

## AGENDA

Chippewa-St. Croix Passenger Rail Commission  
Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 8:30 A.M.  
Dunn County Government Center  
3001 US-12, Menomonie, WI • Room 054

### By Zoom

Access:

<https://dunncountywi.zoom.us/j/94892182815?pwd=K1dpdnFKeSt3QkZ3bkgyRjFSODUxUT09>

Meeting ID: 948 9218 2815 Passcode: 039912

1. Call to Order and confirmation of meeting notice
2. Roll Call with municipality
  - Voting Members
  - Ex-officio Members
3. Public Comment
4. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes – **Discussion/Action**
  - October 18, 2023
5. Update on the FRA grant announcement and next steps (announcement e-mail attached) – Scott Rogers – **Information/Discussion**
6. Updates – **Information/Discussion**
  - WisDOT
  - MnDOT
  - Ramsey County
7. Announcements – **Information**
8. Future meeting agenda items – **Discussion**
9. Determine next meeting date – **Discussion**
10. Adjourn

## MINUTES

Chippewa-St. Croix Passenger Rail Commission  
Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 8:30 A.M.  
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

Members Present: Ann Schell, Scott Rogers, Gretchen Yonko, Jim Dunning, Gary Stene, Jeremy Gragert, Taylor Greenwell

Members Absent: Tracy Carlson, Erik Evenson, Robbie Krejci, Tiffany Weiss

Ex-officio Members Present: Lisa Stern (DOT), Eric Anderson (Chip/EC MPO), Bambi Pattermann (Northwood Tech), Erik Guenard (UW-Stout), Julie Neuhaus (CVTC), Beth Schommer (UW-RF)

Ex-officio Members Absent: Ethan Osten, Jake Wrasse, Greg Mathis, Lindsey Douglas,

Others Present: Sue McDonald (Eau Claire County Clerk), Krista Vind, Mason Baxter (AIRPO), Terry Brown (WI Rail Coalition), Sam Burns (City of River Falls), Kevin Roggenbuck (Ramsey County), Sara Allen (Washington County), Nolan Ross, Rich Kedzior (WI DOT), Kathryn Schauf (Eau Claire County), Victor Stone (Union Pacific), Tom Evenson (Union Pacific), Sharon McIlquham (Eau Claire County).

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

Chair Dunning called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and confirmed meeting notice.

### **Roll Call with municipality** – Roll Call listed above.

**Public Comment** – No members of the public wished to comment.

### **Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 16, 2023**

On a motion by Gary Stene, seconded by Ann Schell, the meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

### **Report: Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission Meeting (September 18-20, 2023) – Scott Rogers**

Scott gave an overview of the meeting. He was able to travel south on a train from Bloomington, IL to St. Louis with other members. He heard updates from Illinois and Minnesota projects that are in progress. There was discussion about restoration of a passenger rail service long distance network by the Federal Railroad Administration. 2024 MIPRC meeting will be held in Minneapolis/St. Paul.

### **WisDOT Update – Rich Kedzior & Lisa Stern WisDOT**

Not a lot of new to report on. TCMC service naming, operating agreements and grant application status were discussed. Discussed status of our application. Ours is straight forward, no questions on it. Decisions to be made in Nov/Dec. Amtrak 4 coach cars, train service being a priority, Hiawatha line users discussion. Upcoming Railroad meeting in Stevens Point on Saturday October 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **Ramsey County Update – Kevin Roggenbuck, Ramsey County**

Union Depot update: Extend tracks to accommodate 2<sup>nd</sup> train overnight. Grant announcement delayed until Nov/Dec. Amtrak negotiations update: At Union Depot. A new agreement is being discussed to accommodate 2<sup>nd</sup> train and use of Union Depot.

### **Next steps if the FRA application is successful – Mason Baxter, AIRPO & Scott Rogers, Eau Claire Chamber/Rail Commission**

Discussion around insurance related to project. Look at return on investment. How to coordinate with WISDOT if TCMC grant is awarded.

**Other updates related to Rail Commission (process, procedure, helpful information)**

none

**Future Agenda Items**

Waiting to see about funding before much more can be done.

Get station planning development committee going by Mid-December

**Future Meeting Date**

Next meeting will be Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Meeting was adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Sue McDonald, Eau Claire County Clerk

Administrator ATTEST:

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Jeremy Gragert, Commission Secretary

Congratulations on being selected for the **Fiscal Year 2022** Corridor Identification and Development (**Corridor ID** or **CID**) grant program! The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Office of Railroad Development is excited to work with you to deliver your project that will help us modernize our nation's freight and passenger rail infrastructure.

In preparation for development of your project for a grant with the FRA, please review the guidance for the CID Program, including project eligibility, environmental review requirements and overall grant administration procedures available on the FRA website at the links below.

- [Corridor ID Grant Program \(FY22 Program Recipients\)](#)
- [FY 22 CID Grant Program Post Selection Webinar](#)
- [Grant Administration Overview](#)
- [From Selection to Award – The Post-Selection Process for FRA Grants Webinar](#)
- [FRA Guidance on Development and Implementation of Railroad Capital Project](#)

Your project name (title) is **Eau Claire-Twin Cities Corridor** (Application Number: FSP2023000123). Your FRA point-of-contact for this project is **Santiago Cruz-Roveda** at [santiago.cruzroveda@dot.gov](mailto:santiago.cruzroveda@dot.gov) who will be in touch within the next two weeks to schedule a formal kick-off meeting with you and your project team that will outline next steps in the project development process.

**Matthew Lorah**

Chief, Grant & Loan Program Development Division,

Office of Rail Program Development,

Office of Railroad Development,

Federal Railroad Administration