



SEDA-COG JOINT RAIL AUTHORITY MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2008  
SEDA-COG, LEWISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA  
12:30 P.M.

**PRESERVING  
RAIL FREIGHT  
SERVICE**

*serving the counties of*

**Centre**

**Clinton**

**Columbia**

**Lycoming**

**Mifflin**

**Montour**

**Northumberland**

**Union**

**SEDA-COG JOINT  
RAIL AUTHORITY**

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**AUTHORITY MEMBERS PRESENT**

Scott Harvey, Lycoming County  
Mike Hawbaker, Centre County  
Tom Herman, Montour County  
Bud Henry, Columbia County  
Rick Jenkins, Columbia County  
Don Kramer, Clinton County  
Michael Krentzman, Mifflin County  
Mike Redin, Centre County  
Dennis Reitz, Northumberland County  
Dennis Shaffer, Union County  
John Showers, Union County  
Jim Spendiff, Mifflin County  
Jerry Walls, Lycoming County  
Bud Webb, Clinton County

**GUESTS PRESENT**

Al Bubb, NRHS  
Mark Murawski, Lycoming County Planning Commission  
Russ Nicodemus, Railroad Operating Companies  
Jeff Pontius, Railroad Operating Companies  
Dick Robey, Railroad Operating Companies  
Mimi Robey, Railroad Operating Companies  
Gary Shields, Railroad Operating Companies  
Diana Williams, Railroad Operating Companies

**STAFF PRESENT**

Steve Hurvitz, Esq., McQuaide Blasko  
Kay Aikey  
George Fury  
Steve Kusheloff  
Jeff Stover

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

**Call to Order**

Mr. Walls called the meeting to order at 12:46 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Walls led the Pledge of Allegiance.



Affiliated with  
SEDA Council of Governments

### **Approval of the November 12, 2008 Meeting Minutes of the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority**

***Mr. Henry made a motion to approve the November 12, 2008 meeting minutes of the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority; Mr. Hawbaker seconded the motion.***

Mr. Walls asked for a few editorial corrections to be made to the minutes.

- The modified motion on page 9 of the packet regarding the preliminary track inspection report needs to be restated and results of the vote on the motion as modified. A change should also be made to reflect that Mr. Reitz seconded the motion, not Mr. Spendiff.
- On page 10 there is a statement regarding a GPS grade coordinate reference; "grade" should be "grid".

***With these changes being made Mr. Henry and Mr. Hawbaker concurred with the amended motion and second; motion carried.***

### **Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Webb reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2008.

***Mr. Jenkins made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2008; Mr. Kramer seconded the motion; motion carried.***

### **Operating Agreement Committee Report**

Mr. Spendiff reported the Operator has provided the additional information that was requested at the November meeting. Mr. Robey provided information regarding cash transfers between the railroads as well as cash flow statements. Mr. Spendiff stated the committee wanted to see information similar to the 2005 full audited financials for each of the railroads. Mr. Robey is in the process of putting this information together regarding the tax accounts and will forward it upon completion.

At this time members entered in executive session at 12:50 p.m. to discuss the operator's amended arrangement for a change of control of the operating and leasing companies and the Newberry Bulk Transfer Facility. The meeting reconvened at 2:10 p.m.

### **Legal Issues**

Attorney Hurvitz stated the only issue is the Decker encroachment. Mr. Fury reported he has been working with Dominick Muracco an associate of McQuade, Blasko. A recent track inspection by the operator revealed Decker had not removed the offending materials. Mr. Muracco contacted Decker's lawyer and (1) the Authority will be getting a check for \$1,000 to cover the attorney's fees; and (2) Mr. Muracco informed the lawyer that the Deckers hadn't gotten their materials off the property. Mr. Muracco asked that the Authority give the Deckers another ten days' opportunity (which would be December 19) to vacate the property before the issue goes back to court.

### **Events Calendar/Project Map/Staff Report**

Mr. Stover reported that due to inclement weather the holiday party has been postponed until Thursday, January 15, 2009.

Mr. Stover stated the Board pays for subscriptions to Rail Pace magazine and Trains magazine. Any board member interested in receiving the magazines should let Ms. Aikey know as renewals for both are up.

Mr. Stover presented the events calendar for December and January, the projects map, and the staff report.

### **Operator's Status Report**

Mr. Robey referred to the Operator's Report included in the packet.

## **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

### **Penn College Quit Claim Deed (LVRR)**

Mr. Stover reported Penn College has presented a quit claim deed that would convey for \$1.00 the R/W of the former Dodge Extension Track off the LVRR between Lycoming Creek and Rose Street.

*Mr. Redin made a motion to authorize Chairman and Secretary to execute a quit claim deed with Penn College of Technology with the request that Penn College consider working out the routing of the county bike trail through the recreational complex either on the adjacent former Fagnano property or the Dodge Extension land to help avoid the trail use of LVRR right-of-way; Mr. Henry seconded the motion; motion carried.*

### **North Branch Canal Trail (NSHR)**

Mr. Redin stated there were discussions on this issue in the past and this is simply a reaffirmation of the Authority's decision of cooperating with the trail advocates to establish this trail on the former towpath which is part of the NSHR right-of-way.

*Mr. Redin made a motion that the Authority reaffirm its commitment to the trail interests for the eventual transfer of this property to the appropriate trail entity and with the condition that should a change of use from the above noted uses be proposed, the ownership of said land would revert to the ownership of the JRA; Mr. Kramer seconded the motion; motion carried.*

### **Newberry South Bulk Transfer Facility Issues (LVRR)**

Mr. Stover stated that Larson Design Group did some additional work on utilities and site work and have presented a change order for \$11,737.

*Mr. Harvey made a motion to approve Larson Design Group's Design Change order to authorize an additional \$11,737; Mr. Reitz seconded the motion; motion carried.*

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Moran Industries: Kennedy-King Development (LVRR)**

Mr. Stover reported that Representative Cappelli has been able to secure \$1 million grant to the Authority related to the development of the Kennedy-King Complex which is currently owned by the City of Williamsport. Moran Logistics Company, through Jeff Stroehmann, has agreed to cover all of the JRA's out-of-pocket expenses for preliminary engineering work to prepare budget numbers. The Authority is waiting for the Larson Design costs so the project budget can be updated.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Federal Stimulus Package

Mr. Stover reported that the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA) is spearheading compilation of a project list to be submitted to Congress as it considers a stimulus package that may include sizable infrastructure investments. Mr. Stover thanked Mr. Shields for his help in getting the project list to the ASLRRA as he has been working through the ASLRRA and serves on its board of directors. Four projects were submitted with three being on the JRA railroads. Mr. Shields stated there are two key themes on the JRA projects – energy and bridges. Mr. Shields further reported that \$7 million worth of requests were submitted and does not know what the match will be.

Mr. Walls stated that there was some discussion earlier regarding Mr. Shaffer's comment about keeping the Authority's option open to put in another project of the Newberry South Bulk Transfer Facility if that turns out to be the case. Mr. Shaffer responded it could be included with the Williamsport Newberry Yard project.

*Mr. Jenkins made a motion to endorse submissions to the ASLRRA for candidate projects for the federal stimulus legislation and to add the Newberry South Bulk Transfer project; Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion; motion carried.*

### Public Forum

None.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Walls adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffery K. Stover, Executive Director

I hereby certify these minutes were approved by the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority Board of Directors on January 14, 2009.

  
Secretary/Assistant Secretary