this quickly because the RTC is

running out of money. They cannot break another DC to continue to make payments.

- **Motion approving Seeboth to put together a history of the RTC actions on this issue to the best of her abilities, send this history to Brownlee and have Brownlee author the rest of the letter and send it registered mail to the above entities.** *Ziehli / O. Olson / Passed Unanimously.*

FOLLOW-UP: Seeboth will draft a timeline and contact Brownlee to author letter.
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- 9) **Memorial for Bob Hoesly** – Seeboth described photographs of the WSOR – Hoesly memorial provided by Ken Lucht of WSOR and read a proposal by Lucht to present a signed photograph to the Hoesly Family in conjunction with PRTC before the July PRTC meeting in Monroe.
- **Motion approving this course of action** – *Ziehli / O. Olson – Passed Unanimously.*
- 10) **SCWRTC Administrator’s Report**- Amy Seeboth, SWWRPC Transp. Planner was introduced as the new SCWRTC Administrator, and noted that Joni Graves will miss the Commission as she took on a new position Feb. 2nd to work at the UW-Madison Transportation Information Center, which is part of the Dept. of Engineering Professional Development. Graves has said that she deply enjoyed working with the Commission, Commissioners, and WisDOT and WSOR staff and hopes that she will have opportunities to continue to do so through her new role at UW-Madison. Seeboth said that she appreciates the Commission and Staff’s patience and help as she learns the ropes, and is excited to work with the RTC.
- 11) **WisDOT** – Frank Huntington provided a brief update on the status of the biannual budget process and on Stimulus funds in relation to Wisconsin Railroads. He reported that the stimulus package high speed rail seems to be moving ahead. Hopefully they will start doing work between Milwaukee and Madison this year- in 2-3 years hopefully it will be up and running. A small amount of funds are available from the federal government for freight rail. Wisconsin is not going after very much of this money – we have a potential increase of up to 30 million for these funds. There is the possibility that some of the private, class 2 carriers may get some stimulus money. Canadian Pacific will benefit some from the high speed rail money. Vicky added that WRRTC has been able to FEMA dollars for WSOR to cover a lot of the damaged infrastructure.
- 12) **DNR Report** – *No Report.*
- 13) **Motion adjourning the meeting, approximately 3:00pm:** *Ziehli / Wolter - Passed Unanimously*

Next Scheduled Quarterly Meeting: Wednesday, July 22nd, 2pm