

**Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission
Commission Meeting - Friday, March 9, 2018 at 10:00 am
Dane County Highway Garage 2302 Fish Hatchery Rd, Madison, WI**

1. 10:05 AM **Call to Order** – *Alan Sweeney, Chair*
2. Roll Call. **Establishment of Quorum** – *Matthew Honer*

Crawford	Tom Cornford, <i>2nd Vice Chair</i>	X	Jefferson	Mary Roberts	<i>Absent</i>
	Rocky Rocksford	<i>Absent</i>		Gary Kutz	X
	Derek Flansburgh	<i>Excused</i>		Augie Tietz, <i>3rd Vice Chair</i>	X
Dane	Gene Gray, <i>Treasurer</i>	X	Rock	Terry Thomas	X
	Jim Flemming	<i>Excused</i>		Wayne Gustina	X
	Chris James, <i>Vice Secretary</i>	X		Alan Sweeney, <i>Chair</i>	X
Grant	Gary Ranum	X	Sauk	Chuck Spencer	X
	Mike Lieurance	X		Dave Riek, <i>3rd Vice Treasurer</i>	X
	Robert Scallon, <i>1st Vice Chair</i>	X		Craig Braunschweig	<i>Excused</i>
Harvey Kubly	<i>Excused</i>	Marty Krueger, <i>Alternate</i>		X	
Green	Oscar Olson	<i>Absent</i>	Walworth	Vacant	
	Vacant			Richard Kuhnke	<i>Excused</i>
				Allan Polyock	X
Iowa	Charles Anderson, <i>Secretary</i>	X	Waukesha	Dick Mace	X
	William Ladewig	X		Richard Morris	X
	Jack Demby	X		Karl Nilson, <i>4th Vice Chair</i>	X

Commission met quorum.

Others present for all or some of the meeting:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt Honer - <i>WRTC Administrator</i> • Ken Lucht, Dave Bierman - <i>WSOR</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rich Kedzior, Kim Tollers, Lisa Stern, Teri Beckman, Ed Singer – <i>WisDOT</i> • Alan Anderson – <i>Pink Lady RTC</i>
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3. Action Item. **Certification of Meeting’s Public Notice** – *Noticed by Honer.*
 - *Motion to approve meeting’s public notice – Ladewig/Anderson. Passed Unanimously.*
4. Action Item. **Approval of Agenda as Amended** – *Prepared by Honer.*

Sweeney stated that item #12 will be moved between the bullet points on #8, and will move Item #14 to start the meeting.

- *Motion to approve the agenda with amendments – Gustina/Cornford. Passed Unanimously.*
5. Action Item. **Approval of draft February 2018 Meeting Minutes** – *Prepared by Honer.*
 - *Motion to approve meeting minutes with minor changes – Mace/Cornford. Passed Unanimously.*
 6. Updates. **Public Comment** – *Time for public comment may be limited by the Chair.*

No public comment.

7. Updates. **Announcements by Commissioners**

Cornford introduced Henry Esser, County Supervisor from Crawford County who is attending the March meeting. Mace stated he was appreciative of the updates being provided by Bierman and Honer.

REPORTS & COMMISSION BUSINESS

8. **Presentation on the removal of Bridge B-428b spans** - *Tollers, WisDOT*

Tollers presented a slide show from the Sauk Bridge Demolition Project.

9. WRRTC Financial Report – Gene Gray, Jim Matzinger Treasurer.

- Treasurer’s Report for March.

Matzinger reported that there is currently \$181k in cash available. Matzinger reported that the commission covered the first installment of Veit and Co. contract. Matzinger stated that the four bills for the month, Dane County Highway, Sauk County, Veit and Co. and WSOR are just under the total amount available. Matzinger stated that the Commission is borrowing from the 2017 and 2018 project funds to pay the contractor bills before being reimbursed.

Matzinger reported minimal activity on the income statement with the exception of collecting first quarter’s lease from WSOR and the Sauk Bridge Expenses.

- Discussion and Possible Action on Change Order for Sauk Bridge Demolition Project – Bierman, WSOR

Bierman discussed the description that was included within the change order. Bierman stated that the change order describes that Veit and Co will place material underneath the abutment to allow the abutment to fail into a safe landing space. The Change Order is for \$71,000, worst case scenario and not to exceed. Bierman discussed the three tasks that are being undertaken to address the failure of the abutment. Mace asked if the abutment can be left in place as rip/rap. Bierman stated that the river is constrained by that island is working to erode away that island, the DNR is willing to let the river return to its normal pattern. Nilson asked how much was in the fund for the change order. Anderson asked if WSOR and WisDOT are participating in the change order. Kedzior stated that if the budget is within the \$1,080,000 budget, it is covered under the existing agreement.

- *Motion to approve the Change Order – Polyock / Mace. Passed Unanimously*

- Discussion and approval of the invoices.

The bills for payment were presented. Matzinger stated that the Commission does not currently have funds to cover the full bills but expects reimbursement to arrive from WSOR and WisDOT. Anderson asked how much the commission is short. Matzinger stated that the commission is \$18,000. Lucht stated that WSOR’s reimbursement check is on its way. Kedzior stated that the WRRTC should expect the reimbursement by the end of next week. Krueger stated that Sauk County is willing to wait until the commission is in a better position. Matzinger stated if WSOR’s invoice and Sauk County’s invoice is held until reimbursements it will work. Sweeney suggested that all checks be signed.

- *Motion to approve invoices – Ladewig/Anderson. Passed Unanimously*
- *Motion to approve the treasurer report, and authorize the accountant to hold checks until adequate funds are available, no later than April 4th. – Ladewig/Gustina. Passed Unanimously*

10. Wisconsin & Southern Railroad’s Report on Operations – Ken Lucht, WSOR

Lucht reported that bridge 233 on Reedsburg Subdivision, within in the City of Madison near John Nolan Drive, is almost completed. Lucht reported that bridge 232 is also being worked on. Lucht reported these wooden bridges are being replaced with a concrete and steel bridge. Lucht stated it was a great project and received favorable coverage. Bierman stated that the project went well due to a good contractor. Mace asked if it is new pilings, Bierman concurred. Lucht reported that the Wauzeka bridge contract was awarded to the contractor, Kraemer North America. Lucht report that the initial emergency repair on the Merrimac Bridge will be completed next week, engineering and design for phase two is ongoing, and phase two construction will take place next year. Lucht reported that three bridges on the Watertown Subdivision have been awarded to Lunda, coming in under budget. Lucht stated that the CWR project on the Fox Lake Subdivision is on schedule and bids are due next week for tie projects and turnouts. Bierman added that the Spring Green Bridge project is completed and it took just over a year. Bierman stated that the Wauzeka is a similar scale project and expect good results with Kraemer having an aggressive schedule. Tietz asked about the Hubbleton Bridge on the Watertown Subdivision. Bierman stated that is not one of the bridges being worked on. Scallon asked about the Woodman Bridge. Bierman stated that some extensive concrete repairs were done on the Woodman Bridge and it is in good shape. Lucht reported that the Spring Green Bridge Press Release was published by Railway Age and will be published by other trade publications. Ladewig asked if there will be PR for the Sauk City Railroad Bridge. Lucht stated that the Commission could seek out a publishing industry that is interested. Scallon asked about the savings done on the Spring Green Bridge. Bierman stated the original estimate was around \$12M, bids came in around \$5.7M, and once completed the final project was \$26K under the construction budget.

11. WisDOT Report – Rich Kedzior, Kim Tollers, Teri Beckman, WisDOT.

Tollers reported that WisDOT has an estimate for a certified survey of St. Feriole Island and will be moving forward with that. She stated that WisDOT expects to have the survey completed in June.

12. WRRTC Correspondence/Communications and Administrator’s Report – Honer, Admin.

Honer stated that he has been in communication with Don Gritmaker regarding his private rail crossing application. Honer provided the contact information for WSOR. Honer stated he was in communication with Walworth county about the appointment of a new commissioner, who will be appointed later this month and start attending meetings in April. Honer received a certificate of liability insurance from WSOR and a notice of a rezoning request from the City of Fitchburg. Honer stated he spoke with Autumn Luedke from the Sauk Prairie Eagle and provided information regarding the progress being made on the Sauk Bridge Project. Honer worked with WisDOT and WSOR to approve the invoices provided from Veit and Co and WSOR. Honer stated he was in communication with Kim Tollers regarding a new public crossing being installed on the island in Prairie du Chien.

13. Discussion and Possible Action regarding Scot Forge Temporary Use Permit - Lucht, WSOR

Lucht stated that WSOR is revisiting this application. Scot Forge has a federal contract that requires material to be stored in a secure area. There was some discussion about the indemnification language that has been resolved between WSOR and Scot Forge. Mace asked what the timing is for the removal of the fence. Lucht stated that facility will remain as long as Scot Forge requires a fence. Tollers clarified temporary means not-permanent. Sweeney asked if legal counsel reviewed the permit. Honer stated that they have.

- *Motion to approve the application for the Temporary Use Permit – Ladewig/Thomas. Passed Unanimously*

14. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn at 11:10 am – Cornford/Scallon. Passed Unanimously.