

**Minutes of the
East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium
Meeting of January 24, 2018**

East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium Meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas Winker on January 24, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., at the Plymouth City Fire Station, 111 E. Main Street, Plymouth, Wisconsin.

Certification of Public Notice: Kimberly A. Nass certified that the notice of this meeting complies with all applicable requirements of Wisconsin's open meetings law.

Roll call was taken.

Present: James E. Foley, Columbia County; Russell Kottke, Dodge County; Joseph Koch and Karen Madigan, Fond du Lac County; Vicki Bernhagen, Green Lake County; Thomas E. Winker and Donald Dohrwardt, Ozaukee County; Richard Bemis, Jim Glavan, and Mark Winkel, Sheboygan County; Dan Goetz and Jeff Schleif, Washington County; and Larry Smith and Joel Rasmussen, Winnebago County.

Excused: Dennis Mulder, Green Lake County; and Steve F. Taylor, Milwaukee County.

Others Present: Thomas Wegner, Sheboygan County Board Chairman; Ken Lucht and Roger Schaalma, WSOR; Rich Kedzior, WisDOT; Don Pohlman, Mayor for the City of Plymouth; Kimberly A. Nass, Dodge County Corporation Counsel; and, Kelly L. Lepple, Recording Secretary.

Public Comment: Don Pohlman, Mayor of the City of Plymouth, thanked everyone on the EWCRC for its interest in the railroad and freight rail. Thomas Wegner, Sheboygan County Board Chairman, welcomed everyone to Sheboygan County.

Approval of Minutes of September 27, 2017: Motion by Koch/Schleif to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2017 meeting, as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Financial Report: Russell Kottke reported the following: The balance in the checkbook as of August 31, 2017, was \$1,000. Deposits were \$10,402.42. Expenditures were \$3,704.93. Transfers were \$6,697.49. As of December 31, 2017, the balance in the checkbook was \$1,000. Total EWCRC money on deposit in the Local Government Investment Pool as of December 31, 2017, is \$633,196.25. Motion by Bemis/Glavan to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Consider, discuss, and take action on the level of funding by member counties for 2018 and authorize and direct Kim Nass to send invoices in the amount of \$25,000 to each member county of the EWCRC for its member county contribution for 2018: There was consideration of and discussion about the level of funding by member counties for 2018 and authorization of and direction to Kim Nass to send invoices in the amount of \$25,000, in January, 2018, to each member county of the EWCRC for its member county contribution for 2018. Motion by Dohrwardt/Smith to authorize and direct Kim Nass to send invoices in the amount of \$25,000, in January of 2018, to each

member county of the EWCRC for its member county contribution for 2018. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Consider, discuss, and take action on Report of WisDOT, Railroads and Harbors:

Rich Kedzior provided to all EWCRC members a new 2018 Wisconsin Railroads and Harbors map. Rich Kedzior reported that WisDOT wants to promote its loan program for increasing the State's propane freight rail infrastructure. Mr. Kedzior further reported that the Surface Transportation Board rejected the Great Lakes Basin Railroad application. Mr. Kedzior further reported that WisDOT is moving to a new building and is in the process of cleaning out its files. WisDOT found files pertaining to the Burnett and Utley rehabilitation projects that occurred in the EWCRC territory in the 1980s. WisDOT is requesting that the EWCRC look to see what records it has from 1980 to 1992 pertaining to these rehabilitation projects, such as signed agreements, bidding documents, and anything related to financial transactions and provide those documents to WisDOT. The Corporation Counsel office will look into what records it can provide to WisDOT.

Consider, discuss and take action on WSOR's long-term Capital Maintenance Plan presentation and WSOR's 2017 maintenance and production totals presentation:

Ken Lucht and Roger Schaalma provided handouts to each of the members of the EWCRC which provided an overview of WSOR's long-term Capital Maintenance Plan. Ken Lucht and Roger Schaalma summarized WSOR's capital expenditures in the Northern Division, described the many rehabilitation projects that are included in WSOR's capital expenditures, and stated the sources of funding for each project. Motion by Bemis/Foley to accept WSOR's long-term Capital Maintenance Plan. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Consider, discuss, and take action on report of WSOR:

Ken Lucht reported the following: The deadline for filing new applications for Freight Railroad Preservation Program (FRPP) assistance for railroad rehabilitation projects is February 1, 2018. WSOR is submitting an application for the Phase 2 continuous welded rail rehabilitation Project on the Oshkosh Subdivision, from Ripon to Fisk. WSOR is also submitting an application for the Phase 2 Merrimac Bridge rehabilitation project. WSOR is also submitting an application to replace numerous bridges on its line. At the next EWCRC meeting WSOR will propose a specific project from the long-term Capital Maintenance Plan and will ask for the EWCRC to consider funding this proposed specific project with its 2018 and 2019 member county contributions.

Country Visions, located on the Sheboygan Falls Subdivision, in Plymouth, has built a new switch and is now part of the nation's railroad system. Country Visions Cooperative received approximately a \$2.6 million Freight Railroad Infrastructure Improvement loan to construct approximately 3,000 feet of railroad spur tracks and a railcar unloading system as part of a new \$11 million dry fertilizer plant facility in Plymouth.

WSOR is working with the City of Oshkosh and the State of Wisconsin to develop a new trans load facility in the City of Oshkosh Development Park. This trans load project is underway and should be completed in the next month or two. WSOR is leasing land from the City of Oshkosh and marketing the site for the City of Oshkosh.

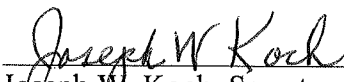
WSOR completed an analysis of its car load data which are loads originating and terminating on its entire network for the years 2015, 2016 and 2017. This analysis shows the volume of freight on each subdivision that is moving on its entire network.

Date, time, and place of next meeting (May 9, 2018): The next regular EWCRC meeting will be held on May 9, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. Dodge County will host the meeting.

Motion by Bemis/Madigan to adjourn. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph W. Koch, Secretary

Disclaimer: These are draft minutes. These draft minutes may be approved, amended, or corrected at the next meeting of the East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium.