



Minneapolis – Duluth/Superior
Passenger Rail Alliance
Wednesday, August 28, 2019
Pine County Courthouse
Pine City, MN

MINUTES

Appointed Representatives Present:

Jason Serck, City of Superior, WI
Keith Nelson, *St. Louis County
Stan Gustafson, City of Cambridge
Matt Ludwig, * Pine County
Andrew Johnson, **City of Mpls.
Noah Hobbs, ** City of Duluth

Alternate Representatives Present:

Appointed Representatives Not Present

Katie Draper, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe

* County Commissioner
** Council Member

Other meeting attendees attached and made part of the minutes

1. Call to order / introductions

Chair Serck called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m., welcomed all and introductions were made. Six (6) representatives in attendance constituted a quorum.

2. Additions to Agenda

None.

3. Public Forum / Appearances

None

4. Communications

A. None.

5. Consent Agenda

- A. Approve minutes from meeting of May 22, 2019 - A **motion** by Commissioner Nelson, **supported** by Councilor Johnson, to approve the May 22, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Unanimous.
- B. Expenditure & Budget Analysis for May, June & July 2019 – A **motion** by Councilor Johnson, **supported** by Stan Gustafson to approve the May, June & July expense & budget reports as presented. Unanimous.

6. Reports

- A. Media – Jill Brown - *(Attached and made part of the minutes along with schedule for MN House Bonding Committee Tour).*
- B. State / Federal Legislative Update – John Ongaro and Jeff Anderson gave the legislative updates. Jeff suggested a future trip to Washington, D.C. to meet with the MN and WI legislators and Federal Rail Administration in the upcoming months.
- C. Technical Advisory Committee – Ken Buehler – Meeting minutes of August 5 and August 19, 2019 meeting minutes. *(Attached and made part of the minutes).* Ken then updated the Board of the schedule hosting the Minnesota House Bonding Committee on Wednesday, September 4, 2019.
- D. Administrative – Bob Manzoline – Bob informs that the St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority has submitted a bonding request application for reconstruction of the Grassy Point Bridge and the Third Main Project for a total of approximately \$40 million. Information was received that the CRISI Grant is available again with applications due by October 18, 2019, which requires a state match that will be instilled upon the State Legislators on Wednesday, September 4th, 2019. MN Department of Transportation has also submitted their bonding request, with fifteen (15) projects they are applying for with passenger rail in 15th place. \$18 million is included for preliminary engineering for the NLX Project.

7. Unfinished business

- A. None.

8. New business

- A. Consider payment for rail car movement for State Bond Committee Tour scheduled for September 4, 2019 - Bob Manzoline informs that their maybe some costs associated with the movement of the cars, at this point presuming approximately \$2-3,000.00. Mr. Buehler has been working on cost reduction. A **motion** by Councilor Johnson, **supported** by Commissioner Nelson to approve the expenditure if incurred. Unanimous.
- B. Consider the proposed year 2020 NLX Alliance Budget and Funding Formula - Following discussion, a **motion** by Commissioner Nelson, **supported** by Councilor Johnson to adopt the year 2020 NLX Alliance Budget and Funding Formula as presented in the amount of \$87,000.00. Unanimous. *(Budget & Funding Formula attached and made part of the minutes).*

9. Other business

Bob Manzoline endorses Jeff Anderson's recommendation to Board Members to visit with the state legislators in Washington, D.C. in support of NLX in October or November. Expenses would be incurred by the individual entities.

Councilor Hobbs asked if other entities such as MN Twins, Vikings & Timberwolves have been approached to contribute to the project. Jill Brown responds that they have been in the past, but a revisit would be in order, along with Meet Minneapolis, MN Chamber, Hennepin County, tourism groups, etc.

10. Next meeting

September 25, 2019 @ 10:00 a.m.
Pine County Courthouse

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Serck adjourned the meeting @ 10:55 a.m.
Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by Birdie Oddo.

Jason Serck
Chair of the Alliance



Minneapolis to Duluth /Superior Passenger Rail Alliance- Attendees

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Address/Organization</u>
Bob Manzoline	St. Louis & Lake Counties RRA
Birdie Oddo	St. Louis & Lake Counties RRA
Steve Fecker	NLX Legal Council
Jill Brown	NLX Alliance Contractor
Ken Buehler	LSRM / NSSR
Leonard Bonander	City of Sandstone
Phillip Kester	City of Sandstone
Mark Perry	City of Hinckley
John Ongaro	St. Louis County
Jeff Anderson	Costin Group, Inc.
Peter Spartz	City of Sandstone
Kathy George	City of Sandstone
Nick Baker	Douglas County, WI