

**Minutes of the
East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium
Meeting of May 8, 2013**

East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium Meeting was called to order by Chairman Rick Gundrum on May 8, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., at the Ozaukee County Administration Center Auditorium, Room 6 (ground level), 121 W. Main Street, Port Washington, Wisconsin.

Tom Meaux, Ozaukee County Administrator, welcomed everyone to Ozaukee County.

Certification Of Public Notice: John F. Corey certified that the notice of this meeting complies with all applicable requirements of Wisconsin's open meetings law.

Roll call was taken.

Present: Kenneth Hutler and James E. Foley, Columbia County; Russell Kottke and Harold J. Johnson, Dodge County; Joseph Koch and Karen Madigan, Fond du Lac County; Eugene Henke and Donald L. Peters, Green Lake County; Thomas E. Winker and Donald Dohrwardt, Ozaukee County; Richard Bemis and Mark Winkel, Sheboygan County; Rick Gundrum, Washington County; and Joel Rasmussen and Ron Hardy, Winnebago County.

Excused: Steve F. Taylor, Milwaukee County; and Dan Goetz, Washington County.

Others Present: Tom Meaux, Ozaukee County Administrator; Charles Beck, Spectator; Dan Schwengel, Spectator; Don Pohlman, Mayor for the City of Plymouth; Ben Meighan, WSOR; Frank Huntington, Roger Larson, and Ron Adams, WisDOT Bureau of Railroads and Harbors; John F. Corey, Dodge County Corporation Counsel; and Kelly L. Lepple, Recording Secretary.

Public Comment: Don Pohlman, Mayor for the City of Plymouth, thanked the EWCRC for its support of freight rail service and for its efforts to improve and expand freight rail service in Wisconsin.

Approval of Minutes of March 13, 2013: Frank Huntington requested that the Board of Directors of the EWCRC amend the minutes of the March 13, 2013 meeting of the EWCRC, as follows: change "**Consider, discuss, and take action on Report of WisDOT, Bureau of Railroads and Harbors:** Frank Huntington reported the following: Railway system engineering activities will start this spring on the Plymouth to Sheboygan Falls rail line, WisDOT is in the process of completing the specifications for bids for construction contracts, WisDOT will likely solicit bids in either July or August of 2013, . . ." to read "**Consider, discuss, and take action on Report of WisDOT, Bureau of Railroads and Harbors:** Frank Huntington reported the following: Railway system engineering activities will start this spring on the Plymouth to Sheboygan Falls rail line, WSOR is in the process of completing the specifications for bids for construction contracts, WSOR will likely solicit bids in either July or August of 2013, . . ." Motion by Foley/Hutler to amend the minutes of the March 13, 2013 meeting of the EWCRC as requested by Frank Huntington. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Dohrwardt/Winkel to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2013 meeting, as amended. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Financial Report: Russell Kottke reported the following: The balance in the checkbook as of February 28, 2013 was \$1,000.00. Deposits were \$154,690.00. Expenditures were \$6,960.99. Transfers were \$147,729.01. As of April 30, 2013 the balance in the checkbook was \$1,000.00. Total EWCRC money on deposit in the Investment Account as of April 30, 2013 is \$405,307.35. Motion by Winkel/Rasmussen to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Consider, discuss, approve and authorize payment of invoice of Johnson Block and Company, Inc., for services provided in preparing the 2012 audited financial report: There was consideration of and discussion about the invoice that was presented for payment from Johnson Block and Company, Inc., in the amount of \$1,800.00 for services provided in preparing the 2012 EWCRC audited financial report. Motion by Foley/Hutler to approve payment of this invoice and to authorize and direct the Office of Dodge County Corporation Counsel to send payment to Johnson Block and Company, Inc., in the amount of \$1,800.00 for services provided in preparing the 2012 EWCRC audited financial report. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Consider, discuss, and take action regarding investment of unexpended member county contributions: There was consideration of and discussion about the investment of unexpended member county contributions. John Corey made the following oral report: In 1999, the unexpended EWCRC member county contributions were on deposit in a checking account at M&I Bank in Juneau, the bank charged a checkbook maintenance fee of \$5.00 per month, the bank paid no interest on funds deposited in the checking account, a member of the Board of Directors of the EWCRC suggested at that time that instead of depositing EWCRC monies in a checking account that paid no interest and for which the EWCRC was charged a maintenance fee of \$5.00 per month, EWCRC funds should be deposited into an interest-bearing account, and soon after that suggestion was made, the EWCRC funds were deposited into an interest-bearing account, initially the EWCRC monies were deposited into an AIM account, later the AIM account was changed to an Invesco account and EWCRC monies are currently in a money market fund titled *Government & Agency Portfolio, Short-Term Investments Trust*, Section 66.0603 of the *Wisconsin Statutes*, sets forth the types of investments that counties are allowed to make with county funds, and *Invesco Government & Agency Portfolio, Short-Term Investments Trust* (Invesco), is one of the types of investments that are allowed pursuant to the provisions of Section 66.0603 of the *Wisconsin Statutes*. John Corey distributed a written document that describes Invesco and that sets forth a summary statement of the rates of interest that were paid on funds invested in Invesco during specific periods of time, including the rate of interest that is currently being paid. John Corey also distributed a document that describes the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) and that sets forth the rates of interest that were paid on funds invested in the LGIP during specific periods of time, including the rate of interest that is currently being paid. John Corey reported that the rate of interest that is currently being paid on funds invested in Invesco is 2 basis points and that the rate of interest that is currently being paid on funds invested in the LGIP is 14 basis points. John Corey inquired whether or not the Board of Directors of the EWCRC would like to move the unexpended member county contributions currently invested in Invesco to the LGIP. Motion by Bemis/Winker to transfer the unexpended member county contributions currently invested in Invesco to the LGIP. There was discussion about this matter. A suggestion was made that all members of the Board of Directors of the EWCRC confer

with their respective County Treasurers to research and provide input regarding the LGIP. Motion by Dohwart/Hutler to table this matter to a time certain to the July 10, 2013 meeting of the EWCRC to allow each member of the Board of Directors of the EWCRC to take the information that was provided by John Corey to their respective County Treasurers for research and input. A roll call vote was taken. 12 ayes and 3 noes. Motion carried. It was the consensus of the Board of Directors of the EWCRC to place this matter of investment of unexpended member county contributions on the agenda for the next meeting of the EWCRC.

Election of vice chair to fill the vacant position of vice chair for the unexpired term that will end in July of 2014: Rick Gundrum called for nominations from the floor for the office of Vice Chairman. Dick Bemis nominated Mark Winkel for Vice Chairman. Tomas E. Winker seconded the nomination for Mark Winkel for Vice Chairman. There were no other nominations. Dohwart moved to cast a unanimous vote for Mark Winkel for Vice Chairman. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Mark Winkel was elected Vice Chairman of the EWCRC.

Consider, discuss, and take action on Report of WisDOT, Bureau of Railroads and Harbors: Frank Huntington reported the following: WisDOT received applications for Freight Railroad Preservation Program (FRPP) funds, to be used for rehabilitation projects, in a total amount of over \$100 million. Funds for FRPP in the amount of \$52 million (\$26 million per year) have been included in the 2013-2015 State Biennial Budget, and originally the Governor had proposed that funds for FRPP in the amount of \$60 million be included in the 2013-2015 State Biennial Budget.

Report of Ben Meighan: Ben Meighan reported the following: WSOR has met with an engineering firm it has engaged regarding the Plymouth to Sheboygan Falls rail line rebuild project, Bridge evaluations and boring samples have been completed, WSOR may be able to salvage some parts of existing bridges, but most of the bridges will need to be replaced, WSOR has engaged an engineering firm to design the bridges and is working with the engineering firm to design the bridges, WSOR is working on applications for at-grade crossings to be submitted to the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads, is finalizing the plans for an at-grade crossing at Highway 57, is currently preparing bid specification and other bid documents for subgrade preparation and track, and it is the intention of WSOR to complete all bid specifications and other bid documents by late summer and to start construction by either late summer or early fall.

Resolution commending Ron Adams for his contributions to the East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium, its member counties, and the State of Wisconsin: John Corey introduced Ron Adams to the EWCRC. John Corey read the Resolution commending Ron Adams for his contributions to the East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium, its member counties, and the State of Wisconsin. Motion by Bemis/Hutler to adopt the Resolution, cause all members of the Board of Directors of the EWCRC to sign the Resolution, and to present it to Ron Adams. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Rick Gundrum presented Ron Adams with a plaque, thanked him for his contributions to the EWCRC, its member counties, and the State of Wisconsin, and wished him well in his retirement and future endeavors.

Consider, discuss, and take action on report of WSOR: Ben Meighan reported the following: WisDOT is reviewing bid documents for the tie project on the Plymouth Subdivision, the bid documents will soon be returned to WSOR, and WSOR will soon thereafter solicit bids, WSOR is in


the process of completing a ties project from the Wisconsin/Illinois border to Fox Lake, Illinois, on the Fox Lake Subdivision, WSOR is in the process of completing additional tie work on the Prairie du Chien Subdivision and the Reedsburg Subdivision, WSOR is in the process of completing rail welding and about 6 miles of surfacing on the Milwaukee Subdivision, in order to complete the installation of 115 pound continuous welded rail from Slinger to Milwaukee, WSOR recently changed the location at which it processes bills, from its Milwaukee office to its Madison office, and WSOR will soon hire private contractors to work on some of its rehabilitation projects, rather than using its own employees exclusively to work on all rehabilitation projects, in order to complete the rehabilitation projects more quickly.

Date, time, and place of next meeting (July 10, 2013): The next regular EWCRC meeting will be held on July 10, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. Dodge County will host the meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph W. Koch, Secretary

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.