

PECATONICA RAIL TRANSIT COMMISSION

20 S Court Street • PO Box 262 • Platteville, Wisconsin 53818

MEMBER COUNTIES: GREEN • IOWA • LAFAYETTE • ROCK

1:00 PM • Friday, January 27th, 2017 • Green Co. Courthouse, 2nd Floor Courtroom, 1016 16th Ave • Monroe, WI

1. 1:04 PM **Call to Order** – *Harvey Kubly, Chair*
2. Roll Call. **Establishment of Quorum** – *Troy Maggied, Administrator*

Commissioners present for all or part of the meeting:

	Commissioner	Position	Present		Commissioner	Position	Present
Green	Harvey W. Kubly	Chair	x	Iowa	Charles Anderson	Secretary	Excused
	Oscar Olson		x		William G. Ladewig		x
	Ron Wolter	Treasurer	x		Philip Mrozinski	Vice-Secretary	Absent
Lafayette	Leon Wolfe		x	Rock	Ben Coopman	Alternate	
	Larry Ludlum		Absent		Wayne Gustina		Excused
	Gerald Heimann	Alternate			Alan Sweeney	1st Vice Chair	x
	Ted Weigel		x		Terry Thomas	2 nd Vice Chair	x

Commission achieved quorum.

Other present for all or some of the meeting:

- Troy Maggied, SWWRPC
- Kim Tollers, Greg Baer WDOT
- Eileen Brownlee, Corp Counsel
- Ken Lucht, WSOR
- Jeff Wunschel, Green County Hwy Dept.
- Harvey Mandel, Chair, Town of Jefferson
- Nathan Hartwig, Chair, Town of Clarno
- Lyle Sampson, Town of Clarno

3. Action Item. **Certification of Meeting's Public Notice** – *Noticed by Maggied*
 - *Motion to approve certification of public meeting – Ladewig/Weigel, Passed Unanimously*
4. Action Item. **Approval of Agenda** – *Prepared by Maggied*
 - *Motion to approve agenda – Sweeney/Ladewig, Passed Unanimously*
5. Action Item. **Approval of draft October 2016 Minutes** – *Prepared by Penn & Maggied*
 - *Motion to approve draft October 2016 minutes – Ladewig/Sweeney, Passed Unanimously*
6. Updates. **Public Comment** – *Time for public comment may be limited by the Chair*
None.
7. Updates. **Correspondence & Communications** – *Discussion may be limited by the Chair*

Maggied reported on a letter from Boardman and Clark stating their rates for legal services will increase from \$160 to \$175 per hour effective January 1, 2017. Lafayette County requested a W-9 so they could pay the PRTC invoice. Maggied reported on email correspondence between Tom Jean and Mary Penn requesting contact information of a landowner believed to be making a private trail crossing west of South Wayne.

REPORTS & COMMISSION BUSINESS

8. PRTC Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills – Ron Wolter, PRTC Treasurer

Ron Wolter gave the Treasurer's Report to the Commission and listed the bills to be paid. Browntown's rent was last paid in 2013. The village said they weren't paying anything more and so the route was blocked off after the sheriff became involved. Since then there has been no issue nor has anyone bothered it. The highway department was involved as well due to a dispute over damage to blacktop.

- *Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report – Sweeney/Ladewig, Passed Unanimously*
- *Motion to approve payment of bills – Olson/Wolfe, Passed Unanimously*

9. WSOR Operation's Report – WSOR

Lucht said WSOR is planning on a crossing renewal on Rockport Road east of Janesville. They are also looking at a crossing in Brodhead at West 2nd street. A project on a siding in Hanover is removing 75# rail and replacing it with 90# rail. There are also a couple bridges in Hanover to be replaced and a culvert at mile 49 to be replaced with heavier steel since it is not passing water. The Janesville west yard is replacing five turnouts and the yard is at capacity. Switching switches will make operations more safe for the crew. WSOR is looking at contractors for system-wide weed spraying system, and the first application of weed spraying on Monroe sub is in the spring. Application will be 20-25 feet wide. They are also contracting for rail testing to find defects. The 2016 year is wrapped up and WSOR will share economic data once its ready, as well as maintenance and capital reports on the Monroe sub once its prepared. They continue with track inspections and tie replacement. On the business side ethanol, grain, and fertilizer are moving well with no downturn and good movement is expected to continue in 2017.

10. WisDOT Report – Staff may include Kim Tollers, Rich Kedzior

Tollers providing update on GIS application under development, stating SWWRPC is close to completion on the Monroe Subdivision pilot project and will present at the April meeting.

Ladewig asked about recent WisDOT transportation audit whether there were any issues impacting rail. Tollers stated there was no impact to the rail division, and she anticipated none.

11. PRTC Administrator's Report –Troy Maggied, PRTC Admin.

Maggied stated SWWRPC is working to find a replacement for Mary Penn, and anticipated interviews in mid-to late-February, with the position filled by the April PRTC meeting.

12. Tri-County Trail Commission Report – Presenters may include Leon Wolfe, Ted Weigel

Wolfe reported there had not been enough snow to open up the trail. There is minimal snow in the bottoms and its melting, but more on hill tops. Overall the trail hasn't been open for much more than a week in early December.

13. Discussion and Possible Approval of Alliant Energy Underground Utility Installation on Trail in Mineral Point

Maggied presented the utility permit from Alliant Energy to the Commission for review, sharing its location, the utility, and other information. It was recommended that this be sent to the WisDOT highway engineer to ensure it follows the Trans 29 standards.

- *Motion to approve the Utility Permit subject to WisDOT approval – Thomas/Ladewig, Passed Unanimously*

14. Update, Discussion, and Possible Action on Approval of Bill of Sale for 5 Corner Bridge – Jeff Wunschel, Green County Highway Dept.

Wunschel said he reviewed the Bill of Sale and shared it with township officials. Brownlee summarized the history of the project which has been discussed for months, and that it is designed to work out a way for the Commission to be absolved of liability for the bridge. At this point, the Commission needs to sign Bill of Sale which ensures this. Kubly and Lucht will sign today, after which Wunschel will take to the towns for signature. Jewell and Associates has all the purchasing completed and the final plan is in place. Wunschel shared this and identified one minor change – they will work with the Wild Farm to make a better agreement for the landowner to have access from main building to storage barn without going on the road. The bid letting is scheduled for May. The earliest work could start is 30-days after this, and construction is scheduled to be completed in the late fall. The final plans are on file with the Green County Highway Commission. Baer, the statewide railroad structure and track engineer for WisDOT has signed the stipulation, the document that will state who the maintainer is. Currently the maintainer is the local unit of government that has jurisdiction over this area.

- *Motion to approve Bill of Sale for 5 Corner Bridge – Ladewig/Sweeney, Passed Unanimously*

15. Discussion and Possible Action on 2016 audit engagement letter – Troy Maggied, Administrator

Kubly stated he would like to negotiate with the auditors to see if the rate could be lowered, and said he would reach out to do so. The Commission said they could approve the signing of the engagement letter subject to the chair's negotiation.

- *Motion to approve the 2016 audit engagement letter, subject to fee negotiation – Ladewig/Olson, Passed Unanimously*

16. Adjournment

- *Motion to adjourn at 1:37 PM – Weigel/Wolfe, Passed Unanimously*