

# PECATONICA RAIL TRANSIT COMMISSION

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

1:00 PM • Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018 • Green Co. Courthouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Courtroom, 1016 16<sup>th</sup> Ave • Monroe, WI

1. 1:05 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:**

	<i>Commissioner</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Present</i>		<i>Commissioner</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Green</i>	<i>Harvey W. Kubly</i>	<i>Chair</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>Iowa</i>	<i>Charles Anderson</i>	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Excused</i>
	<i>Oscar Olson</i>		<i>X</i>		<i>William G. Ladewig</i>		<i>X</i>
	<i>Ron Wolter</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>X</i>		<i>Jeremy Meek</i>		<i>X</i>
<i>Lafayette</i>	<i>Leon Wolfe</i>		<i>X</i>	<i>Rock</i>	<i>Wayne Gustina</i>		<i>Excused</i>
	<i>Larry Ludlum</i>		<i>Absent</i>		<i>Alan Sweeney</i>	<i>1st Vice Chair</i>	<i>X</i>
	<i>Ted Wiegel</i>		<i>X</i>		<i>Terry Thomas</i>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair</i>	<i>X</i>
	<i>Gerald Heimann</i>	<i>Alternate</i>					

Commission achieved quorum.

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

- Matthew Honer, SWWRPC
- Kim Tollers, Ed Singer, WisDOT
- Ken Lucht, Roger Schaalma, 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 – Sweeney/Ladewig. Passed Unanimously*
5. Action Item.            **Approval of draft October 2017 Minutes** – *Prepared by Honer*
  - *Motion to approve draft October 2017 minutes – Wiegel/Olson. 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.*

**REPORTS & COMMISSION BUSINESS**

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

Wolter presented the financial report. Wolter reported a total of \$29,788.65 receipts since the last meeting bringing the checking balance to \$123,164.77. There was one disbursement for \$7.50 for the safe deposit box. The checking at the end of 2017 was \$123,157.27. Total checking and CD accounts at the end of 2017 was \$148,157.27.

Kubly offered the correction that the 12/30/2017 at the top of the page should be 9/30/2017. Wolter agreed on the correction.

- *Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report – Thomas/Ladewig, Passed Unanimously.*

Wolter reported bulls from Johnson Block - Audit, BoardmanClark - Legal, Harvey Kubly - Expenses, Ron Wolter – Expenses, SWWRPC – Q3, Q4.

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

**9. WSOR Operation's Report – Ken Lucht, WSOR**

Lucht stated that WSOR is required to present the carload data on an annual basis and will do so at the May meeting. He reported that an in-depth report will be happening at the WRRTC February meeting.

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

Tollers had nothing to report but did bring 2018 state rail maps. She introduced Ed Singer as the new real estate specialist for WisDOT - Rails and Harbors.

**11. Tri-County Trail Commission Report – Presenters may include Leon Wolfe, Ted Weigel**

The snowmobile trails have not opened this year. Some FEMA money is being requested for trail repair compensation.

**12. PRTC Administrator's Report – Honer, PRTC Admin.**

Honer reported that he received a certificate of liability insurance from the lessee at the 200 block of Wells Street in Darlington. Honer reported that he visited the site prior to the meeting and that it was in poor condition. The lease for the property states that the property needs to be kept in good repair. Honer will send a letter requesting action to improve the condition of the property.

Honer stated that he meet with Green and Iowa County GIS specialists to discuss parcel updating for the Trail and Rails in the counties.

Honer reported that he has begun looking into the lease schedules of the commission. Brewery Creek was brought to his attention and it appears that their lease was renewed in 2013 for a period of 10 years.

**13. Discuss and Action to acknowledge the 2016 audit. – Kubly, Chair.**

- *Motion to approve the 2016 Audit – Wolfe/Olson.*

Ladewig stated the motion should be to acknowledge the audit.

- *Motion amend the original motion to acknowledge the 2016 Audit – Passed Unanimously*

**14. Discussion and Action to sign representation letter for 2016 Audit – Kubly, Chair.**

- *Motion to approve signing the representation letter for the 2016 Audit – Sweeney/Weigel. Passed Unanimously.*

**15. Discussion and Possible Action on 2017 audit engagement letter – Kubly, Chair.**

Kubly explained that the expense went up \$75.

- *Motion to approve and sign the 2017 Audit Engagement Letter – Ladewig/Wolter. Passed Unanimously.*

**16. Consideration and Action on WSOR's 5 year Capital Plan – Lucht, Schaalma WSOR.**

Schaalma presented the 2017 capital improvements and the 2018 capital expenditure plan in detail. He also presented the 5-year (2017-2021) capital expenditure. Schaalma was proud to report that WSOR is coming up on 2 years without a reportable derailment. Ladewig asked what issues and amounts were accounted for with the high-water issues of the past year. Schaalma reported that

there were replaced culverts due to the high water issues. Wolter asked if defective rails are due to use or if some are defective from the manufacturer. Schaalma stated that approximately 95% of defective rails are due to the age and use of the rail.

Schaalma presented the tie replacement history and future plan.

Sweeney asked if there are plans to apply for future TIGER grants. Lucht stated that it depends on the notice of financial opportunity, he stated that there have been dramatic changes in applying. Lucht stated that there is the TIGER and the INFRA program, both are discretionary programs that could be cut at the Federal level. Lucht stated that it requires a lot of political weight from WisDOT, the RTC, and local representatives to have a successful application. Ladewig thanked WSOR for the presentation and asked if the information presented by WSOR will be available on the GIS rail mapping application. Tollers stated that something to that effect is being planned, she is mapping all of the FRPP programs and all of the tracks rail weights. She stated that if there is something the RTC wants to see it can be worked towards. Ladewig thinks that if there is the ability to map the improvements, it is a process worth undertaking to help the commission track and plan future improvements.

Lucht stated that the total estimated grant funds on the reports are the yearly goals needed to keep improvements moving forward. Lucht stated that the grant funding is required to replace 100 year old rail to continue to provide great and competitive customer service. Lucht stated that WSOR will be working with the current administrations to tell the story and need to continue to invest in rail. Wolfe asked if the numbers take into account future projects for rail traffic. Ladewig asked if WSOR has a PR office that exists to tell the story of WSOR, WisDOT, and RTC's successes. Lucht said WSOR is interested and is working on PR on as-needed basis. Lucht stated that previous efforts to spread good PR did not receive large pick-ups from media. Lucht stated they do invite legislatures to go on rail tours to show the importance of rail service.

- *Motion to support the five year plan as presented – Wolfe/Sweeney. Passed Unanimously.*

**17. Adjournment**

- *Motion to adjourn at 2:10 M – Sweeney/Wolter. Passed Unanimously.*