

## AGENDA

Chippewa-St. Croix Passenger Rail Commission  
Monday, April 25, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.  
*Virtual Meeting*

Dial In: 1-415-655-0001 Access Code: 2592 443 0001

or

<https://eauclairecounty.webex.com/eauclairecounty/j.php?MTID=m3623a1819cc08714ab99d8a3555024ff>

For those wishing to make public comment, you can submit your request to speak and/or written comment to Samantha Kraegenbrink at [samantha.kraegenbrink@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:samantha.kraegenbrink@co.eau-claire.wi.us) at least 60 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. You will be called on during the public session to make your comments. Public comments are limited to 3 minutes per person and 30 minutes maximum for the public comment period.

1. Call to Order and confirmation of meeting notice
2. Roll Call and Introductions
3. Public Comment
4. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes – **Discussion/Action**
  - March 2, 2022
5. Bringing the commission up to date on current passenger rail developments and activities: Scott Rogers, West Central Wisconsin Rail Coalition – **Information/Discussion**
6. Role of the Commission (see **3. Purpose** in the draft bylaws) - **Information/Discussion**
7. Future Meeting dates/format – **Discussion/Action**
8. Organizational activities – bylaws, incorporation stakeholders beyond local governments – **Discussion/Action**
9. Adjourn

Prepared by: Samantha Kraegenbrink – Assistant to the County Administrator

*Please note: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through sign language, interpreters or other auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request the service, contact the County ADA Coordinator at 839-6945 (FAX) 839-1669 or (TDD) 839-4735 or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources Department, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Ave., Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703.*

## **MINUTES**

Chippewa-St. Croix Passenger Rail Commission

Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at 3:30 p.m.

*Virtual Meeting*

Present: Ann Schell, Arun Rao, Erik Evenson, Gary Stene, Jim Dunning, Rob Krejci, Scott Rogers, Tiffany Weiss, Tracy Carlson, Lowell Prange

Others: Samantha Kraegenbrink – Committee Clerk, Gregg Baxter, Jeff Abboud, Kathryn Schauf, Mark Quam, Mason Baxter, Ray Chambers, Sharon McIlquham, Tim Sullivan

Public: Jackie Pavelski

### **Call to Order and confirmation of meeting notice**

Chair Dunning called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

### **Roll Call with municipality**

The committee clerk called the roll which is listed above under present.

### **Public Comment**

No members of the public wished to make comment.

### **Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Rob Krejci, seconded by Gary Stene to approve the minutes from July 15, 2021. No deletions, corrections, or additions. Minutes were approved by voice vote.

### **Bringing the commission up to date on current activities and events**

Scott Rogers provided an update from the West Central Wisconsin Rail Coalition.

### **Update on federal funding and state/national passenger rail development activities**

Arun Rao, WisDOT provided an update on federal funding.

- The bill that passed increasing funding for Amtrak, new equipment, etc. Funding requires a minimum of 20% match, with multiple grant opportunities opening over the next five years.
- FRA working to develop a pipeline program and currently has a RFI for input on how to design the program.
- Update on Chicago – Milwaukee – Minneapolis passenger rail.
- WisDOT received operating grant from FRA

Ray Chambers, Association for Innovative Passenger Rail Operators (AIPRO)

- Discussed resources that could be available to this project.
- Ray Chambers will provide comments to this Commission on the FRA request for input.
- Urging competition mandate where possible.
- Creating a register of potential projects across the country.

## **MINUTES**

Chippewa-St. Croix Passenger Rail Commission

Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at 3:30 p.m.

### ***Virtual Meeting***

- Suggests doing a feasibility study.

### **Bylaws**

All will ensure Corporation Counsel of respective county review bylaws. Scott Rogers suggests the bylaws be written in a way the Commission can set a schedule and choose for the meeting to be in person, hybrid, or virtual. Tim will draft the addition and Eau Claire Administration will provide to the commission. Additionally, add wording about how the commission is funded.

### **Next Steps**

- Agenda items
  - i. Updates
  - ii. Bylaws
  - iii. Potential Station Locations
  - iv. Market Sounding Event follow up
- Future meeting dates
  - i. Samantha will send out a doodle poll for the next meeting (general availability and next meeting (5-6 weeks out))

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Samantha Kraegenbrink  
Assistant to the County Administrator