



**SEDA-COG JOINT RAIL AUTHORITY MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 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**

- Tom Graham, Montour County
- Scott Harvey, Lycoming County
- Mike Hawbaker, Centre County
- Bud Henry, Columbia County
- Tom Herman, Montour County
- Don Kramer, Clinton County
- Mike Redin, Centre County
- Dennis Reitz, Northumberland County
- Rick Jenkins, Columbia County
- Dennis Shaffer, Union County
- John Showers, Union County
- Jerry Walls, Lycoming County

**GUESTS PRESENT**

- Allen Bubb, NRHS
- Steve Hurvitz, Esq., McQuaide Blasko
- Jeff Pontius, Railroad Operating Companies
- Gary Shields, Railroad Operating Companies

**STAFF PRESENT**

- George Fury
- Steve Kusheloff
- Jim Saylor
- Jamie Shrawder
- Jeff Stover

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

**Call to Order**

Mr. Walls called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Walls led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Stover introduced Mr. Rick Jenkins, new board member from Columbia County and Mr. Tom Graham, new board member from Montour County.

Mr. Walls reported Mr. Hoopengardner submitted his resignation. Mr. Stover recognized Mr. Hoopengardner for his years of service to the JRA Board.

Mr. Stover introduced Mr. Jim Saylor, the new Transportation Planning Director at SEDA-COG.

**SEDA-COG JOINT  
RAIL AUTHORITY**

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Affiliated with  
SEDA Council of Governments

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

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

**Treasurer's Report**

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

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

**Legal Issues**

Attorney Hurvitz stated Attorney Ann Pepperman is preparing the agreement of sale for the land sale to Wirerope. The buyer will need to handle subdivision approval.

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

Mr. Stover presented the events calendar for May and June, the projects map, and the staff report. He presented a certificate to Mr. Pontius in recognition of the NS Office Car Special trains. The board discussed the competitive access issue and Mr. Walls asked the operator for comments on the competitive advantage of access. The June 11<sup>th</sup> board meeting will be on the train at Bellefonte.

**Operator's Status Report**

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

**PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**Proposed Revision to Rails-with-Trails Policy**

Mr. Walls reported that because he is under contract with the Lycoming County Commissioners he asked Mr. Herman to preside over this item. Mr. Redin referred to the April Lycoming County request for trail co-locations along the LVRR right-of-way. He stated the PMC recommends no changes be made to the current Rails-with-Trails policy. Mr. Stover stated pinch points will be addressed with specific language and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

*Mr. Redin made a motion to not change the current rails-with-trails policy; Mr. Kramer seconded the motion; motion carried. Mr. Walls abstained.*

**Larson Design Group's Recommendation – Jacking Pads at Newberry**

Mr. Redin reported LDG recommends accepting Sanso Concrete's bid provided they will use concrete with a minimum strength of 3,000 PSI. The JRA will pay for the concrete while the LVRR provides labor.

*Mr. Walls made a motion to accept LDG's recommendation to award the bid to Sanso Concrete at \$3,060, provided they can provide the 3,000 PSI rating; Mr. Herman seconded the motion; motion carried.*

**Scrap Rail Sale**

Mr. Fury stated there are ±120 tons of scrap rail in Bellefonte and Newberry Yard which are not reusable.

*Mr. Redin made a motion to approve the sale of scrap material and authorize staff to develop specs and bid out the material; Mr. Hawbaker seconded the motion; motion carried.*

### Track Modification Approval Process

Mr. Redin referred to the sheet developed by Mr. Fury to be signed by all parties involved in projects to document consensus.

### Coleville Turntable

Mr. Redin informed the board that Sanders has removed the turntable and the PMC recommends the pit be backfilled to remove the hazard. There is fill stockpiled at the Sunnyside yard that can be used to fill the hole. The JRA owns the land where the turntable was located and is therefore responsible for filling the hole.

*Mr. Redin made a motion to authorize staff to contact Will Sanders to request he contribute towards backfilling the hole and to seek bids to do so; Mr. Henry seconded the motion; motion carried.*

### Additional Engineering Services for Bellefonte Engine House

Mr. Redin stated SSM submitted a proposal for additional work for the streamside wall.

*Mr. Redin made a motion to approve the additional SSM services totaling \$3,000; Mr. Reitz seconded the motion; motion carried.*

### Tyrone Tie Wall

Mr. Stover referred to the pictures in the PMC packet and reviewed the history of maintenance to this wall.

*Mr. Redin made a motion to authorize staff to contact John Conrad to examine the site and recommend the most cost-effective solution; Mr. Kramer seconded the motion; motion carried.*

### Industrial Property Development

Mr. Stover explained that staff is going to work on a database to list available rail served industrial properties.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### Go21 – Short Line Tax Credit Extension

Mr. Stover stated it is the recommendation of Attorney O'Brien and staff to contact the congressional delegation asking for language to require approval by non-operating railroad owners in the case of a leased railroad seeking to use or sell tax credits. The board discussed language to cover situations other than just assignment of credits. Attorney Hurvitz stated assignment means identification of the specific track, not use or sale of the credits. Mr. Pontius reassured the board he wants to work with them on this issue.

*Mr. Herman made a motion to contact the congressional delegation per the recommendation from Attorney O'Brien's with clarification from him regarding the term "assignment"; Mr. Harvey seconded the motion; motion carried. Mr. Redin and Mr. Hawbaker voted against the motion.*

#### Bellefonte Mill Race Wall Bidding

Mr. Fury reported bid specifications will be prepared by next week to be sent out.

*Mr. Hawbaker made a motion to authorize staff to bid replacement of Mill Race Wall in Bellefonte; Mr. Graham seconded the motion; motion carried.*

**JRA 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Mr. Redin informed the board he is researching the purchase of five wooden freight cars (one for each railroad) to give in commemoration of the JRA's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The cost would be around \$7,000. Mr. Fury suggested using one block with all five cars on it.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Larson Design Group Newberry South Road**

Mr. Stover stated LDG provided a proposal for additional engineering work for the road off Catawissa Avenue for \$9,672.00.

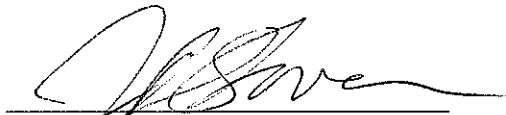
*Mr. Hawbaker made a motion to approve the additional contract with LDG for the roadway work at Newberry South; Mr. Graham seconded the motion; motion carried.*

**Public Forum**

**ADJOURNMENT**

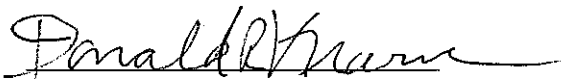
Mr. Walls adjourned the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

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 June 11, 2008.



Secretary/Assistant Secretary