

WRTC OCTOBER 6, 2023 MEETING MINUTES – Approved 11/10/2023

**Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission
Commission Meeting – Friday, October 6, 2023 at 10:00 am
Hill Farms State Office Building – Madison, WI**

1. 10:00 AM **Call to Order – Alan Sweeney, Chair**
2. Roll Call. **Establishment of Quorum – Misty Molzof, Admin**

Crawford	Carl Orr, <i>2nd Vice Chair</i>	X	Jefferson	Mary Roberts	<i>Excused</i>
	Mark Gilberts	X		John Kannard, <i>Vice Secretary</i>	X
	Tom Cornford	X		VACANT	
				Jeff Smith, <i>Alternate</i>	X
Dane	Kevin Potter	X	Rock	Russ Podzilni	<i>Excused</i>
	Jeff Huttenburg, <i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Excused</i>		Tom Brien	X
	Jim Bolitho	X		Alan Sweeney, <i>Chair</i>	X
Grant	Gary Ranum	<i>Excused</i>	Sauk	Brian Peper	<i>Excused</i>
	Mike Lieurance	X		Gaile Burchill, <i>2nd Vice Treasurer</i>	X
	Robert Scallon, <i>1st Vice Chair</i>	X		Marty Krueger	X
				Tim McCumber, <i>Alternate</i>	<i>Excused</i>
Green	Harvey Kubly, <i>1st Vice Treasurer</i>	X	Walworth	Al Stanek	X
	Todd Larson	X		Richard Kuhnke, <i>2nd Vice Secretary</i>	<i>Excused</i>
	Kurt Schafer	X		Allan Polyock	X
Iowa	Charles Anderson, <i>Secretary</i>	X	Waukesha	VACANT, <i>3rd Vice Treasurer</i>	
	Kate Reimann	X		Richard Morris	X
	Kevin Peterson	X		Karl Nilson	<i>Excused</i>

Commission met quorum.

Others present for all or some of the meeting:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misty Molzof, SWWRPC • Lisa Stern & Ben Mohlke, WisDOT • Ken Lucht, WSOR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alan Anderson, Pink Lady RTC • City of Baraboo: Wade Peterson, Utility Superintendent and Tom Pinion, City Engineer
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3. Action Item. **Certification of Meeting’s Public Notice – Noticed by Molzof.**
 - *Motion to approve meeting’s public notice – Scallon/Lieurance. Passed Unanimously.*
4. Action Item. **Approval of Agenda – Prepared by Molzof.**
 - *Motion to approve the agenda. Anderson/Gilberts. – Passed Unanimously.*
5. Action Item. **Approval of draft September 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes – Prepared by Molzof.**
 - *Motion to approve the September 8, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Schafer/Orr. Passed Unanimously.*
6. Updates. **Public Comment – Time for public comment may be limited by the Chair.**
None.

7. Updates. **Announcements by Commissioners**

Kubly reported that he enjoyed seeing rail infrastructure on his recent trip to Switzerland.
Krueger reported that Dane County Executive budget has an \$11 million allocation for the Walking Iron Trail and the bridge timetable has been moved to 2025 or 2026.

REPORTS & COMMISSION BUSINESS

8. **WRTC Financial Report – Huttenburg, Treasurer**

Molzof reported nothing out of the ordinary on this month’s treasurer’s report and interest rates are proving favorable for the commission. We are still waiting on payment from Nicor for annual lease which may become an action item on next month’s agenda. Bills for approval include: SWWRPC 3rd quarter services in the amount of \$7,777.50 and WSOR 2nd payment request for Merrimac Bridge for \$80,606.80. Stern reported that WisDOT has approved the 2nd request and will send signed confirmation to Molzof to be added to the record.

- *Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report and authorize payment for SWWRPC \$7,777.50, and WSOR \$80,606.80. Morris/Larson. Passed Unanimously.*

9. Wisconsin & Southern Railroad’s Report on Operations – Lucht, WSOR

Lucht reported that the bricks have been donated to City of Edgerton; WSOR finished the last of brush spraying for the year last week; WSOR has released their rights and common carrier agreement on the Sauk Subdivision Rails to Trails section and the 60-day window has closed, and amendment to the operating agreement will be necessary; there are 12 private crossings with no permits along the Waukesha Sub and the commission has a right to require an agreement.

10. WisDOT Report – Stern - WisDOT.

Stern reported that an amendment to the WSOR and WRRTC operating agreement is in order for the Rails to Trails on the Sauk Sub; Dane County has now taken over for the DNR on the Rails to Trails which will require another amendment to the agreements with WisDOT, Dane County portion of the trail includes multiple bridges; and WSOR is the recipient of FRAP for Bridge #298 by Boscobel, #300 and #310 by Lodi.

11. Baraboo Bridge Project B-368 - WSOR, WisDOT, & Baraboo City Representatives

Stern stated that if a Trans 29 permit is issued by WisDOT, it will require Commission approval as the owner of the bridge; design agreements need to be in place between WisDOT and Baraboo; Commission discussed roles and responsibilities as the owner of the structure that is leased to WSOR. City of Baraboo representatives addressed the commission. Lucht stated that the commission owns the bridge and has authority over the bridge and asked the Commission to order the sewer line removed immediately.

- *Motion to stand down and take no action until such time as the commission receives a WisDOT approved Trans 29 permit. Potter/Kannard. Passed Unanimously.*

12. Permit Requests, if any. None.

13. Adjournment.

- *Motion to Adjourn at 10:50 am. Cornford/Scallon. Passed Unanimously.*