

Meeting Minutes

RAMSEY COUNTY RAILROAD AUTHORITY MEETING

The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority met on January 17, 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:           Kathy DeSpiegelaere, Julie Kleinschmidt, David MacMillan, Robert  
                                  Clarkson, David Twa, Alicia Vap, Victoria LaBerge, Angie Taylor

Chair Ortega called the RCRRA meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA**

1.     Approve minutes from December 20, 2005 and January 3, 2006 RCRRA meetings

A motion was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, to approve the minutes from the December 20, 2005 and the January 3, 2006 RCRRA meetings.

Roll call vote was taken:

Ayes – 7, Nays – 0  
Motion accepted.

2.     Ratify Partial Payment No. 2 in the amount of \$2,414.90 to Thompson Coburn for legal services on the Union Depot project and Central Corridor Transit project through November 2005

A motion was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to ratify Partial Payment No. 2 in the amount of \$2,414.90 to Thompson Coburn for legal services on the Union Depot project and Central Corridor Transit project through November 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 Thompson Coburn For Legal Services On The Union Depot Project And The Central Corridor Transit Project; And

WHEREAS, Thompson Coburn Has Satisfactorily Completed Portions Of The Work Identified In The Referenced Agreement, And Provided Detailed Invoice Documentation For Services And Costs Accrued Through November 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, Thompson Coburn Invoice Nos. 1027514 And 1027515, Partial Payment No. 2 In The Amount Of \$2,414.90 Attachments Thereto, Provide The Correct Documentation Of Payments Due Thompson Coburn Through November 2005; Now, Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, Payment To Thompson Coburn In The Amount Of \$2,414.90 For Services Rendered Through November 2005 Is Hereby Ratified.

3. Ratify Partial Payment No.17 in the amount of \$11,099.51 to Metropolitan Council for professional services on the Central Corridor Phase 2 study for November 2005.

A motion was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to ratify Partial Payment No.17 in the amount of \$11,099.51 to Metropolitan Council for professional services on the Central Corridor Phase 2 study for November 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 the professional consulting services of Metropolitan Council for the purpose of conducting the Central Corridor Phase 2 study; 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 November 25, 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, Metropolitan Council Invoice No. NCV-4380, Partial Payment No. 17, in the amount of \$11,099.51 attachments thereto, provide the correct documentation of payments due Metropolitan Council through November 25, 2005; Now, Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, Payment to Metropolitan Council in the amount of \$11,099.51 for services rendered through November 25, 2005, is hereby ratified.

4. Ratify Partial Payment No. 3 in the amount of \$20,166.97 to St. Paul Port Authority for negotiation of acquisition of the Post Office buildings in St. Paul for November 2005

A motion was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to ratify Partial Payment No. 3 in the amount of \$20,166.97 to St. Paul Port Authority for negotiation of acquisition of the Post Office buildings in St. Paul for November 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 the professional services of St. Paul Port Authority for the negotiation of acquisition of Post Office buildings in St. Paul; and

WHEREAS, St. Paul Port Authority has satisfactorily completed the work identified in the referenced agreements, and provided detailed invoice documentation for services and costs accrued for November 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, St. Paul Port Authority Invoice No. 3, Partial Payment No. 3 in the amount of \$20,166.97 attachments thereto, provide the correct documentation of payments due St. Paul Port Authority for November 2005; Now, Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, Payment to St. Paul Port Authority in the amount of \$20,166.97 for services rendered in November 2005 is hereby ratified.

5. Ratify Partial Payment No. 1 in the amount of \$34,302.06 to LTK Engineering Services for consulting services on the Union Depot project through October 2005

A motion was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to Ratify Partial Payment No. 1 in the amount of \$34,302.06 to LTK Engineering Services for consulting services on the Union Depot project through October 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 October 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. 3511-001, Partial Payment No. 1 in the amount of \$34,302.06 attachments thereto, provide the correct documentation of payments due Thompson Coburn through October 2005; Now, Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, Payment to LTK Engineering Services in the amount of \$34,302.06 for services rendered through October 2005 is hereby ratified.

6. Ratify Partial Payment No. 22 in the amount of \$27,002.47 to DMJM+Harris, Inc. for consulting services on the Central Corridor Phase 2 study for October 2005

A motion was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to ratify Partial Payment No. 22 in the amount of \$27,002.47 to DMJM+Harris, Inc. for consulting services on the Central Corridor Phase 2 study for October 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 the professional consulting services of DMJM+Harris, Inc. for the purpose of conducting the Central Corridor Phase 2 study; and

WHEREAS, DMJM+Harris, Inc. has satisfactorily completed portions of the work identified in the referenced agreements, and provided detailed invoice documentation for services and costs accrued through October 28, 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, DMJM+Harris, Inc. Invoice No. 6010882, Partial Payment No. 22, in the amount of \$27,002.47 attachments thereto, provide the correct documentation of payments due DMJM+Harris, Inc. through October 28, 2005; Now, Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, Payment to DMJM+Harris, Inc. in the amount of \$27,002.47 for services rendered through October 28, 2005, is hereby ratified.

7. Ratify Partial Payment No. 9 in the amount of \$6,122.85 to Tunheim Partners for communication and community organizing services on the Union Depot project through November 2005

A motion was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt, to ratify Partial Payment No. 9 in the amount of \$6,122.85 to Tunheim Partners for communication and community organizing services on the Union Depot project through November 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 the professional services of Tunheim Partners for communications and community organizing services on the Union Depot project; and

WHEREAS, Tunheim Partners has satisfactorily completed portions of the work identified in the referenced agreements, and provided detailed invoice documentation for services and costs accrued through November 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, Tunheim Partners Invoice No. 03506, Partial Payment No. 9 in the amount of \$6,122.85 attachments thereto, provide the correct documentation of payments due Tunheim Partners through November 2005; Now, Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, Payment to Tunheim Partners in the amount of \$6,122.85 for services rendered through November 2005 is hereby ratified.

## POLICY AGENDA

### 8. Central Corridor Update—Kathy DeSpiegelaere

Kathy DeSpiegelaere noted that there would be a meeting of the Central Corridor Coordinating Committee on Thursday, January 19, 2006. Ms DeSpiegelaere also commented that they continue to work with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on the Cost Effectiveness Index and ridership forecast and that it looks promising that the FTA requirements will be met.

### 9. Approve lease LNE027 and authorize Chair to execute lease LNE027 with Versa at Forest and Phalen Boulevard in St. Paul

A motion was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Carter, to approve lease LNE027 and authorize Chair to execute lease LNE027 with Versa at Forest and Phalen Boulevard in St. Paul.

Alicia Vap provided a summary of the proposed lease with Versa. Ms Vap commented that the City of St. Paul is required to provide a thirty-nine (39) foot right of way for future transit. The City purchased the property from Versa and Versa requested to lease back a portion of the property. The lease calls for annual payments of Eight hundred twenty-five dollars (\$825) for a five-year term.

Commissioner Rettman complimented Ms Vap and Ms DeSpiegelaere for their thorough work on the presentation to the RCRRA.

Roll call vote was taken:

Ayes – 7, Nays – 0  
Motion accepted.

WHEREAS, The Northeast Corridor right of way, extending from Kellogg Boulevard in St. Paul to Beam Avenue in Maplewood was acquired by Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority in 1992; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has approved Easement 049 with the City of St. Paul for a permanent easement to use RCRRA right of way for the construction and permanent roadway, Phalen Boulevard, from Payne Avenue to Johnson Parkway in St. Paul, a length of 1.6 miles; and

WHEREAS, A condition of Easement 049 is that the City of St. Paul would make whole a 39-foot corridor for the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority for future transit; and

WHEREAS, The City of St. Paul has purchased a 8,850 square foot parcel of right of way from Versa west of Forest Street for the 39-foot corridor; and

WHEREAS, Versa has a need to continue utilizing the parcel of right of way for surface parking and has negotiated a lease with the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority for the continued use of this right of way; Now, Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority approves Lease 027 with Versa for use of right of way for surface parking just west of Forest Street in St. Paul, and authorizes the Chair to sign the Lease.

In other business, Commissioner Ortega discussed the Robert Street/Highway 52 Corridor meeting that he attended with Kathy DeSpiegelaere. This new corridor is proposed to run from Rosemount to the Union Depot. Commissioner Ortega will be bringing forth a Resolution to support a study of the corridor, as it

was last studied in 1991. Commissioner Ortega commented that Representative Hanson was at the meeting, as was Senator Metzen.

Commissioner Ortega also noted that there is a transit bonding tour scheduled for Monday, January 23, 2006.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.