

Meeting Minutes

RAMSEY COUNTY RAILROAD AUTHORITY MEETING

The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority met on February 22, 2005, in Council Chambers, Third Floor Courthouse.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Rafael Ortega
 Commissioner Tony Bennett
 Commissioner Jim McDonough
 Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt
 Commissioner Janice Rettman
 Commissioner Jan Wiessner

OTHERS PRESENT: Kris Longhenry, Julie Kleinschmidt, Kathy DeSpiegelaere, Alicia Vap, David
 Twa, Lisa Ives

Chair Ortega called the meeting to order at 10:35 am.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

1. Approve minutes from February 8, 2005 RCRRA meetings

A motion was made by Commissioner Wiessner, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2005 RCRRA meeting.

Roll call vote was taken:

Ayes – 6, Nays – 0
Motion accepted.

2. Ratify Partial Payment No. 23 in the amount of \$536.59 to Metropolitan Council for Riverview Corridor transit improvements of bus shelters, lighting and benches for the period ending December 2004

Commissioner Rettman noted a typographical error in the meeting's agenda, which read the payment was for consulting services for the Union Depot study.

A motion was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to ratify Partial Payment No. 23 in the amount of \$536.59 to Metropolitan Council for Riverview Corridor transit improvements of bus shelters, lighting and benches for the period ending December 2004.

Roll call vote was taken:

Ayes – 6, Nays – 0
Motion accepted.

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has contracted for the professional services of Metropolitan Council for the purpose of constructing Riverview Corridor transit improvements of bus shelters, lighting and benches; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan Council has satisfactorily completed portions of the work identified in the referenced agreements, and provided detailed invoice documentation for services and costs accrued through December 2004; and

WHEREAS, submittal of invoices and payment documentation to the Rail Authority for ratification at the next scheduled meeting following staff approval of invoice documentation is required; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan Council Invoice No. NCV-3443, Partial Payment No. 23 in the amount of \$536.59, attachments thereto, provide the correct documentation of payments due Metropolitan Council through December, 2004; Now, Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, Payment to Metropolitan Council in the amount of \$536.59 for services rendered through December 2004 is hereby ratified.

3. Ratify Partial Payment No. 12 in the amount of \$8,318.42 to Goff and Howard, Inc. for consulting services on the Central Corridor Phase 2 study for December 2004

Commissioner Rettman requested a copy of the Ethnic Outreach Plan listed on the invoice submitted by Goff and Howard, noted on page 6 of the handout. Kathy DeSpiegelaere stated that she would provide copies of the Hmong Outreach and African American Outreach plans to the RCRRA.

A motion was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to ratify Partial Payment No. 12 in the amount of \$8,318.42 to Goff and Howard, Inc. for consulting services on the Central Corridor Phase 2 study for December 2004.

Roll call vote was taken; Commissioner Rettman voted no:

Ayes – 5, Nays – 1
Motion accepted

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has contracted for the professional consulting services of Goff and Howard, Inc. for the purpose of conducting the Central Corridor Phase 2 study; and

WHEREAS, Goff and Howard, Inc. has satisfactorily completed portions of the work identified in the referenced agreements, and provided detailed invoice documentation for services and costs accrued through December 2004; and

WHEREAS, submittal of invoices and payment documentation to the Rail Authority for ratification at the next scheduled meeting following staff approval of invoice documentation is required; and

WHEREAS, Goff and Howard, Inc. Invoice No. 9047, Partial Payment No. 12 in the amount of \$8,318.42 attachments thereto, provide the correct documentation of payments due Goff and Howard, Inc. through December 2004; Now, Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, Payment to Goff and Howard, Inc. in the amount of \$8,318.42 for services rendered through December 2004 is hereby ratified.

4. Ratify Quarterly Report of Payments for the period of October 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004

A motion was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to ratify Quarterly Report of Payments for the period of October 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004.

Roll call vote was taken:

Ayes – 6, Nays – 0
Motion accepted.

WHEREAS, Payments have been made from the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority budget for the period of October 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004 and a record of these disbursements is attached; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That the report of payment is accepted by the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority.

POLICY AGENDA

5. Central Corridor update

Lisa Ives, DMJM + Harris, provided an update on the Central Corridor project. Her presentation addressed tunnel alignment and stations; construction impacts and staging; utilities; station locations; operating issues and financial and economic impact. She commented that the technical project team had not yet approved some of the recommendations in the presentation being reviewed but that it is a work in progress. She noted that much of the information presented in the report can be brought forward into Preliminary Engineering.

Commissioner Rettman requested that the RCRRA receive, where possible, rough estimates of projected costs to the design issues and changes. Kathy DeSpiegelaere noted that DMJM will be developing a more detailed cost estimate, but in some cases, currently has rough estimates of costs, which will be shared during the presentation.

Commissioner Bennett asked how close are the Stadium Village Station and Red Rock Commuter Rail. There was discussion about an intermodal connection; Commissioner Bennett requested more information on this issue.

Commissioner Bennett commented that the Snelling/University Avenue intersection congestion issues need to be addressed. Kathy DeSpiegelaere stated that a committee was formed at the suggestion of Commissioner Bennett, which includes the City of St. Paul staff and Dan Soler, the Ramsey County Public Works Traffic Engineer. She noted that meetings are being held to look at how the intersection operates today and with LRT or BRT. She added that information from these committee meetings could be brought to the RCRRA, if desired.

Chair Ortega requested that the RCRRA be given a technical update of the Central Corridor project at each meeting.

RCRRA members discussed the need to clarify Regional Railroad Authority's role and responsibility in the Central Corridor project.

6. Legislative Update

This item was not addressed.

The meeting adjourned at 12:03 pm.