

WRRTC DECEMBER 8, 2023 MEETING MINUTES – APPROVED 1/12/2024

**Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission
Commission Meeting – Friday, December 8, 2023 at 10:00 am
Hill Farms State Office Building – Madison, WI**

1. 10:00 AM **Call to Order – Alan Sweeney, Chair**
2. Roll Call. **Establishment of Quorum – Misty Molzof, Admin**

Crawford	Carl Orr, <i>2nd Vice Chair</i>	X	Jefferson	Mary Roberts	X
	Mark Gilberts	X		John Kannard, <i>Vice Secretary</i>	X Virtual
	Tom Cornford	Excused		VACANT	X
				Jeff Smith, <i>Alternate</i>	X
Dane	Kevin Potter	X	Rock	VACANT	
	Jeff Huttenburg, <i>Treasurer</i>	X		Tom Brien	X
	Jim Bolitho	X		Alan Sweeney, <i>Chair</i>	X
Grant	Gary Ranum	X	Sauk	Brian Peper	X
	Mike Lieurance	X		Gaile Burchill, <i>2nd Vice Treasurer</i>	X
	Robert Scallon, <i>1st Vice Chair</i>	X		Marty Krueger	X
				Tim McCumber, <i>Alternate</i>	X
Green	Harvey Kubly, <i>1st Vice Treasurer</i>	X	Walworth	Al Stanek	Excused
	Todd Larson	X		Richard Kuhnke, <i>2nd Vice Secretary</i>	Excused
	Kurt Schafer	X		Allan Polyock	X
Iowa	Charles Anderson, <i>Secretary</i>	X	Waukesha	Rick Beutler, <i>3rd Vice Treasurer</i>	X
	Kate Reimann	X		Richard Morris	X
	Kevin Peterson	X		Karl Nilson	Excused

Commission met quorum.

Others present for all or some of the meeting:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misty Molzof, <i>SWWRPC</i> • Eileen Brownlee, <i>Boardman & Clark</i> • Lisa Stern, Scott Edmundson, & Ben Mohlke, <i>WisDOT</i> • Don Vruwink, <i>OCR</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ken Lucht, <i>WSOR</i>. • Alan Anderson, <i>Pink Lady RTC</i> • Michelle Brokaw, <i>WisDOT SW Region</i>
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3. Action Item. **Certification of Meeting’s Public Notice – Noticed by Molzof.**
 - *Motion to approve meeting’s public notice – Morris/Reiman. Passed Unanimously.*
4. Action Item. **Approval of Agenda – Prepared by Molzof.**
 - *Motion to approve the agenda. Scallon/Brien. – Passed Unanimously.*
5. Action Item. **Approval of draft November 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes – Prepared by Molzof.**
 - *Motion to approve the November 10, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Orr/Sweeney. Passed Unanimously.*
6. Updates. **Public Comment – Time for public comment may be limited by the Chair.**
None.
7. Updates. **Announcements by Commissioners**
None.

REPORTS & COMMISSION BUSINESS

8. Dane County Report – Christopher James, Dane County

Christopher James presented a power point regarding the Dane County portion of the Walking Iron Trail. There are 8 bridges to be repurposed to AREMA standards the trail will be 10’ wide with 2’ shoulders, and they are hoping to start bridge construction in the fall of 2025.

9. Rail Infrastructure Value Report – Rich Shure

Richard Shure presented a proposal to provide the commission with a valuation report for the rail infrastructure that requires removal along the future walking iron trail in Dane County. Discussion was held regarding scope of work and proposal. Motion to request a written proposal from Shure for phase 1 of the project. *Huttenburg/Anderson*. Motion to amend motion to allow WRRTC Trail Ad-Hoc Committee to review and approve submitted proposal of up to \$2,000 for services. *Krueger/Orr*. Motion to amend original motion to read as follows: Commission defers to WRRTC

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Trail Ad-Hoc Committee to review and approve a written proposal of up to \$2,000 if reviewed and recommended by counsel.
Huttenburg/Anderson. Passed Unanimously.

10. Walking Iron Trail, Dane County Portion – Stern, WisDOT & Chris James, Dane County

- Agreement for Dane County to assume responsibility for Interim Trail Use of the Rail Corridor
 - *Motion to approve the lease agreement once counsel reviews and approves. Krueger/Morris. Passed Unanimously.*

11. Approve Acquisition of an Easement for STH 92 Project – Edmundson, WisDOT

- *Motion to approve quit claim deed of 11sq. ft. piece of land sought by DOT to DOT, and DOT to draft and record documents as reviewed and approved of by commission counsel. Huttenburg/Anderson. Passed Unanimously.*

12. Removal of Crossing Surface, Signals, and Signal Foundation at Webb Avenue, City of Reedsburg, WI – Lucht, WSOR

- *Motion to approve WSOR removal of crossing surface, signals, and signal foundation as requested by WSOR and ordered by the OCr. Krueger/Scallon. Passed Unanimously.*

13. Approve 2024 Rental Agreement with WSOR – Brownlee, Attorney

- *Motion to approve 2024 rental agreement annual attachment, Attachment #16 to agreement No. 0490-40-48(d). Ranum/Larson. Passed Unanimously.*

14. WRRTC Financial Report – Huttenburg, Treasurer

- *Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and payment of bills to Boardman & Clark for \$3,726, Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission for \$7,777.50, and Johnson & Block for \$6,000. Morris/Gilberts. Passed Unanimously.*

15. Wisconsin & Southern Railroad's Report on Operations – Lucht, WSOR

Lucht inquired about the crossing in Cross Plains where ownership of the road needs to be determined and WSOR will connect with Township to determine status and whether they will vacate the road and discontinue it or file for a public crossing; provided an update on the new locomotive shop; reported 12 non-farm unpermitted crossings along the Waukesha Sub. that need to be dealt with; and discussed derailment in Madison that occurred of the RR ROW and was a customer air brake issue.

16. Report – Stern - WisDOT.

Mohlke reported that the Merrimac Bridge has 11 of 13 spans installed, and work will continue in March, 2024 to replace #17 & #18 and work on the Janesville bridge MOU's are progressing. Stern reported that Wis DOT just learned of some federally funded grants awarded towards expansion of TCMC rail from Milwaukee to Madison and eventually to Eau Claire, 4 grants were awarded to Wis DOT through this Corridor ID Program.

17. Administrator's Report - January meeting date from January 5 to January 12, 2024

18. Adjournment.

- *Motion to Adjourn at 11:50 am. Morris/Kubly. Passed Unanimously.*