

MINUTES

Chippewa-St. Croix Passenger Rail Commission
Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 8:30 a.m.

Dunn County Board Room
Room 54 of the
Dunn County Government Center,
3001 US Highway 12 East in Menomonie, Wisconsin

Members Present: Randy Eide, Erik Evenson, Rob Krejci, Gary Stene, Jim Dunning, Jeremy Gragert

Others: Samantha Kraegenbrink, Kathryn Schauf, Sharon McIlquham, Gretchen Yonko, Eric Anderson, Ann Schell, Scott Rogers

Call to Order and confirmation of meeting notice of the May organizational meeting

Chair Dunning called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. and confirmed meeting notice.

Roll Call and Introductions

The commission did round table introductions.

Public Comment

No members of the public wished to make comment.

Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 25, 2022

The clerk added Mason Baxter to those in attendance and added final bullets from the bylaw discussion prior to the start. Motion by Gary Stene to approve, all in favor.

Election of officers

Gary Stene nominates Jim Dunning as chair, seconded by Erik Evenson. Jim Dunning nominates Gary Stene who declines. All in favor of Jim Dunning as Chair. Jim Dunning nominates Gary Stene as vice-chair, seconded by Jeremy Gragert. All in favor. Rob Krejci nominates Jeremy Gragert as secretary/treasurer, seconded by Randy Eide.

Workplan and Budget

The commission briefly discussed a workplan and budget planning. This item will be added to future agendas. There was a discussion regarding how other communities have organized their rail service and council/commissions.

Ex Officio members

Scott Rogers provided a potential list of ex-officio members. The commission referred to the bylaws (10 C.) to aid in their discussion. A point was brought up that the resolutions passed by

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the counties that the West Central Wisconsin Rail Coalition ~~MPO~~ shall have two members for the creation of the commission. There is an interest in amending the bylaws to include a member(s) of the Rail Coalition to the Commission as a voting member.

The Commission decided that the West Central Regional Planning Commission, Union Pacific, 4-year college institutions and technical colleges, ~~one Minnesota representative~~, and WisDOT will be formally asked to join as ex-officio at this time. Motion by Randy Eide, seconded by Gary Stene. All in favor. Eau Claire County Administration will draft a letter on letterhead, signed by Chair Dunning.

Other stakeholders that were included in the potential list of ex-officio members will be encouraged to work with the West Central Wisconsin Rail Coalition on its advocacy efforts.

Scott Rogers agreed to make contacts with Minnesota agencies for a recommendation on whom to invite to be ex-officio members.

Sharon McIlquham indicated she will draft a bylaws amendment to address how the bylaws should be amended, and an amendment to add a representative of the West Central Wisconsin Rail Coalition as a voting member.

Updates and background. Bringing the commission up to date on current passenger rail developments and activities including Market Sounding: Scott Rogers, West Central Wisconsin Rail Coalition

Scott Rogers provided a presentation to bring the commission up to date on current development and activities. For a future agenda, further discussion on market sounding.

Corridor Identification Plan resolution

This will be brought forward at next meeting.

Future Meeting dates/format

Gary Stene offers Menomonie as a meeting site for hybrid meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Samantha Kraegenbrink – Assistant to the County Administrator
Eau Claire County