



RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION SAFETY DISTRICT

Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 6, 2022

Meeting Began At 11:14 a.m.
Meeting Ended At: 12:03 pm
Members Present: Deb Schorr, Jane Raybould, Rick Vest, James Michael Bowers
Members Absent: Roma Amundson, Tom Beckius
Others Present: Roger Figard, Mary Lowe, Ron Rohde, Bill Kutilek, Tony Jerina
Kris Humphrey, Thomas Shafer

Call Meeting to Order; Notice of Public Meeting/Open Meetings Act

Rick Vest called the meeting to order. Vest stated that the RTSD is subject to and adheres to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and indicated that a copy of the Act is posted and available for inspection at the entrance of the meeting room.

Vest stated that the RTSD agenda and all the materials being considered at meeting were posted on the RTSD website on August 30, 2022. The RTSD website is also accessible by links from both the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County official government sites. In addition, on August 30, 2022, the Meeting Agenda was posted on the bulletin board located in City Hall, first floor, 555 South 10th Street. Copies of the Meeting Agenda and all the materials being considered at the meeting are made available at the dais, and complete copies of the materials are on file and retained at the RTSD Office at 949 West Bond Street, Suite 200.

Order No. 22-22: Report of Statement of Financial Activity

Ron Rhode from the County Budget and Fiscal Office delivered the report of financial activity for the RTSD. Rhode reviewed the receipts and disbursements for the current fiscal year through August 19, 2022. Total receipts for the period were \$2,259,823, comprising of tax receipts in the amount of \$2,246,240; project cost reimbursements of \$0.00, and investment interest income for the period is shown in the amount of \$13,583. During the period of the report, disbursements included: commissions, and refunds to State of Nebraska in the amount of \$44,205; operating costs in the amount of \$11,285; and construction project costs in the total amount of \$32,188; for total disbursements of \$87,677. For the period, the ending cash balance was \$2,016,711, and the ending investment balance was \$19,888,357, for a total fund balance of \$21,894,700.

Raybould moved to accept the Statement of Financial Activity.
Schorr seconded the motion. Motion approved 4-0.

Order No. 22-23: Consideration of FY 2021/2022 Audit

Tony Jerina updated the Board on the draft audit report of the RTSD Financial Statements for the years ended June 30, 2022 and 2021, which includes an unqualified opinion from the accounting firm. Jerina stated that he does not presently expect any revisions to the audit report when it is finalized.

Raybould moved to approve to accept the Audit Report, subject to there being no revisions of the draft report, as presented.
Schorr seconded the motion. Motion approved 4-0.

Order No. 22- 24: Report regarding Current Budget Status

Figard reviewed with the Board the present fiscal year expenditures, which are current as of August 19, 2022. Vest commended Figard on the relationships that have been built over the years with the railroads and the efforts to continue to keep costs down and crossings in good working order.

Order No. 22-25: Consideration of FY 2022/2023 Budget

Jerina stated that consistent with the earlier Public Budget Hearing, the RTSD Board will be receiving the requested levy of \$0.022217 per one hundred dollars of actual property valuation.

Amundson moved to approve the FY 2022/2023 Budget.
Raybould seconded the motion. Motion approved 4-0.

Order No. 22-26: Report of Project and Crossing Updates

Agenda Item 9.a: Humphrey reported on the 33rd & Cornhusker Hwy Project. The RTSD is partnering with the City of Lincoln for a potential Federal Grant under the Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program, which is administered by the Federal Railroad Association Administration (FRA).

Agenda Item 9.b: Figard reported that FHU continues to work on SE Lincoln Quiet Zone. Information on the required safety improvements and their costs will not be available until late this year or early in 2023.

Agenda Item 9c: Since the last meeting, Figard received a few complaints regarding blocked crossings, and Figard reported to the Board that the recent increased frequency of blocked crossings this is partially due to the derailment and bridge replacement along with additional rail work and inspections. Figard continues to work on an agreement with Union Pacific Railroad regarding the removal of the tracks on NW 12th Street. Also, BNSF has repaired the crossing near Hwy 2 and Pioneers Blvd, and Figard was informed that BNSF will soon be replacing panels on Pioneers Blvd by Salt Creek.

Order No 22-27: Report of Other Matters

Operation Lifesaver will start a tour this Thursday across Nebraska to remind people of rail safety.

Order No. 22-28: National Rail Safety Week, September 19-25, 2022

Figard reported that representatives of Operation Lifesaver contacted the RTSD seeking a proclamation of support for National Rail Safety Week (September 19-25, 2022). Operation Lifesaver is a national nonprofit rail safety organization. The organization utilizes authorized volunteers to promote rail safety through educational safety presentations and through its mobile training trailer. The organization focuses on driver's education, students and special events. Figard read the proclamation into the record.

Schorr moved to approve the Proclamation of Rail Safety Week, September 19-25, 2022.
Raybould seconded the motion. Motion approved 4-0.

Order No. 22-29: Communications/Correspondence

Figard reported that he has been working with Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) on a similar proclamation of US Rail Safety Week that is expected to be signed by the Governor later this week.

Order No. 22-30: Non-Agenda Items/Public Comment

None.

Schorr moved to adjourn the meeting.
Raybould seconded the motion. Motion approved 4-0.

The next meeting is presently scheduled for Monday, December 5, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.
Prepared by: Mary Lowe, Transportation and Utilities
Minutes 09-06-22