

RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION SAFETY DISTRICT

MINUTES

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Board Meeting

May 3, 1999

Meeting Began at: 8:00 a.m.

Meeting Ended at: 9:15 p.m.

Members Present: Coleen Seng, Curt Donaldson, Bob Workman, Bernie Heier, Ross Hecht

Members Absent: Linda Steinman

Others Present: Roger Figard, Mike Michaelson, Larry McNeel, Michele Maly, Connie Thoreson, Kimberly Farabee, Public Works and Utilities; Dick Nuernberger, County Treasurer, William Kuester, Attorney; Don Thomas, County Engineer; John Ludden, Harlan Layton, Mike Bartels, Carolyn Skorohod, Richard Halvorsen, Citizens; Jeff Deline, Dennis Meyer, State Auditors

Order No. 99-01

Coleen Seng called the meeting to order and asked for approval of the previous minutes. B. Heier motioned to approve the pervious minuted; R. Hecht seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

All board members introduced themselves.

Order No. 99-02

Dick Nuernberger read the Treasurer's Report. The county Treasurer's balance for the District was \$1,414,849.50 as of April 27, 1999, and District's checking balance was \$1,558,097.04 as of April 27, 1999. R. Hecht motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report; B. Heier seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

Order No. 99-03

Roger Figard updated the board on the 'X' St. Track Consolidation project. RTSD is waiting for UNL to place the agreement on the June Regents agenda and then sign the agreement for cost sharing. After this is completed, RTSD can take bids on June 2, 1999, and will bring it back to the board on June 7, 1999. No motion needed.

Order No. 99-04

Bill Kuester gave some background on the Statutes that give authority to purchase additional land and the right of Eminent Domain that we may need in the 'X' Street Track Consolidation project. Roger Figard mentioned there might me a few locations this might come into play where the project would require a couple of storage house areas.

Order No. 99-04 Continued:

Coleen Seng asked how much space will be needed and Mike Michaelson replied with, 30 × 50 foot area, and it would in most cases be use of easement for construction and not taking the easement property. C. Donaldson motioned to exercise Authority to use Eminent Domain if needed on this project; B. Workman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Order No. 99-05

Roger Figard briefly explained that the City of Lincoln does not have the staff to work on the 'X' Street Project as we get to the Construction Phase. Proposing that Parsons Brinkerhoff and Olsson Associates provide onsite inspections, testing and project management services during the construction phase. Mike Michaelson mentioned the benefit of hiring outside agencies to help the City better understand the work involved in track relocation.

Mike Bartels questioned if we've been waiting this long to get the project started why not save money and have the City do it even if it takes a longer time. Roger explained that the cost would be the same whether the City or someone else would do the work. Either way, the District will have to pay for the work. R. Hecht motioned that the President and Executive Director sign engineering proposal with Parsons Brinkerhoff; B. Heier seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

Order No. 99-06

Mike Michaelson updated the board on the 3rd and 'A' Street project. Mike went over the steps needing to be taken to proceed on this project, by requesting board to sign proposal submitted by Olsson Associates. After signing this contract, the District will need approval from DOR and notice to proceed, Olsson will then continue to do environmental studies, establish executive review committee, present information to the board, and then start construction. Urban Development will work with neighborhood Associations and business' in the area on the effects of the project. Once the environmental study is complete, a public hearing will be held to ask the board for continuation of the project. Mike went over some ADA requirements and what will improve the neighborhood.

Harlan Layton requested that the District take a look at an overpass between South and 'A' street and have UP come out of 4th Street. Mike will look into it. R. Hecht motioned to have the President and Executive Director sign engineering proposal with Olsson Associates; B. Heier seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

Order No. 99-07

Roger Figard briefly went over the draft budget explaining Operating Budget Requests, City and County Projects, CIP 6 and 10 year plan, and the Flow of Funds Statement. Working closely with Don Thomas making sure area needs are covered. Roger asked if there were any ideas to be in the budget that are not currently there, he was open to suggestion. Again this is not a final budget, and there will be a hearing on the Budget later this summer. No motion needed.

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Order No. 99-08

Roger Figard wanted the board to know that RTSD is and plans to utilize the resources available to them to update records and with master planning. Grad students through UNL are working on a program to show all crossing through GIS and Roger will invite them to present the program at a Board Meeting or a Commons Meeting.

Order No. 99-09

Jeff Deline of the State Auditors Office wanted to bring to the boards attention two topics of concern on the budget. One being the large balance carried from year to year, and the District not expending money given through taxing. Roger Figard mentioned projects are moving slow and are the cause of no expenditures taking place and that once these project start, money will start to be used. He also mentioned that our accountant would respond to their concerns.

John Ludden wanted the board to know that he appreciates RTSD and the work they have done at 33rd and the downtown area.

Harlan Layton added that some areas of concern for him is the 'A' and South and Parks Street areas that need to be closed along with S.W. 40th and 'A' Street elimination.

Coleen asked for a motion to adjourn, R. Hecht made the motioned; B. Heier seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

Prepared by: Kim Farabee
Kimberly Farabee, Public Works & Utilities