

**Minutes of the  
East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium  
Meeting of July 8, 2020**

**East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium Meeting** was called to order by Chairman Thomas Winker on July 8, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., at the Fond du Lac County Highway Garage Facility, located at 1820 S. Hickory Road, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

**Certification of Public Notice:** Kimberly A. Nass certified that the notice of this meeting complies with all applicable requirements of Wisconsin's open meetings law.

Roll call was taken.

**Present:** James E. Foley and Bob Koch, Columbia County; Russell Kottke and Jeffrey Caine, Dodge County; Karen Madigan and John Zorn, Fond du Lac County; Dennis Mulder, Green Lake County; Thomas E. Winker and Marty Wolf, Ozaukee County; Roger TeStroete, Sheboygan County; and Jeff Schleif and Brian Gallitz, Washington County.

**Excused:** Milwaukee County and Winnebago County.

**Others Present:** Roger Schaalma, WSOR; Don Pohlman, Mayor of the City of Plymouth; Kimberly A. Nass, Dodge County Corporation Counsel; and, Kelly L. Lepple, Recording Secretary.

**Election of Officers:**

Thomas Winker called for nominations from the floor for the office of Chairman.

**Chairman:** Jeffrey Caine nominated Thomas Winker for Chairman. There were no other nominations. Motion by Schleif/Caine to cast a unanimous ballot for Thomas Winker as Chairman. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Thomas Winker was elected Chairman of the EWCRC.

Upon election, Thomas Winker assumed the office of Chairman.

**Vice Chairman:** James Foley nominated Bob Koch for Vice Chairman. Brian Gallitz nominated Jeff Schleif for Vice Chairman. There were no other nominations. A secret ballot vote was taken. The results were Bob Koch 6 votes and Jeff Schleif 6 votes. Pursuant to Section 2 of the Bylaws of the EWCRC, the winner was determined by the toss of a coin. Bob Koch was elected vice chairman of the EWCRC.

**Secretary:** Bob Koch nominated Jeff Schleif for Secretary. There were no other nominations. Motion by Koch/Winker to cast a unanimous ballot for Jeff Schleif as Secretary. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Jeff Schleif was elected Secretary of the EWCRC.

**Treasurer:** Jeff Caine nominated Russell Kottke for Treasurer. There were no other nominations. Motion by Mulder/Winker to cast a unanimous ballot for Russell Kottke as Treasurer. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Russell Kottke was elected Treasurer of the EWCRC.

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**Public Comment:** Mayor Don Pohlman spoke about an accident that recently occurred at a railroad crossing in Plymouth, Wisconsin. Don Pohlman also spoke about the importance of safety and awareness of trains at railroad crossings.

**Approval of Minutes of March 11, 2020:** Motion by Koch/Schleif to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2020, as presented. Motion carried with 11 ayes and 1 abstained.

**Financial Report:** Russell Kottke reported the following: The balance in the checkbook as of February 29, 2020, was \$1,000.55. Deposits were \$200,000. There were no Expenditures. Transfers were \$200,000. Total EWCRC money on deposit in the Local Government Investment Pool as of May 31, 2020, is \$446,377.15. Motion by Foley/Caine to approve the Financial Report. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**Consider, discuss, approve, and authorize payment of invoice of Dodge County for services provided by the Dodge County Finance Department in 2019:** There was consideration of and discussion about the statement for services that was presented for payment from Dodge County, in the amount of \$700.00 for services provided by the Dodge County Finance Director and staff, in recordkeeping, accounting assistance, and in preparing the EWCRC Annual Financial Report. Motion by Mulder/Madigan to approve payment of this invoice and to authorize and direct the Office of Dodge County Corporation Counsel to send payment to Dodge County, in the amount of \$700.00, for services provided by the Dodge County Finance Director and staff, in recordkeeping, accounting assistance, and in preparing the EWCRC Annual Financial Report. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**Consider, discuss, approve, and authorize payment of invoice of Dodge County for services provided by the Dodge County Corporation Counsel Office in 2019:** There was consideration of and discussion about the statement for services that was presented for payment from Dodge County, in the amount of \$3,835.36, for services provided by the Dodge County Corporation Counsel and staff in 2019. Motion by Foley/Mulder to approve payment of this invoice and to authorize and direct the Office of Dodge County Corporation Counsel to send payment to Dodge County, in the amount of \$3,835.36, for services provided by the Dodge County Corporation Counsel and staff in 2019. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**Consider, discuss, and take action on the level of funding by member counties for 2021:** There was consideration of and discussion about the level of funding for member counties for 2021. Motion by Mulder/Schleif that the Board of Directors of the EWCRC recommend that each member county budget \$25,000 for its 2021 member county contribution to the EWCRC. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**Consideration/Action on EWCRC/WSOR 2020 Rehabilitation Project and Funding Strategy (Final Phase Oshkosh CWR Project):** Roger Schaalma provided a handout to all members of the EWCRC regarding WSOR's 2020 Capital Plan. Roger Schaalma provided an overview of WSOR's 2020 Capital Plan and requested that the EWCRC consider contributing its 2020 member county contribution of \$225,000 to the Phase 3 continuous welded rail replacement project between Fisk and Oshkosh, located on the Oshkosh Subdivision. Motion by TeStroete/Caine for the EWCRC contribute its 2020 member county contribution of \$225,000 to the Phase 3 continuous welded rail replacement project between Fisk and Oshkosh, located on the Oshkosh Subdivision. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

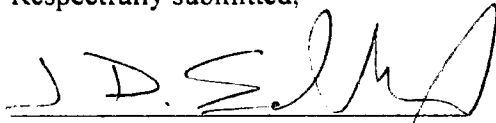
**Report of WSOR:** Roger Schaalma reported the following: WSOR is working with WisDOT on a continuous welded rail rehabilitation project on the Oshkosh Subdivision, from Fisk to Oshkosh, which is a Phase 3 rehabilitation project. WSOR is constructing four crossings and installing four switches between Fisk and Oshkosh. The rail has been delivered and will be installed in August or September of 2020. WSOR invited members of the consortium to visit one of its worksites and observe how WSOR takes out the old rail, and installs the new rail. In 2020, WSOR is going to replace 2,500 ties on the last four miles into Cambria, WSOR will be replacing 3,200 ties between Fairwater and Brandon, and WSOR will be installing 11,000 ties between Horicon and Slinger. In 2020, WSOR will be rehabilitating four at grade crossings. One at CTH A in Beaver Dam, one at CTH A in Fredonia, and one at Meadow Lark Street, and one at STH 44 in Brandon. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all rail inspection tours will be postponed to a later date and time next year.

**Date, time, and place of next meeting (September 9, 2020):** The next regular EWCRC meeting will be held on September 9, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. Dodge County will host the meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Schleif, Secretary

**Disclaimer: These are draft minutes. These draft minutes may be approved, amended, or corrected at the next meeting of the East Wisconsin Counties Railroad Consortium.**