

# PECATONICA RAIL TRANSIT COMMISSION

20 S Court Street • PO Box 262 • Platteville, Wisconsin 53818  
 MEMBER COUNTIES: GREEN • IOWA • LAFAYETTE • ROCK

1:00 PM • Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 • Green Co. Courthouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Courtroom, 1016 16<sup>th</sup> Ave • Monroe, WI

1. 1:04 PM            **Call to Order** – *Harvey Kubly, Chair*
2. Roll Call.            **Establishment of Quorum** – *Matthew Honer, Administrator*

**Commissioners present for all or part of the meeting:**

| Commissioner |                 | Position       | Present | Commissioner |                    | Position   | Present |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------------|------------|---------|
| Green        | Harvey W. Kubly | Chair          | X       | Iowa         | Charles Anderson   | Secretary  | X       |
|              | Oscar Olson     |                | X       |              | William G. Ladewig |            | X       |
|              | Ron Wolter      |                | X       |              | Ricky Rolfsmeyer   |            | Excused |
|              | Paul Beach      | Treasurer      | X       |              |                    |            |         |
| Lafayette    | Leon Wolfe      | Vice Secretary | X       | Rock         | Wayne Gustina      |            | X       |
|              | John Bartels    |                | Absent  |              | Alan Sweeney       | Vice Chair | X       |
|              | Andy Schilling  |                | Absent  |              | Terry Thomas       |            | X       |
|              | Gerald Heimann  |                |         |              |                    |            |         |

Commission achieved quorum.

**Other present for all or some of the meeting:**

- Matthew Honer, SWWRPC
- Kim Tollers - WisDOT
- Ken Lucht - WSOR

3. Action Item.            **Certification of Meeting’s Public Notice** – *Noticed by Honer*
  - *Motion to approve certification of public meeting – Ladewig/Wolfe. Passed Unanimously*
4. Action Item.            **Approval of Agenda** – *Prepared by Honer*
  - *Motion to approve agenda – Gustina/Sweeney. Passed Unanimously.*
5. Action Item.            **Approval of draft January 2018 Minutes** – *Prepared by Honer*
  - *Motion to approve draft January 2018 minutes – Thomas/Ladewig.. Passed Unanimously*
6. Updates.                **Public Comment** – *Time for public comment may be limited by the Chair*  
*No public comment.*
7. Updates.                **Announcements by Commissioners** – *Discussion may be limited by the Chair*  
*No announcements.*
8. **Action Item            Elections**

Honer stated that the Pecatonica Rail Transit Commission Charter prescribed that elections are to happen every year. Each county is entitled to an officer, making for a total of 4 Officers. In addition to holding office, the nominated and elected officers constitute the executive committee. Honer stated that he would start by looking for a chair nomination.

- *Motion to nominate Harvey Kubly to Chair – Sweeney/Ladewig. Motion to close nominations – Wolfe/Gustina. Passed Unanimously. None Opposed.*
- *Motion to nominate Alan Sweeney to Vice Chair – Ladewig/Gustina. – Passed Unanimously.*
- *Motion to nominate to Charles Anderson to Secretary – Ladewig/Sweeney. – Passed Unanimously. None Opposed*

- *Motion to nominate Paul Beach to Treasurer –Olson/Wolfe. Passed Unanimously. None Opposed.*
- *Motion to nominate Leon Wolfe to Vice Secretary – Sweeney/Ladewig. Passed Unanimously. None Opposed.*

**REPORTS & COMMISSION BUSINESS**

**9. PRTC Financial Report – Ron Wolter, PRTC Treasurer**

Wolter reported on the Checking account balance since December 31<sup>st</sup> 2017. Since 12/31/2017 there were total receipts of \$7,122.12. Total Disbursements since 12/31/2017 were \$5,288.17 bringing the total checking balance to \$124,991.22. The total checking and CD balance is \$149,991.22.

- *Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report – Wolfe/Olson., Passed Unanimously.*

Wolter reported a Q1 bill from SWWRPC for \$997.26 and a postage bills for Wolter for \$2.50 and \$2.00.

- *Motion to approve the Payment of the Bills –Anderson/Olson, Passed Unanimously.*

**10. WSOR Operation’s Report – Ken Lucht, WSOR**

Lucht reported on maintenance, projects, and capital expenditures. Lucht reported the geometry car was out on all subdivisions. The Monroe subdivision reported no serious defects. The weed car was out on the Monroe Subdivision. Lucht reported that this summer, a rail test car will be out on the entire system. Lucht stated that the Monroe subdivision usually never has serious defects. Lucht reported that the Waukesha and Prairie Subdivisions usually report the largest number of defects. Lucht reported that 4 turnouts have been updated since last year between Janesville and Brodhead. County Highway KS and Kessler Road crossings were rebuilt last year. New cantilevers where been installed over Hwy 11. The Fox Lake CWR project between Walworth and the State Line was awarded to a contractor. Rail was delivered and it will be installed before the fall of this year. In the next weeks, WSOR will provide invoice to PRTC for the project. WSOR is looking to schedule a financial presentation in July 2018. Lucht reported that the 5 corners road bridge has been completed, and thanked Green County for their support. Lucht reported that discussions regarding the state budget have started at the agencies. WSOR would like to have a discussion regarding the budget at the next PRTC meeting. Lucht stated that in prior years the PRTC has sent a letter requesting that state grant funding increase from \$12M to \$20M. Wolfe asked why the rail conditions on the Prairie and Waukesha Sub is worse, if it is due to age or use. Lucht responded that it is a combination of both. Anderson asked the length of the Monroe Sub. Lucht stated it is 33 miles. Anderson asked if traffic from the ethanol plant maintains a steady amount of traffic, Lucht confirmed that is the case. Wolter asked about the 104 crossing and stated that there is an audible maintenance issue. Lucht said it would be looked at. Olson asked about the amount of the invoice that will be coming to the Commission, Lucht stated that it is approximately \$50k.

**11. WisDOT Report – Kim Tollers, WisDOT**

Tollers had nothing to report. Kubly asked if Tollers had a large format rail system map. Tollers stated that once they move into a new office they will take map requests.

**12. Tri-County Trail Commission Report – Wolfe**

Wolfe stated that a new economic developer, Abby Haas, has started at Lafayette county. She has a new logo for the Tri-County Trail Commission. Wolfe reported that he has received a complaint regarding the dust on the trail from neighbors and the highway commissioner agreed to put down some dust retardant once the trail has been graded and improved for the year. Wolfe expects this to be done by the end of May.

**13. PRTC Administrator’s Report – Honer, PRTC Admin.**

Honer reported that he attended a meeting of the Tri-County Trail Commission on March 29<sup>th</sup>. He introduced himself and answered questions relating to the relationship between the Tri-County Trail Commission and the Pecatonica Rail Transit Commission. Honer stated that he received a bill of sale for a bridge in Clarno Township in Green County. Honer stated that he has been in contact with Ivey Construction regarding the Cheese Country Trail in Mineral Point and the recent construction of a parking lot on what appears to be Commission property. Ivey Construction has ordered a survey of the area and it should be completed within the next month. Honer sent a letter to Becky Burbach the lease of the old lumber storage facility in Darlington. Honer stated in the letter that the lease requires

the property to be maintained and that it is currently in a state of disrepair with broken windows and unsecured openings. Honer spoke with the leasee and they stated that they expect repairs to happen in June.

**14. Presentation of 2015, 2016, and 2017 Carloads from the Monroe Subdivision – Lucht, WSOR**

Lucht reported on the 2015, 2016, and 2017 Carloads of the Monroe Subdivision.

Wolfe asked where frac sand is currently being shipped. Lucht stated that in past years it has moved mostly to North Dakota but is now moving east, perhaps to Pennsylvania. Wolter asked if frac sand shipping is increasing, Lucht confirmed that is the case. Ladewig asked about the potential affects of a tariff war with China. Lucht reported that they have seen effects already regarding scrap steel and if it were to escalate, he would expect further developments. Lucht stated that a lot of beans moved on the line are locally consumed so the effects on grain might not be as expected.

**15. Adjournment**

- *Motion to adjourn at 1:48 M – Gustina/Ladewig. Passed Unanimously.:*