



SEDA-COG JOINT RAIL AUTHORITY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 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

AUTHORITY MEMBERS PRESENT

- Scott Harvey, Lycoming County
- Mike Hawbaker, Centre County
- Bud Henry, Columbia County
- Tom Herman, Montour County
- Don Kramer, Clinton County
- Dennis Reitz, Northumberland County
- Dennis Shaffer, Union County
- Jim Spendiff, Mifflin County
- Jerry Walls, Lycoming County

GUESTS PRESENT

- Jim Bowers, C.P.A., Bowers and Company
- Allen Bubb, NRHS
- Steve Hurvitz, Esq., McQuaide Blasko
- Jeff Pontius, Railroad Operating Companies
- Mimi Robey, Railroad Operating Companies
- Richard Robey, Railroad Operating Companies
- Gary Shields, Railroad Operating Companies

STAFF PRESENT

- Steve Kusheloff
- Denise Pyers
- Jamie Shrawder
- Jeff Stover

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Call to Order

Mr. Walls called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Walls led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Stover informed the board that Ms. Pyers is leaving SEDA-COG to work for PennDOT's Bureau of Rail Freight.

Mr. Henry made a motion to commend Ms. Pyers for her service to the JRA; Mr. Spendiff seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Herman made a motion to recognize Barry Ashenfelder for his service to the board; Mr. Henry seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

**SEDA-COG JOINT
RAIL AUTHORITY**

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Affiliated with
SEDA Council of Governments

Approval of the January 9, 2008 Meeting Minutes of the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority

Mr. Henry made a motion to approve the January 9, 2008 meeting minutes of the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority; Mr. Kramer seconded the motion; motion carried.

Approval of the February 6, 2008 Meeting Minutes of the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority

Mr. Herman made a motion to approve the February 6, 2008 meeting minutes of the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority; Mr. Spendiff seconded the motion; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Reitz reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2008.

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

Operating Agreement Committee Report

Mr. Spendiff stated the operator has not yet responded to the letter from Mr. Stover containing the questions regarding the change of control. Mr. Robey stated he plans to respond next week.

Mr. Spendiff also reported that Section 13 of the Operating Agreement does not need changed. Mr. Stover stated the track consultant and staff need to approve the annual M/W work program by March 1, and the board does not need to approve it. Mr. Jannotti and staff approved the amended 2008 M/W program after meeting with the operator on February 28. Several items were added to the program including correcting all JRA defects on the LVRR and the NSHR 20 mph segment, installing an additional 3,250 ties, and adding two additional grade crossings. Staff, the operator and Mr. Jannotti will be working on a 5-year M/W program.

Mr. Spendiff referred to an article from the Lewistown Sentinel newspaper regarding the Maitland track from 25 years ago. Mr. Walls asked Mr. Kusheloff to distribute similar information to other newspapers.

Legal Issues

Attorney Hurvitz stated there are no pending legal issues.

Events Calendar/Project Map/Staff Report

Mr. Stover presented the events calendar for February and March, the projects map, and the staff report. He also reported on the UGI water service issue. Mr. Walls asked Mr. Kusheloff to coordinate with Mr. Stover to get information from the follow up meeting concerning the safety of UGI to the Sun Gazette.

Operator's Status Report

Mr. Robey referred to the Operator's Report included in the packet. Mr. Bowers, C.P.A. explained that since there hasn't been an audit of the operator for the last several years, this year's audit will include an expression of opinion on the balance sheet only. The audit will also include an income statement and cash flow statement, but they will say they were not audited and will not include an expression of opinion. Mr. Jones is aware of the issue and Mr. Stover will get his acceptance of this situation in writing. Mr. Bowers stated all adjustments can be included in notes. He will email the audit plan to Mr. Jones for his review.

Mr. Pontius distributed the annual reportable injuries report and stated a NS train excursion will be held on April 22nd.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

PennDOT Drainage

PennDOT has requested an easement to stabilize the embankment between White Deer and Allenwood.

Mr. Hawbaker made a motion to approve the drainage easement for PennDOT for \$2,200 and authorize Mr. Stover to sign the documents; Mr. Herman seconded the motion; motion carried.

Mr. Kramer reviewed the other items discussed at the PMC meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Award for Yard Surveys

Mr. Stover referred to the results of the nine proposals received. The Authority has worked with Vassallo Engineering and Surveying and Keller Engineers in the past and recommends these firms for the survey work. Both firms can provide one foot contours for the same cost.

Mr. Reitz made a motion to engage Vassallo Engineering and Surveying for the Newberry Yard survey work for \$19,250.00; Mr. Kramer seconded the motion; motion carried.

Mr. Hawbaker made a motion to engage Keller Engineers for the Bellefonte and Lewistown Yards survey work for \$26,500.00; Mr. Herman seconded the motion; motion carried.

NBER Mill Hall Industrial Track – Avery Dennison

The 1.9 miles of this track is owned by the Clinton County Economic Partnership (CCEP) will be conveyed to the JRA for \$1.00. The budget and work items for the RFAP were included in the packet. K.W. Reese was the low bidder. Mr. Stover stated Avery Dennison has agreed to contribute \$100,000 toward the CCEP RFAP project; NBER will provide an additional \$13,223.55 needed for the project. The JRA's local share is \$94,992.

Mr. Kramer made a motion to award the CCEP RFAP to K.W. Reese in the total of \$432,333 with the total JRA share of \$94,992; Mr. Reitz seconded the motion; motion carried.

LVRRL Loyalsock Creek Bridge

Mr. Stover stated PennDOT District 3-0 requires a formal resolution from the board stating the JRA will not proceed on the Loyalsock Creek Bridge project without the airport access road bridge due to the increased budget.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the resolution to notify PennDOT District 3-0 that the JRA will not pursue a new LVRRL Loyalsock Creek Bridge without the complementary airport access road bridge; Mr. Hawbaker seconded the motion; motion carried.

NBER Whiterock Quarry Track Agreement Modification

Mr. Stover stated G.O. Hawbaker (GOH) needs to be added as a signatory to an amended Whiterock Quarry Track grant agreement in order to allow costs incurred by GOH to be used for local match and to secure partial reimbursement for supplied materials and labor.

Mr. Kramer made a motion to approve an amended Whiterock Quarry Capital Budget grant agreement to add Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. as a signatory with the JRA and Commonwealth and further approve execution by the officers of the JRA of amended documents; Mr. Harvey seconded the motion; motion carried. Mr. Hawbaker abstained from the motion.

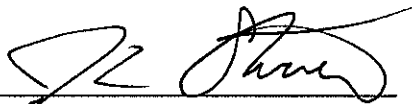
Public Forum

Mr. Bubb stated the West Shore Railroad's line from Lewisburg to Mifflinburg has submitted an application for abandonment and will be purchased by the Lewisburg Area Recreational Authority for a trail.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Walls adjourned the meeting at 2:25 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 March 12, 2008.



Secretary/Assistant Secretary