

## **PINK LADY RAIL TRANSIT COMMISSION**

<http://www.co.sauk.wi.us/pinklady/pink-lady-transit-commission>

**Meeting - Tuesday August 6, 2019 @ 10:00am**

**City of Baraboo City Hall, city council room  
Baraboo, WI**

### **Attendance:**

**Commissioners Present:** Chair Alan Anderson, Vice Chair Virgil Kasper, John Geoghegan, Treas. Dick Whitehurst, Elmer Ellis, Doug Hilber, Blaine Albert

**Others Present:** Rick Kedzior, WisDOT. Jen Lucht WSOR, Ed singer WisDOT, Jeff Lentz Mid-Continent Railroad Museum

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Chairman Anderson. Introduction of visitors and members.

**Roll Call:** Quorum established.

**Certification of open meeting law.** Meeting was certified as having met the requirements of the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law.

**Approval of agenda:** Motion by Kasper, seconded by Geoghegan to approve agenda. Carried.

**Approval of Draft Minutes April 2,2019.** Moved by Whitehurst, seconded by Kasper to approve April minutes. Motion carried.

**Treasures Report:** Balance \$3962.56. Moved by Geoghegan, seconded by Ellis to approve treasures report. Carried.

**Chairman's Report:** Chairman Anderson gave an update of some maintenance issues that WSOR has been working on. He also wrote letters to the state on behalf of the commission to support a \$30 million state budget request for the rail FRAP program. He also wrote a letter to the Federal Government for a potential Federal funding for the reconstruction of the Merrimac. Anderson also requested local units of government to write letters of support to the Federal Government. \$ local units submitted letters .

**WSOR report:** Ken Lucht reported on a number of maintenance issues statewide but focused on the Reedsburg subdivision. The line was surveyed for rail defects and a few were discovered. Replacements were made where needed. 1600 ties were replaced in critical positions. A new crossing was installed at Okee on Highway B. They had a June 5<sup>th</sup> tour of the Reedsburg subdivision with new Assemblyman Tony Kurtz. He is very supportive. 2020 will be the 40th anniversary of WSOR

**WisDOT update;** Rick Kedzior reported that the state is very supportive of rail and increased the state budget to \$30 million for the upcoming biennium budget. There is also a new \$1.5 million program of grants for intermodal development. In the discussion we learned that Midwest Hardwood in Reedsburg uses intermodal a great deal and Flambeau and Teel plastics of Baraboo use intermodal as well.

**Old Business:** Both Rick and Ken confirmed that the work on the Merrimac Bridge should start later this year.

**New Business:** The commissioners approved the 2020 PLRTC budget for \$250 per commissioner. The two cities will therefore have a \$500 request and the county \$750. Motion by Ellis seconded by Whitehurst. Motion carried.

#### **Local Reports:**

- **Baraboo:**
  - -Whitehurst: Reported that business was good and shipping steady.
  
- **Rock Springs:**
  - -Geoghegan: Grain shipping is busy. Business is good and shipments were as expected.
  
- **Reedsburg:** Business steady with the new cold storage unit starting to ship. In general shipping is up in total from Reedsburg.

#### **Legislative comments:**

**Public Comments:** Jeff Lentz thanks the commission for their work and support. The Seeley creek bridge repairs are finished It cost \$790,000. Jeff reported two bridge are up to standards. They still need rail replacements. The line is okay for now. Their new display building will open in September.

**Meeting dates 2020:** April 7th, August 6th, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. location TBD

**Adjourned:** 11:00 am. Approved Geoghegan, Seconded Kasper

**Recorded by** Alan Anderson.