

# RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION SAFETY DISTRICT

Board Meeting  
November 6, 2001

Meeting Began At: 10:09 A.M.

Meeting Ended At: 10:35 A.M.

Members Present: Coleen Seng, Bob Workman, Ray Stevens, Jonathan Cook, Larry Hudkins

Members Absent: Glenn Friendt

Others Present: Roger Figard, Bill Kutilek, Kurt Micek, Fran Mejer, Dick Nuernberger, Larry McNeel, Harlan Layton, Tina Mackel

## **Order No. 01-24 Call to Order. Approval of the Previous Minutes.**

Coleen Seng called the meeting to order. She asked for a motion to approve the previous minutes. Cook motioned to approve the minutes. Hudkins seconded the motion. Motion approved.

## **Order No. 01-25 Report of Treasurer.**

Dick Nuernberger presented the treasurer's report. As of September 30, 2001, the District had investments in various banks totaling \$12,824,615.42. A balance of \$1,546,764.18 was carried in the District's checking account as of September 27, 2001. The County Treasurer's balance for the District was \$1,141,347.01 as of September 30, 2001.

Figard stated that the checking account is interest bearing. The money in the checking account is for the transfer of the \$1.5 million for Antelope Valley from the budget to the City.

Hudkins motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Stevens seconded the motion. Motion approved.

## **Order No. 01-26 Re-Approval of Budget Per Public Notice**

Figard stated that when the first budget notice was advertised, the actual costs of the budget were not listed which is a requirement of the State. The proper advertisement has been listed in the Journal Star and are now here to allow anyone from the public to ask any questions for full disclosure. The Board's action would be to approve the budget as previously submitted and approved so that the budget is legal.

Hudkins motioned to re-approve the budget. Cook seconded the motion. Motion approved.

## **Order No. 01-27 Project Updates**

**3rd and A Street** - Continuing to move along.

**8th and 9th Street** - The RTSD provided financial resources to remove those tracks along 9th and also in 8th Street. It opens those corridors up for redevelopment.

**Jamaica Line** - The RTSD is not leading a planning effort for this abandonment. The Union Pacific Railroad had filed for abandonment from 5th & J Street all the way to Jamaica. The agreement says that the District is paying to have the tracks removed from all those streets that the tracks cross between J Street and down to Saltillo. The railroad will take those tracks out. The City and the Parks Department are continuing to work with the railroad making sure that the right-of-way is preserved for trails or other intermodal activity. The Mayor sent a letter to the railroad requesting that they consider donating that right-of-way to the City. We did not get credit for other crossings we may want to open in the future.

**Kawasaki** - Now being confronted on the County side with Kawasaki needing a crossing across Union Pacific tracks. Kawasaki wants as many accesses out of the new plant as possible. Need to make a decision on what we're going to do with Wildrose and the extension of 27th Street to the south. The work and agreements were in place before discussions with Kawasaki ever began. Part of the goal and mission of the RTSD is to try to eliminate conflicts.

**Hwy 2 Track** - The track is owned by Burlington Northern Santa Fe to the west right-of-way line of 56th Street. From 56th on east to Nebraska City, it is owned by OPPD. There was some discussion about a letter that came in about trains. This complaint was about trains during rush hour. We need to determine the number of trains and the schedule to see if there is a better time of day or night that it can be done, both for the concrete plant as well as OPPD. The City has been working on trying to have warning signs or informational signs at appropriate places that might alert people to when that crossing might be closed. Cook asked for responses on that to be sent to the City Council.

**Pedestrian Crossing** - The pedestrian bridge is moving ahead. Sampson has already started. The new completion on the pedestrian structure is July 1st. The contractor has made a commitment to have at least one of the structures open for pedestrian traffic by May 15th. We still have \$727,000 in this current budget that is available to help pay for the pedestrian overpass when we are billed by the City.

The Board discussed the upcoming 2002 meetings memo. Next meeting will tentatively be held on March 5, 2002 @ 10:00 a.m. after the Commons Meeting. Figard stated that the goal of this memo was to get into a regular schedule for a meeting every 3 months, realizing that things could happen and some adjustments may need to be made. He proposed that other people from his staff could represent the District to present information. The people that are managing the projects and budget are equally capable of presenting that information. He added that he will be absent for the June meeting as it scheduled now.

Seng asked for any public comment.

Workman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Stevens seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tina Mackel, Public Works & Utilities