

Railroad Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2009

Peter Davis called to order the meeting of the Railroad Advisory Board at 7:30 a.m., March 12, 2009 at the Water and Light Administration Utility Services Conference Room, 105 East Ash Street, Columbia, MO

The following persons were present:

Peter Davis, Chairperson

Greg Eiffert, Vice-Chair

Tom Ogden, Member

Jack Blaylock, Member

Kee Groshong, Member

Bryan Ross, Member

J. Kraig Kahler, Water and Light Director

Jim Windsor, Rates/Fiscal Manager

Christian Johannningmeier, Engineer II

Marilyn Thorpe, Administrative Support Supervisor

“Doc” Wulff, excused

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a motion by Jack Blaylock and second by Greg Eiffert, the minutes of January 8, 2009 were approved as distributed with a unanimous vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Jim Windsor said that the revenues were down and costs are up.

TRAFFIC REPORT: Christian Johannningmeier told the Board that as of the end of February rail traffic was down 105 cars or 15% and that we were down 49% compared to our best year. He said traffic at the rail terminal was up. Christian said that commodities as a whole were down but that metals were up 83 cars. He said coal shipments would start back up in April. He said there was some good news in that we have not lost any customers yet.

MARKETING: Kraig Kahler said there was nothing to report at this time other than that Tina Worley was continuing to meet with potential rail customers. The Board will be informed on any developments.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Kahler told the Board that he had received information that there may be an additional \$950,000 for the Highway 63 Bridge project. He said Senator Kit Bond had secured this funding in the Omnibus Bill. He will keep the Board informed of any information staff receives on this matter.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Kahler reminded the Board that the City had approved a \$92,000 change order for the design of the COLT railroad bridge over US 63. The money was paid to Modjeski

& Masters to expedite the design phase of the project. As a result, the City has been awarded a grant up to nine million dollars, from the federal economic stimulus package, to pay for the construction of the bridge.

Mr. Johanninger distributed partial plan drawings from Modjeski and Masters on the Highway 63 Crossing bridge design. He said staff had sent Council a request to set a public hearing for April 20, 2009 concerning the construction of a new bridge to carry COLT's railroad track over. He said the City must issue a notice to proceed to its contractor for this project no later than June 15, 2009 in order to secure the federal stimulus money. He said if everything proceeds as planned the bids would go out April 21 or 22 and close on May 12. Christian said there would be two contracts. One is for the bridge, which includes removal of existing crossing and repairs to highway, the other contract is for construction of track, removal of track and signal equipment. He said weathering steel would be used to build the bridge. This particular kind of steel does not need to be painted. Peter Davis suggested that a sign be placed on the bridge similar to the one that is on the bridge spanning Highway 70. Bryan Ross asked what would happen to the signals currently used at the 63 crossing. Christian said they would be taken down and stored for future use. He said they will be removed as part of the track project. The Board asked if there would be a ground breaking or ribbon cutting ceremony Mr. Kahler said he was sure there would be some form of recognition but did not know at this time what that might be.

The Board on a motion from Kee Groshong and second from Jack Blaylock recommended that the Council proceed with the Bridge project as recommended by staff. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting is May 21st at 7:30 am.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 a.m.