

**Minutes of the
East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium
Meeting of November 11, 2020**

East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium Meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas Winker on November 11, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., at the Dodge County Administration Building, located at 127 E. Oak Street, Juneau, 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: Bob Koch, Columbia County; Russell Kottke and Jeffrey Caine, Dodge County; Karen Madigan and John Zorn, Fond du Lac County; Dennis Mulder, Green Lake County; Thomas E. Winker and Marty Wolf, Ozaukee County, (by phone); Jeff Schleif and Brian Gallitz, Washington County (by phone); and Donald Nussbaum, Winnebago County (by phone).

Excused: James E. Foley, Columbia County; David Abendroth, Green Lake County; Milwaukee County; and Roger TeStroete and Al Bosman, Sheboygan County.

Others Present: Lisa Stern and Chris Kern, WisDOT (by phone); Ken Lucht, WSOR; Kimberly A. Nass, Dodge County Corporation Counsel; and Kelly L. Lepple, Recording Secretary.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of Minutes of July 8, 2020: Motion by Caine/Schleif to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2020, as corrected (Change Roger Roger Schaalma to read Roger Schaalma). Motion carried with 10 ayes and 1 abstained.

Financial Report: Russell Kottke reported the following: The balance in the checkbook as of October 31, 2020, was \$1,000.55. Deposits were \$30,201.21. There were no Expenditures. Transfers were \$30,201.21. Total EWCRC money on deposit in the Local Government Investment Pool as of October 31, 2020, is \$476,824.13. Motion by Mulder/Koch to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve Financial Statements for the Year Ended December 31, 2019: There was consideration of and discussion about the EWCRC annual Financial Statement for 2019 prepared by the Dodge County Finance Department. Motion by Schleif/Zorn to approve the 2019 EWCRC annual Financial Statement as presented in written form. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Report of WisDOT Railroads and Harbors: Lisa Stern reported the following: On July 20, 2020, Chris Kern replaced Ed Singer, who recently retired, as the WisDOT Real Estate Specialist. WisDOT sent a notice to the Mayville Fire Department regarding the illegal parking lot they installed. WisDOT has not received a response back. WisDOT sent an Offer to Sell state railroad land that encroaches the railroad right-of-way, to the homeowners who live at 241 S. Walker Street, Waupun, Wisconsin in Waupun, Wisconsin. The owners have not responded to the Offer to Sell. Port of Milwaukee received a \$15.9 million federal grant to build a \$31 million building along the shore of Lake Michigan that will produce

and export various agricultural products worldwide. Milwaukee Port is partnering with The DeLong Company on the project. WisDOT will invite Mike Halstead, Harbors Director to the next EWCRC meeting and provide a presentation of the Milwaukee Port project.

Report of WSOR: Ken Lucht reported the following:

The continuous welded rail replacement project on the Oshkosh Subdivision, from Fisk to Oshkosh, which is a Phase 3 rehabilitation project, is almost complete. WSOR will be sending the EWCRC an invoice for its 2020 member contribution of \$225,000, to contribute toward the cost of the Fisk to Oshkosh rail replacement project. WSOR is going to replace approximately 2,500 ties on the Cambria line, WSOR will be replacing approximately 3,200 ties between Fairwater and Brandon, and WSOR will be installing approximately 11,000 ties between Horicon and Slinger. The Waukesha Subdivision continuous welded rail project is almost complete. WisDOT received a federal grant to complete the last phase of the Merrimac Bridge rehabilitation project. This grant will cover half the cost of the remaining work to upgrade much of the existing rail bridge over the Wisconsin River, which will extend its life and increase its capacity. The next phase of the Merrimac Bridge rehabilitation project will begin in 2021, and is scheduled for completion in 2022. The City of Plymouth will repaint a tressel over Mill Street. WSOR had a photo contest for the 2021 calendar. The 2021 calendars will be available in January of 2021.

Presentation on Background of WSOR. Ken Lucht provided a PowerPoint presentation and handouts to each of the members of the EWCRC, which provided an overview of WSOR's public/private partnership with the East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium. Ken Lucht 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.

Date, time, and place of next meeting (January 13, 2021): The next regular EWCRC meeting will be held on January 13, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Ozaukee County will host the meeting.

Motion by Koch/Schleif to adjourn. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Schleif, 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.