



GOODHUE COUNTY
Regional Rail Road Authority
Goodhue County Board Room
June 13, 2017
5:15 pm

Attending: C/Anderson, C/Allen, C/Nesseth, C/Drotos, C/Majerus, County Administrator Scott Arneson, County Attorney Steve Betcher, Finance Director Carolyn Holmsten.

Others:

Scott Arneson called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Mr. Arneson called for nominations for 2017 Regional Railroad Authority Board Chairman.

C/Allen nominated C/Majerus as Chair. C/Nesseth seconded. Mr. Arneson asked three times for any other nominations. There were no other nominations.

Moved by C/Allen, seconded by C/Nesseth, motion passed unanimously naming C/Majerus as the 2017 Chairman of the Regional Railroad Authority.

C/Majerus called for nominations for the 2017 Vice Chairman for the Regional Railroad Authority.

C/Allen nominated C/Anderson as Vice Chair. C/Majerus asked for any other nominations. There were no other nominations.

Moved by C/Allen, seconded by C/Nesseth, and carried to approve to appoint C/Anderson as the 2017 Vice Chairman of the Regional Railroad Authority.

C/Majerus called for a motion to appoint the County Administrator as the clerk of the Regional Railroad Authority.

Moved by C/Allen, seconded by C/Drotos, and carried to approve to appoint The County Administrator as the Clerk of the Regional Railroad Authority.

C/Majerus called for a motion to appoint the County Engineer or a designee as the Engineer of the Regional Railroad Authority.

Moved by C/Drotos, seconded by C/Nesseth, and carried to approve to appoint the County Engineer or designee as the Engineer of the Regional Railroad Authority.

Moved by C/Allen, seconded by C/Drotos, and carried to approve the June 13, 2017, Regional Railroad Board Agenda.

Amended Joint Powers Agreement. Staff recommended that the Regional Railroad Authority approve the proposed resolution to adopt the amended and restated Joint Powers Agreement with the MN High Speed Rail Commission.

Moved by C/Allen, seconded by C/Drotos, and carried to approve the amended and restated Minnesota High Speed Rail Commission Joint Powers Agreement:

WHEREAS, The Minnesota High Speed Rail Commission (Commission) is a joint powers board under the provisions of Minnesota Statutes Section 471.59 and Chapter 398A and;

WHEREAS, The Commission is established by a Joint Powers Agreement by and between Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority, Goodhue County Regional Railroad Authority, Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority, Wabasha County Regional Railroad Authority, Winona County Regional Railroad Authority, La Crosse Area Planning Committee, City of Cottage Grove, City of Goodview, City of Hastings, City of Lake City, City of Red Wing, City of Saint Charles, City of Saint Paul, City of Saint Paul Park, City of Utica, City of Wabasha, City of Winona; and

WHEREAS, The Commission is working to establish the Twin Cities-Milwaukee-Chicago second daily round-trip passenger train along the current Amtrak Empire Builder route in Minnesota (River Route), serving the current station stops in between; and

WHEREAS, The Commission is working to establish high-speed intercity passenger rail service between Chicago and Saint Paul along the River Route, the federally designated high speed passenger rail route; and

WHEREAS, The Commission voted to amend the Joint Powers Agreement to clarify the Commission's purpose as an advocacy organization that supports rail system analysis and research to better advocate for rail system investments in the River Route; and

WHEREAS, The Commission voted to amend the Joint Powers Agreement to remove commuter rail stations from the funding formula and to provide direction in adjusting the funding formula should a Financial Party withdraw from the Commission; and

WHEREAS, The Commission voted to amend the Joint Powers Agreement to include Metropolitan Planning Organizations as eligible Financial Parties and allow the appointment of the executive director as its representative to the Commission; and

WHEREAS, The Commission voted to amend the Joint Powers Agreement to include its current member Parties and provide for a means to add new member Parties; Now, Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, The Goodhue County Regional Rail Road approves the Amended and Restated Minnesota High Speed Rail Commission Joint Powers Agreement and authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the Agreement.

Regional Railroad Board Members. Staff recommended the board direct staff to provide the thirty-day notice and advertise for a public hearing to reconstitute the Regional Railroad board members to remove the County Attorney and the Finance Director as voting members and appoint them as advisory members instead.

Moved by C/Anderson, seconded by C/Drotos, and carried to authorize staff to schedule and publish notice of a public hearing to consider reorganization of the Goodhue County Regional Railroad Authority Board.

Moved by C/Anderson, seconded by C/Drotos, and carried to adjourn meeting.

Meeting Adjourned.