



Approved Meeting Minutes

January 31, 2013
Cottage Grove City Hall
4:00 p.m.

Commission Members	Agency	Present
Mike Slavik	Dakota County RRA	X
Liz Workman	Dakota County RRA	
Autumn Lehrke, Chair	Washington County RRA	X
Janice Rettman	Ramsey County RRA	X
Jim McDonough	Ramsey County RRA	
Linda Higgins	Hennepin County RRA	
Barb Hollenbeck	City of Hastings	X
Jen Peterson, Vice Chair	City of Cottage Grove	X
Myron Bailey	City of Cottage Grove	
Keith Franke	City of St. Paul Park	
Steve Gallagher	City of Newport	X
Kathy Higgins	City of St. Paul Park	
Jim Keller	Denmark Township	X
Cam Gordon	City of Minneapolis	X
Amy Brendmoen	City of St. Paul	
Paul Hicks	City of Hastings	

Ex-Officio Members	Agency	
Ron Allen	Goodhue County	
Bob Kastner	City of Red Wing	
Marc Mogan	Prairie Island Indian Community	X
Ken Bjornstad	Goodhue County	X
Linda Gartner	Canadian Pacific Railway	
Judy Mitchell	Canadian Pacific Railway	

Staff	Agency	Present
Andy Gitzlaff	Washington County RRA	X
Josh Olson	Ramsey County RRA	X
Joe Morneau	Dakota County RRA	X
Lyssa Leitner	Washington County RRA	X
Mike Rogers	Ramsey County RRA	

Others	Agency
Katie White	Met Council
Carl Jensen	MNDOT
Tina Sanz	Hennepin County Aid to Commissioner Higgins
Ciara Schlichting	Stantec

The meeting was video recorded and can be viewed online at:
http://swctc.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=4125

Vice Chair Peterson called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Agenda Item #1: Election of Officers

Vice Chair Peterson opened nominations for Chair. Motion made by Rettman to nominate Lehrke. Motion made by Slavik to nominate Peterson.

A voice vote for the first nomination for Commissioner Lehrke was taken: Gitzlaff clarified that according to the bylaws County Members get 2 votes and Cities get 1 vote.

Gallagher-N (1 vote), Slavik- N (2 votes), Rettman-Y (2 votes), Peterson-N (1 vote), Lehrke-Y (2 votes), Keller-Y (1 vote) and Hollenbeck-Y (1 vote). Motion carried on voice vote 6-4 to elect Lehrke as Chair.

Chair Lehrke opened nominations for Vice Chair. Motion made by Hollenbeck to nominate Peterson. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Commission member Gordon joined the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Roll call and introductions made by Commissioners Gallagher, Slavik, Rettman, Gordon, Peterson, Lehrke, Keller, and Hollenbeck.

Agenda Item #2: Consent Items

a. Minutes of the November 29, 2012 Meeting

b. Checks and Claims

Motion made by Rettman to approve the November 29, 2012 meeting minutes and checks and claims. Seconded by Gallagher. Rettman asked for clarification of when the contract for the website and other communication services runs from. Gitzlaff stated the contracts original end date was December 31st, but with additional money available it was extended through this month until the Commission decides what they would like to do for the upcoming year. Roll call vote: Gallagher, Slavik, Rettman, Gordon, Peterson, Lehrke, Keller, and Hollenbeck in favor. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Agenda Item #3: Alternatives Analysis Update (AAU) Kick-off - Stantec

Leitner discussed the AAU as presented in the packet. Rettman stated that she would like the reevaluation to include the river route being chosen as the preferred route for high speed rail as well as the opening of the Union Depot. Leitner stated that those two items will be added for the future as they are important for the Corridor.

Ciara Schlichting, Stantec, discussed the AAU as presented in the packet. Schlichting stated that there will be a workshop after the next meeting in February. There will be information presented on BRT as an educational opportunity. Most of the time will be spent on finding out what the Commissioners feel is important for the Corridor. Schlichting stated that the Project Management Team (PMT) had their first meeting this month. The PMT found strengths of the Corridor including the infrastructure that exists currently. The weaknesses include the geography which presents barriers to access the Corridor from the communities as well as lack of density along the Corridor to support the transit. Schlichting stated that they believe these are also opportunities.

Slavik asked how many members Stantec is looking for to participate on the Community Advisory Committee (CAC). Schlichting stated that they will not limit the number of members.

Rettman asked if communities will be asked for their input for the CAC. Schlichting stated that this would be a great idea to reach out to the communities. Rettman stated that she thinks the communities along the Corridor should be notified so they would be able to choose members for the CAC. Schlichting stated that they are not looking for specific appointments from each community, as it is not going to be a formal process. Peterson stated that the Park N Rides would be a good place to connect with people for the Committee. Rettman asked if there will be a limit of only ten to fifteen participants for the listening sessions. Schlichting stated that no one will be turned away; they will most likely be smaller intimate settings to allow for more detailed conversations.

Slavik stated that the Cedar BRT has been postponed and will start operating in 2013.

Gitzlaff stated that the PMT would like to have a Commission Member attend the CAC meetings.

Motion made by Hollenbeck to nominate Slavik to be the liaison between the CAC and the Red Rock Corridor Commission. Seconded by Peterson. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Gordon suggested that one of the listening groups be Transit for Livable Communities and that any suggestions for the listening groups should be sent to Gitzlaff. He also stated that if there are difficulties in getting participation from Hennepin County or Minneapolis, to let him know as he is willing to help recruit. Gordon asked if Leitner could give some examples of BRT in the area. Leitner stated there are not any BRT operations currently in the Twin Cities, but there are many in the nation and worldwide. The closest transit way to BRT is between the two campuses in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Leitner stated that Cedar Avenue will be the first as well as 35W which are two different versions of BRT. Leitner stated there are many forms of BRT and they will continually educate the public about this.

Lehrke stated that if there are ideas for groups that could host listening sessions, to let Gitzlaff know.

Rettman asked if ridership will be lost by having different modes along the way. Leitner stated that the transfers from different modes are reflected in the model for the ridership.. Rettman stated that Red Rock has so many potentials for employees and employers that the time transfers become critical. Gordon stated that when most AA's are done, economic development potential is not looked at. He asked if the economic development will be looked at or what the large impacts will be beside ridership and speed of travel. Leitner stated that Map-21 will guide this, but it is also still being looked at. Leitner stated that the evaluation piece will be a large factor and the Commission and community will help guide this with the goals as well as some of the broader items might not be included with Map-21. Gordon asked where they could learn more about Map-21. Leitner stated that at the February workshop, Map-21 will be looked at. Gallagher stated that MNDOT and the state are looking at Map-21 and it is being found to be less flexible and is dedicated to spending in certain areas. Rettman asked if they could get it ahead of time to read. Leitner stated that it is online, but there will be a presentation prepared for the February meeting. Gitzlaff stated that they can provide the Commission with more information if needed.

Leitner stated the meetings that are outlined are specific to this project and the consultant is needed to help with the engagement pieces. The staff is willing to attend any meetings that the Commission feels would be good opportunities to get more information out about the Corridor or the project specifically. Leitner asked the Commission to contact her or Gitzlaff with requests.

Agenda Item #4: 2013 Communication Services - WCRRA

a. Website

Gitzlaff discussed the website services as presented in the packet. Rettman asked if the contract is for six or twelve months. Gitzlaff stated this would be for twelve months and the contract could begin on February 1st, 2013 and would run into 2014 after budgets have been approved. Rettman stated that she would prefer to go ahead with option 2. Gitzlaff stated that it was not seen as an immediate need, but time is saved if the construction is done now. Peterson asked why the change from www.redrockrail.org to redrockcorridor.com. Gitzlaff stated that both domains are owned along with two others. Staff have chosen to use redrockcorridor.com for consistency with the materials that are being sent out.

Motion made by Gordon to approve the staff recommendation. Seconded by Gallagher.
Approved. Motion carried.

b. Social Media

Gitzlaff discussed social media as presented in the packet. Lehrke asked if Washington County will absorb the cost as well as have staff monitor and post on the site. Gitzlaff stated that one staff member will be assigned to the Facebook page. The staff member will commit time once every week or two. Gitzlaff stated that the Facebook page will complement the AAU study and use of staff resources. Lehrke stated that she feels this will help get information out in an effective way. Slavik asked how many hours per week

the staff member will dedicate to the Facebook page. Gitzlaff estimated one to two hours per week after the initial time of eight hours to create the Facebook page. Gitzlaff stated that in the two years of the Gateway Corridor Facebook page, there have not been any comments removed. Olson stated the Minnesota High-Speed Rail Commission has over 1,000 followers and the Union Depot has over 5,100 followers. The Facebook page for the Union Depot has been an effective tool for telling the story of the projects.

Agenda Item #5: Legislative Update - RCRRA

a. State

Olson discussed the State Legislative Update as presented in the packet. Olson stated the Red Rock Corridor was a recognized transit way within the Governor's budget.

b. Federal

Olson discussed the Federal Legislative Update as presented in the packet. Olson stated that more details for Map-21 and how it relates to New Starts or Small Starts projects going forward are being unveiled. Olson stated that Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood will be leaving Obama's Administration. Bill Shuster has also been confirmed to chair the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Shuster is a Congressman from Pennsylvania. Olson stated that there will be a new tone set in the House, specifically in transportation. Rettman asked if Red Rock will have a presence at next week's Transit on the Hill. Olson stated that usually there is representation by both CTIB and Met Council where information is provided that includes the Red Rock Corridor. Rettman stated the Commission should be notified of the event and the Commission may want to have a presence to make sure the Red Rock Corridor is represented. Peterson stated that she will be at the all-day event representing both Red Rock and High-Speed; she encouraged other Commission Members to attend. Rettman information about the Transit on the Hill could be sent out to the Commission. Olson will provide the information to the Commission.

Agenda Item #6: Other

a. Next Meeting – Thursday, February 28, 2013

Gitzlaff stated the regular meeting will be held and then a workshop will be held after the meeting. Rettman asked if the conference room here would be camera ready. Peterson stated that she does not think it is.

Motion made by Slavik to adjourn. Seconded by Gordon. **All in favor.** Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.