

**MINUTES FROM THE OHIO RAIL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR BI-MONTHLY MEETING
July 11, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Ohio Rail Development Commission was called to order by Chairman Policinski at 11:03 a.m. on Wednesday, July 11, 2018.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Mark Policinski, Commissioners Solomon Jackson, Eric Richter, Tom Zitter, Meghan Wadsworth, Thomas Maphet, Johann Klein, Anthony Reams, Representative Sheehy, and Senator LaRose were in attendance. Commissioners Lozier, Johnson, Hempfling, and Representative Dever were unable to attend. There were 8 voting members present, therefore a quorum was obtained.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING

Chairman Policinski asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2018 meeting. Commissioner Maphet moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with 8 votes in the affirmative.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Dietrich presented his report to the Commissioners, which can be found on page 7 of the packet. In addition to what is found in the packet, Mr. Dietrich highlighted the INFRA grant award, touting the project as a critical infrastructure link in Eastern Ohio, and applauding the partnerships, time and effort that went in to this successful application.

Commissioner Johnson arrived at 11:08 a.m.

Additionally, Executive Director Dietrich discussed the Lean Kaizen event and announced the report out even on July 27th at 1pm. Julianne Finnegan will send out an invitation to Commissioners and interested parties.

Chairman Policinski acknowledged how competitive the INFRA grants are and how significant it is to have received an award.

There were no questions.

FINANCE REPORT

Megan McClory, Secretary-Treasurer, presented the Finance Report to the Commissioners, which can be found on page 9 of the packet. Ms. McClory explained that FY 2018 is wrapped up with all \$3 million of ORDC funding allocated to projects. She noted the grade crossing safety program allocated 99% of available funding under a large and successful 2018 program.

Ms. McClory also noted River Rail has paid back their loan and grant funding as a result of a company purchasing them and not wanting to assume the job and carload commitments.

Ms. McClory introduced Gerika Logan, ORDC's newest safety intern, who provided a brief introduction of herself. Lastly, Ms. McClory announced the September meeting needs to be rescheduled so Commissioners should convey their availability to Julianne Finnegan.

There were no questions.

RESOLUTION 18-07 – NS River Line INFRA Grant

Commissioner Jackson recused himself at 11:17 a.m.

ORDC staff member Tom Burns presented to the Commissioners the briefing on page 23 of the commission packet. Mr. Burns provided the background information found in the packet and elaborated on the funding breakdown as required to receive the award. Mr. Burns discussed engineering savings the railroad identified in order to reduce the ORDC share.

There were no questions.

Commissioner Reams made a motion to approve Resolution 18-07 and Commissioner Johnson seconded it. Roll Call was taken and the resolution was approved as presented with 8 votes in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION 18-08 – Bluegrass Farms Reach Stacker

ORDC staff member Tim Brown presented to the Commissioners the briefing on page 29 of the commission packet. Mr. Brown provided the background information found in the packet and introduced Dave Martin and Rob Luckenbach from Bluegrass Farms to further discuss the project.

Commissioner Jackson returned at 11:21 a.m.

Mr. Martin explained what a reach stacker is and how it enhances the capacity and enables them to capitalize on intermodal service at Bluegrass Farms.

Senator LaRose noted he is trained on using a reach stacker and wondered what commodities Bluegrass would be using it to handle. Mr. Martin elaborated on the new service Bluegrass will have with the west coast rail service partnership with Canadian Pacific, handling and supplying food-grade soy beans bound for Asia. He also noted other food-based products could be shipped.

Commissioner Zitter asked who would be loading the bulk. Mr. Martin explained both Bluegrass or the supplier/grain handler could load the cars. He also elaborated on the details on processing soy beans and making that process as efficient and economical as possible for their customers.

Representative Sheehy asked if there were any U.S.-based Class I movements with this service. Mr. Martin explained they currently have partnerships with Norfolk Southern, but this option with Canadian Pacific provides an additional service option to import and export their goods at

the lowest cost option without service disruption. It will create some competition; however, the benefits far outweigh the increased rail competition created by this partnership.

There were no further questions.

Commissioner Zitter made a motion to approve Resolution 18-08 and Commissioner Wadsworth seconded it. Roll Call was taken and the resolution was approved as presented with 9 votes in the affirmative.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Zitter reported that the Policy Committee discussed the process staff goes through to bring projects to the Commission and heard an update on the State Rail Plan. Tim Brown explained to the committee that he had updated the Committee on the overall status of the Plan, discussed draft work and that he anticipates further drafts being available for full Commission review at the September meeting. Additionally, Executive Director Dietrich presented to the Commission information from the 2018 Freight Rail Bottom Line Study, funded by AASHTO SCORT.

Commissioner Jackson reported on the Administrative Committee by explaining the Committee discussed the annual Jobs, Carloads, and Maintenance Report and staff recommendations for action. Additionally, the committee discussed the idea of whether or not ORDC should clawback from other public agencies. The committee decided to continue that discussion as projects come up that require decisions, but there is no needed action at this time.

Additionally, the Committee discussed and recommended increasing the Director's signature authority from \$25,000 to \$50,000. The Committee has Resolution 18-09 to formalize this change.

There were no questions.

Commissioner Jackson made a motion to approve Resolution 18-09 and Commissioner Maphet seconded it. Roll Call was taken and the resolution was approved as presented with 9 votes in the affirmative.

OLD BUSINESS

There is no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There is no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURN

Chairman Policinski adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.