

**MINUTES FROM THE OHIO RAIL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR BI-MONTHLY MEETING
November 14, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Ohio Rail Development Commission was called to order by Vice Chairman Jackson at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 14, 2018.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Vice Chairman Solomon Jackson, Commissioners Eric Richter, Meghan Wadsworth, Thomas Maphet, Thomas Zitter, Andrew Bremer and Tony Reams were in attendance. Chairman Policinski, Commissioners Lozier, Johnson, and Hempfling, as well as Representative Dever, Representative Sheehy and Senator LaRose were unable to attend. There were 7 voting members present, therefore a quorum was obtained.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

Vice Chairman Jackson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2018 meeting. Commissioner Maphet moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner Richter seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with 7 votes in the affirmative.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Dietrich presented his report to the Commissioners, which can be found on page 6 of the packet. In addition to what is found in the packet, Mr. Dietrich highlighted the submission of the CRISI grant, as well as the progress of the INFRA grant with Norfolk Southern under FRA guidance.

Additionally, Executive Director Dietrich touched upon the new, live grade crossing database that was updated in partnership with PUCO. Mr. Dietrich announced the draft state rail plan update is now available online and staff will accept written comments for the next 30 days. Staff goal is to have the revised document for the Commission in January and then submitted to the FRA.

Lastly, Executive Director Dietrich discussed a study ORDC is undertaking with ODOT that will develop a way to identify lower-cost solutions for congested areas across the state, as well as creating a measurement for redundancy that can be used in determining the importance of a crossing when discussing closures and improvements within communities.

Representative Sheehy arrived at 11:09 am.

There were no questions.

FINANCE REPORT

Megan McClory, Secretary-Treasurer, presented the Finance Report to the Commissioners, which can be found on page 8 of the packet. Ms. McClory noted we have 9 loans in repayment, all in good standing. Additionally, Ms. McClory announced we have submitted our FY 20-21 budget request to OBM and expect more information to come forth this spring once Governor-elect DeWine submits his budget to the legislature.

Lastly, Ms. McClory announced the final 2019 meeting schedule is in the packet.

There were no questions.

RESOLUTION 18-14 – Nippon Sheet Glass North America, Inc.

ORDC staff member Tom Burns presented to the Commissioners the briefing on page 20 of the commission packet. Mr. Burns provided the background information found in the packet and introduced Gary Roser from the company to further discuss the project. Mr. Roser went over a provided powerpoint. Mr. Roser discussed the history of the company and glass industry in general in the United States. Additionally, he reviewed the production process for float glass and its uses in various industries.

Vice Chairman Jackson asked how much they use recycled glass in their finished product. Mr. Roser noted they use as much “cullet” as possible since it reduces the amount of energy needed to run the furnaces.

There were no additional questions.

Commissioner Reams made a motion to approve Resolution 18-14 and Commissioner Wadsworth seconded it. Roll Call was taken and the resolution was approved as presented with 7 votes in the affirmative.

PROJECT BRIEFING – Ravago Americas, LLC

ORDC staff member Tom Burns presented to the Commissioners the briefing on page 25 of the commission packet. Mr. Burns provided the background information found in the packet and introduced Sean Williams from the company to further discuss the project. Mr. Williams reviewed a provided powerpoint that outlines the relocation and expansion.

Commissioner Bremer asked how many trucks would be coming in and out of the facility. Mr. Williams said approximately 40-50 daily. Commissioner Reams asked why the brief says 100 rail cars, but the presentation said 200 rail cars onsite. Mr. Williams explained the brief was a little light, but they are also planning for the future instead of needing an expansion within a year of operations.

Commissioner Jackson asked if there is a current plan to build roads to accommodate the new facility. Mr. Williams explained they have discussed the concerns of lack of roadway and major roadway access, but the community is currently comfortable with the situation. Additionally, he noted they have enough on-site truck storage to prevent roadway backup issues.

There were no additional questions.

PROJECT BRIEFING – Ohi-Rail Bridge Repairs

ORDC staff member Tom Burns presented to the Commissioners the briefing on page 28 of the commission packet. Mr. Burns provided the background information found in the packet and introduced Rich Delatore and Denny Varian from the railroad to further discuss the project. Mr. Varian explained the requirement to rate bridges in 2016 and Ohi-Rail's inability to rate 2 bridges. As such, they are working on one of them, but need funding assistance to repair the second bridge. Mr. Varian provided photos of the bridge in its current state, explaining the deficiencies and why the bridge needs rebuilt.

There were no questions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Zitter asked Executive Director Dietrich to report on the Policy Committee. Executive Director Dietrich explained the committee discussed the State Rail Plan update. He noted the full draft is available for review online. Additionally, Executive Director Dietrich discussed the format of the Rail Plan, explaining it might feel "clunky", but it complies with the requested format from the FRA. Lastly, Mr. Dietrich noted staff did their best to include projects, but the location might be in the plan or in the Appendix so take note to look around the full document.

There were no questions.

The Administrative Committee attended the Policy Committee to hear the discussion on the state rail plan update.

OLD BUSINESS

There is no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There is no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Robertson noted the LM&M tourist railroad offered an "Ohio Rail Experience" from Snyder Park in Springfield to Lincoln Park in Lima that he was able to attend. He expressed how nice it was to ride the line that the Commission has discussed in regard to the new Jeffersonville Intermodal Service.

Art Arnold thanked staff for meeting with the ORA to discuss blocked crossings and their programs. Additionally, he applauded staff for bringing good projects and the quality of project presentations provided at the meetings have increased, making him wish he could take many of these company representatives to the Statehouse.

ADJOURN

Vice Chairman Jackson adjourned the meeting at 11:47 am.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2011-03K

ORDC Commissioners attended Fraud & Ethics training from ODOT Chief Legal Counsel Patrick Piccininni.