

Railroad Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2009

Peter Davis called to order the meeting of the Railroad Advisory Board at 730 a.m., January 8, 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

“Doc” Wulff, member

J. Kraig Kahler, Water and Light Director

Tad Johnsen, Power Production Superintendent

Jim Windsor, Rates/Fiscal Manager

Christian Johanningmeier, Engineer II

Tina Worley, Utility Services Manager

Dave Sprague, Railroad Operations Supervisor

Marilyn Thorpe, Administrative Support Supervisor

Bryan Ross, Member - Excused

Kee Groshong, Member - Excused

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a motion by Greg Eiffert and second by Tom Ogden, the minutes of November 13, 2008 were approved as distributed with a unanimous vote.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Peter Davis called for nominations for Board Chair. Jack Blaylock nominated Peter Davis, there were no other nominations. Mr. Blaylock made the motion to vote by acclamation, Greg Eiffert made a second to the motion. Peter was elected by acclamation. Mr Davis then called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Mr. Blaylock nominated Greg Eiffert, there were no more nominations. Greg was elected by acclamation.

FINANCIAL REPORT: The Board reviewed the Detail Schedule of Operating Revenues and Expenses for the Ten Months Ended September 30, 2008 and 2007. Jim Windsor told the Board that revenues were not keeping up with the expenses. He said these issues would need to be addressed in the near future to prepare for the upcoming budget.

TRAFFIC REPORT: Christian Johanningmeier said traffic was down 8% or 41 cars. Overall traffic is down 37% from last year. He said cars were up at the rail terminal by 104. Christian said staff would be looking at the COLT's finances to determine what needs to be done for the future. He said the three big expenses will be car hire, personnel and fuel. Kraig Kahler reminded the Board that the Electric utility had loaned the railroad \$565,000 to help pay for the

at-grade crossing on US Highway 63. He said that project had been put on hold. He said the federal government is considering a Mainstreet stimulus package that will have funds available for major projects. It was decided by staff and council to take \$92,000 of the loan and pay Modjeski & Masters to speed up the design phase of the Columbia Terminal Railroad (COLT) Bridge over US 63. It was felt that if the design could be ready by March that there is a good chance the project could be funded by money from the stimulus package. Mr. Kahler said the project was number one on the City's list and number two on Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDot) list. He said the at-grade crossing would not be done if a bridge is built.

MARKETING: Tina Worley said she had been meeting with MoDot and the Department of Economic Development to discuss doing a cost-share study on an intermodal facility. If implemented the facility would reduce traffic on I-70. This would affect inbound and outbound rail traffic making the industry in mid-Missouri more competitive. Tina said farmers are interested in shipping grain overseas. There is a possibility that the grain could be loaded at the transload. She said there are lots of questions and the study should give them the answers to determine which direction to go. Ms. Worley said staff wanted the Board's approval before taking the proposal to council. Jack Blaylock made a motion with a second from Greg Eiffert that the Board recommends to Council that the city participate in the cost-share Feasibility and Development Assessment for a Regional Intermodal Freight Facility study – Phase 1 – Central Missouri, with Missouri Department of Transportation. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: Highway 63 Crossing – Christian Johannngmeier distributed a preliminary design phase type study from Modjeski and Masters along with diagrams of the design. He said the study detailed two options. Option 1 included the use of six steel girder spans that extend from the breakpoint of the embankment at the east approach to a point approximately 75 feet from the break point of the embankment at the west approach. Option 2 included the use of five steel girder spans that extend to retained fill at each end of the structure. T-walls are being proposed at each end of the structure, and will allow the elimination of one span and a reduction in the structure length of approximately 57 feet.

Christian said Modjeski and Masters recommended Option 1, the six span option. The difference in cost is around \$80,000. Christian said staff recommends using weathering type steel that does not need painting. He said staff had met with MoDot and Modjeski and Masters yesterday. He said the preliminary plans would be ready by the middle of February and the final plans by the first of April. Kraig Kahler said staff and the Board could meet more often if needed before April. Christian said we have all the right-of-way that we need for this project. He said the bridge could be built within 10 months of approval.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting is March 12.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 a.m.