

RAMSEY COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY

January 12, 2010

The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority met with the following members present: Bennett, Carter, Ortega (late), Parker, Reinhardt, Rettman, McDonough – 7. Absent: None. Also present were Julie Kleinschmidt, County Manager, and David MacMillan, Assistant County Attorney.

Chair McDonough called the meeting to order at 10:40 AM.

AGENDA

Commissioner Carter moved approval of the Agenda of the January 12, 2010 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Parker. Roll Call: Ayes – Parker, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, McDonough – 6. Nays – 0.

MINUTES

Commissioner Rettman moved approval of the Minutes of the January 5, 2010 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Parker, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Ortega, McDonough – 7. Nays – 0.

1. Contract with Lockridge Grindal Nauen P.L.L.P. for Federal Intergovernmental Relations Consulting Assistance Services

Commissioner Carter moved approval of the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Parker. Roll Call: Ayes – Parker, Reinhardt, Bennett, Carter, Ortega, McDonough – 6. Nays – Rettman: 1. (R10-06)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has worked to advance the transit projects that benefit the citizens of Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has several important transportation-related initiatives at the Federal level; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has a strong interest in having federal funded assistance in planning and implementation of transit corridors; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has an existing contract for Federal intergovernmental relations services that expired on December 31, 2009; and

WHEREAS, On September 22, 2009, by Resolution # R09-37, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority authorized the issuance of a Request for Proposals for Federal intergovernmental consulting assistance; and

WHEREAS, The Lockridge Grindal Nauen P.L.L.P proposal was superior in terms of experience of the firm and persons assigned, ability to meet the time line, project requirements, and cost; and

WHEREAS, On December 15, 2009, by Resolution # R09-54, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority authorized the County Manager to enter into a five-year contract with Lockridge Grindal Nauen P.L.L.P for Federal intergovernmental relations consulting assistance, Now Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority authorizes the County Manager to approve and execute the contract with Lockridge Grindal Nauen P.L.L.P. for Federal intergovernmental relations consulting assistance, in a form approved by the County Attorney, in an amount not to exceed Forty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$40,000.00) per year, for a period of five years (5) from January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2015

2. Contract with McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb for State Intergovernmental Relations Consulting Assistance

Commissioner Reinhardt moved approval of the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Ortega. Roll Call: Ayes – Parker, Reinhardt, Bennett, Carter, Ortega, McDonough – 6. Nays – Rettman: 1. (R10-07)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has worked to advance the transit projects that benefit the citizens of Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has several important transportation-related initiatives at the state level; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has a strong interest in having state funded assistance in planning and implementation of transit corridors; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has an existing contract for State intergovernmental relations services that is set to expire on December 31, 2009; and

WHEREAS, On September 22, 2009, by Resolution # R09-38, the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority authorized the issuance of a Request for Proposals for State intergovernmental relations consulting assistance, and

WHEREAS, The McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb proposal provided the best-value in terms of experience of the firm and persons assigned, ability to meet the time line, project requirements, and cost; and

WHEREAS, On December 15, 2009, by Resolution # R09-55, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority authorized the County Manager to enter into a five-year contract with McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb for State intergovernmental relations consulting assistance, Now Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority approves the contract with McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb for State intergovernmental relations consulting assistance, in an amount not to exceed Forty-eight Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$48,000.00) per year, for a period of five years (5) from January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2015; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the agreement.

3. Bonding Request for High Speed Rail from Chicago to the Twin Cities from the 2010 Legislative session

Commissioner Ortega moved approval of the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Parker, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Ortega, McDonough – 7. Nays – 0. (R10-08)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has worked to advance the St. Paul Union Depot Multi-Modal Transit and Transportation Hub to the benefit of the citizens of Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, Funding and policies that impact High Speed Rail Corridors like the Chicago to the Union Depot Multi-Modal Transit and Transportation Hub will be discussed in the 2010 state legislative session; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Transportation has submitted a grant application as part the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in the amount of \$600,000 for the completion of an alternatives analysis on the Twin Cities to Madison portion of the Twin Cities to Chicago High Speed Rail Corridor; and

WHEREAS, The alternatives analysis precedes the completion of environmental analysis and preliminary engineering; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority approves the submission of a State bonding request for High Speed Rail from Chicago to the Twin Cities, including Union Depot Multi-Modal Transit and Transportation Hub, for \$10.0 million to match federal funding available for environmental analysis and engineering work.

4. Bonding Request for Hoffman Interlocking Capacity Improvements from the 2010 Legislative session

Commissioner Parker moved approval of the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Carter.

Chair McDonough explained that, unlike the High Speed Rail (HSR) funding request which they have previously requested, this is a new request. The capacity improvements at the Hoffman Interlocking/Hoffman Yard in St. Paul have been an important issue, therefore they are now moving forward with the bonding request.

Roll Call: Ayes – Parker, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Ortega, McDonough – 7. Nays – 0. (R10-09)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has worked to advance regional transitways and St. Paul Union Depot Multi-Modal Transit and Transportation Hub to the benefit of the citizens of Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, Funding and policies that impact regional transitways and high speed rail corridors including the Red Rock Corridor and the High Speed Rail Corridors from Chicago to the Twin Cities, including the Union Depot Multi-Modal Transit and Transportation Hub, will be discussed in the 2010 State legislative session; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Transportation recently identified necessary capacity improvements for Hoffman Interlocking as part the Minnesota Comprehensive Statewide Freight and Passenger Rail Plan (Rail Plan); and

WHEREAS, The State Rail Plan estimated capacity improvements for Hoffman Interlocking would be \$54 million; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority approves the submission of a State bonding request for Hoffman Interlocking Capacity Improvements for \$13.5million for environmental analysis, engineering, property acquisition, and construction.

5. Memorandum of Agreement between City of Saint Paul and Metropolitan Council for the Brownfields Assessment Coalition

Commissioner Reinhardt moved approval of the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner.

Chair McDonough said through a joint application with the City of St. Paul and the Metropolitan Council, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded the Cooperative Agreement for a Coalition Brownfield EPA Assessment Grant for Hazardous Substances and Petroleum to the City of Saint Paul. The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is needed to move forward on those funds.

Commissioner Rettman commented that she would be voting against this action. She has concern that the language in the Agreement is not strong enough in protecting Ramsey County from possible future funding needs that may come out of the environmental assessment.

Commissioner Reinhardt commented that although they all shared this concern, she is comfortable with the language in the Agreement.

Roll Call: Ayes – Parker, Reinhardt, Bennett, Carter, Ortega, McDonough – 6. Nays – Rettman: 1.
(R10-10)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority (RCRRA) has worked to advance the Central Corridor and other transit projects and promote economic development opportunities that benefit the citizens of Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, A key to harnessing the economic potential of the Central Corridor will be removing barriers to development including environmental contamination; and

WHEREAS, Assessing the environmental contamination within the corridor will assist in the future cleanup of contaminated sites and maximize the economic development generation within the Corridor; and

WHEREAS, The City of Saint Paul partnered with the Metropolitan Council and RCRRA to submit an application to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) for its Brownfield Assessment Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, The EPA awarded the City of Saint Paul with its collation partners a Brownfield Assessment Grant in August 2009; and Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority approves the Memorandum of Agreement between, the City of Saint Paul, Metropolitan Council, and RCRRA for the EPA Coalition Brownfield Assessment Grant; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority authorizes the County Manager to execute the agreement in a form approved by the County Attorney.

6. Authorize a contract for Phase 1 Construction Manager at Risk/Design Services for the Union Depot

Commissioner Ortega moved approval of the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt.

Jolly Mangine, Director, Ramsey Country Property Management, said the contract negotiations process, which was authorized by the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority (RCRRA) on December 15, 2009, moved quickly and was successful as they reached a proper agreement. They are expecting to execute the agreement with Mortenson Construction this coming Friday. They are pleased and ready to go to work.

Tim Mayasich, Director, Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority, said they are excited about moving forward with M.A. Mortenson and their team. They are confident this is the right team to complete the Union Depot project.

Ken Sorensen, Vice President of Mortenson Construction, introduced himself to the Board and said this project has already received significant attention in their industry. The Mortenson team and their primary design/engineering partners of URS and HGA are enthusiastic. There is a lot of work to do and they are ready to begin. He said communication will be important and working closely with the Lowertown community, the County and a broad range of diverse community in the project. He assured the Board that they will put programs in place to maximize that participation.

Chair McDonough congratulated M.A. Mortenson for the award of the contract. All of the proposals that were received for this project were fantastic, but the Mortenson proposal was amazingly thorough and the team they created was exceptionally strong. He is confident they have the right team in place to have a magnificent project when it is completed.

Commissioner Ortega agreed that the Mortenson team was stellar and that their proposal was exceptional.

Commissioner Parker wanted to know if there was an estimate as to how many employees will be hired for this project by the time it is completed.

Mr. Mangine replied that the Design Phase/Phase I of the project will likely employ about 200-300 people. Later on, from the contracting side there will be about 1,350 people employed. Therefore, in total scope there will be just below 2,000 people employed from this project.

Commissioner Parker asked about the timing and ground breaking for the project.

Mr. Mangine said schedule is extremely important and the Mortenson team is fully prepared. Phase I activities need to be completed by September 28, 2010 and they expect to have enough design completed at that point to begin construction immediately after that date. They will then have two years to complete the construction by September of 2012, which was one of their commitments for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds.

Chair McDonough commented that part of qualifying for the \$135 million ARRA funds was that the project needed to be completed in 2012. The RCRRA, Property Management and Mortenson have carefully positioned this project to be able to make this timeline.

Roll Call: Ayes – Parker, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Ortega, McDonough – 7. Nays – 0.
(R10-11)

WHEREAS, On October 6, 2009, the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority (RCRRA) authorized issuing a request for proposals (RFP) for Construction Manager at Risk/Design Team services for the Union Depot Multi-Modal Transit Hub; and

WHEREAS, Six proposals were received on November 20, 2009, and evaluated by staff from RCRRA, Ramsey County, the City of Saint Paul, Washington County, and the Minnesota Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, Interviews were conducted with the three highest-ranked proposer teams: Kraus-Anderson with Miller Dunwiddie, M. A. Mortenson Company with HGA, and PCL with BWBR Architects; and

WHEREAS, After considering all of the information, including information from references, the Oral Interview Evaluation Team reached consensus in selecting the Construction Manager at Risk/Design team of M. A. Mortenson Company, for Phase I Design services; and

WHEREAS, On December 15, 2009, the RCRRA authorized staff to enter into negotiations with M. A. Mortenson Company for Phase I Construction Manager at Risk/Design Services for the Union Depot Multi-Modal Transit Hub project; and

WHEREAS, Staff has negotiated an acceptable draft contract for a not-to-exceed price of \$5,481,808, and

WHEREAS, Staff has developed a budget of up to \$250,000 for support services that may be necessary to complete the Phase 1 Design activities; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority authorizes the County Manager to execute a contract with M. A. Mortenson Company, 700 Meadow Lane North, Minneapolis, MN, for Phase 1 Design Services for Union Depot for a not-to-exceed price of \$5,481,808, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office, Regional Railroad Authority, Property Management, and Budgeting and Accounting; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority authorizes the County Manager to make all necessary adjustments to the RCRRA budget to provide up to \$250,000 within the RCRRA budget for historic, outreach, and staffing activities in support of completing the Phase 1 Design activities, if required; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority authorizes the County Manager to execute agreements, amendments, contracts, and change orders, subject to prior approval by the County Attorney's Office, and to make all necessary budget adjustments and payments within the \$5,731,808 Phase 1 budget.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair McDonough declared the meeting adjourned at 10:57 AM.