

NORTHWOODS RAIL TRANSIT COMMISSION
Joint Meeting w/ LSSA Data Co-Op Committee

MEETING SUMMARY

GLTPA - Rhinelander
January 18, 2019

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The joint meeting was called to order at approximately 10:15 am.

The following were present: Dale Kupczyk Ashland County, Stacey Johnson Oneida County Economic Development Corporation, Wendy Gehlhoff Florence County Economic Development Corporation, Al Koskela Houghton County Board, Tom Tikkanen Houghton County Board, William Liebert Oneida County Board, Tricia Grebin Marinette County Board, Mike Cassidy Marinette County, Joe Pinardi Iron County WI Board, Gary Frank Oconto County Board, Al Christenson Marathon County Board, *Angie Close Langlade County Economic Development Corporation, and Peter Van Steen Delta County-CUPPAD*, Rich Kedzior WisDOT, *John Varda LSSA*, Bill Korrer WI Counties Association, Tom Klimek Klimek Rail Consulting, Brian Buchanan CN, Ty Penca, Jim Rosenberg WEDC, *Sheldon Johnson NWWRPC*, Pasi Lautala Michigan Tech, Jake Hayrynen Longyear-LSSA, Sangpil Ko Michigan Tech, Susie Klinger Tomahawk Rail, Dan Rickel Tomahawk Rail, Jen Recker CN, Scott Suder WI Paper Council, Kelly Klein Iron County WI Economic Development, Tyler Delvaux ELS Railroad, Henry Schienebeck GLTPA, David Sederholm, Jim Hoppe PCA, Chad Morgan Louisiana Pacific, Scott Kiser Louisiana Pacific, Steve Gromala Menominee County MI Board, Jay Verhulst Vilas County Board, *Joel ??? Neenah Inc, Kelly Westlund Senator Baldwin's Office, Jerry Wuorenmaa WUPPDR, ???, Dave Slater Potlatch Corp, Craig Timm Domtar, Scott Robbins MI Forest Products Council, Brian Seitz Verso*, Libby Ogard Prime Focus LLC and Darryl Landeau NCWRPC.

Editor's Note: If you or someone you know attended the meeting in person or via teleconference but are not reflected here, please forward that information to dlandeau@ncwrpc.org. Thank you.

2. LSSA Antitrust Invocation

Mr. Varda provided an outline of the anti-trust agreement provisions of the LSSA.

3a. Approval of NRTC Meeting Notes from October 26, 2019

On a motion by Ms. Gehlhoff Florence County, seconded by Mr. Kupczyk Ashland County, the meeting notes of the October 26, 2019 meeting were approved with all in favor.

3b. Discuss/Approve NRTC Application for WEDC Capacity Building Grant

Editor's Note: The Chair moved / incorporated this item into item 6, see below.

3c. Discuss NRTC Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee Involvement

Ms. Johnson, acting NRTC Chair, briefly outlined her goals to broaden participation in the NRTC and potentially bring in more funding for NRTC actions moving forward. She then deferred further discussion to item 7, see below.

3d. Confirm Meeting Date for Next Regular NRTC Meeting

The quarterly meeting schedule was confirmed and the next regular NRTC meeting will be April 26, 2019.

4 / 5. Michigan Tech LSSA Data Co-Op Project Report Presentation

Mr. Lautala presented the findings of Michigan Tech's Log/Non-Log Movement in the Superior Region. *Editor's Note: presentation slides available on NRTC website.* They have created a model for freight movement that appears to work. As they wrap up the project over the next several months, they will seek to add additional data sources, fine tune the model and evaluate additional scenarios.

6. Discuss Potential Availability of Grant Funding

At the request of the LSSA, Ms. Ogard presented on a variety of potential grant programs available for freight rail projects and provided guidelines for successful applications. NRTC leadership, in conjunction with Ms. Ogard and the LSSA, would like to develop a strategic plan with options for moving forward with partnership building and taking advantage of grant opportunities, if some planning funds can be found.

7 Discuss Liaison with Other Organizations having Common Interests

Discussion on this item spun out of the previous item with the strategic plan concept intended to further identify and define potential liaison opportunities. Ms. Johnson had highlighted the idea of a joint venture with entities such as the LSSA and Grow North as well as affected private sector organizations.

8 / 9. Discuss WCG Campaign / Next Steps - Future Meetings...

Editor's Note: Due to time considerations, items 8 and 9 on the agenda were passed over, but will likely be dealt with at future meetings.

10. Adjourn

On a motion by Mr. Koskela Houghton County, seconded by Mr. Kupczyk Ashland County, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:15 pm with all in favor.