

Meeting Minutes

RAMSEY COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY MEETING

The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority met on March 14, 2006 in Council Chambers, Third Floor Courthouse.

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

OTHERS PRESENT:           Julie Kleinschmidt, David MacMillan, Robert Clarkson, David Twa,  
                                  Steve Morris, Angie Taylor, Alicia Vap, Mark Voerding, Kathy  
                                  DeSpiegelaere, Ken Haider, Sarah Psick, Joe Bagnoli

Chair Ortega called the RCRRA meeting to order at 11:35 a.m.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA**

1.     Approve minutes from February 14, 2006 RCRRA meeting

A motion was made by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner McDonough, to approve the minutes from the February 14, 2006 RCRRA meeting.

Roll call vote was taken:

Ayes – 7, Nays – 0  
Motion accepted.

2.     Ratify Partial Payment No. 2 in the amount of \$88,124.59 to LTK Engineering Services for consulting services on the Union Depot project through December 2005

A motion was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to ratify Partial Payment No. 2 in the amount of \$88,124.59 to LTK Engineering Services for consulting services on the Union Depot project through December 2005.

Roll call vote was taken; Commissioner Rettman voted no:

Ayes – 6, Nays – 1  
Motion accepted.

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has contracted for professional services of LTK Engineering Services for consulting services on the Union Depot project; and

WHEREAS, LTK Engineering Services has satisfactorily completed portions of the work identified in the referenced agreement, and provided detailed invoice documentation for services and costs accrued through December 2005; 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, LTK Engineering Services Invoice No. 3511-002, Partial Payment No. 2 in the amount of \$88,124.59 attachments thereto, provide the correct documentation of payments due LTK Engineering Services through December 2005; Now, Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, Payment to LTK Engineering Services in the amount of \$88,124.59 for services rendered through December 2005 is hereby ratified.

3. Ratify quarterly report of payments for October 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005

A motion was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to ratify the quarterly report of payments for October 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005.

Roll call vote was taken:

Ayes – 7, Nays – 0  
Motion accepted.

WHEREAS, Payments have been made from the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority budget for the period of October 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005 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**

4. Legislative Update—Kathy DeSpiegelaere

Commissioner Ortega introduced the new legislative consultants from McGrann, Shea law offices Joe Bagnoli, and Sarah Psick.

Mr. Bagnoli discussed a Senate hearing held on Thursday, March 16 about Central Corridor, and noted support at the Capitol but questions regarding funding and timing of funds.

Kathy DeSpiegelaere commented that although the Cost Effectiveness Index (CEI) gets much attention, state funding needs to be in place before the federal share is awarded.

Mr. Bagnoli talked about the Union Depot and its funding; Union Depot has \$50 million in funding and Ramsey County needs to match that funding.

5. Central Corridor Update—Steve Morris

This item was tabled until the March 28, 2006 Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority meeting.

6. Comments on changes to federal New Starts Requirements—Steve Morris.

Steve Morris discussed the recent opportunity for public comments to the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Guidance on New Starts Policies and Procedures. Mr. Morris stated that a draft document had been prepared to respond to FTA and requested RCRRA endorse the comments. Commissioner Ortega noted that the document was received late, with no time to review before the Friday, March 17 deadline. Commissioner Ortega requested that in the future, this type of document be presented much earlier, so the RCRRA has an opportunity to review it.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.