

SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN RAIL TRANSIT COMMISSION

PO Box 262 • 20 S Court Street • Platteville, Wisconsin 53818
 Harvey Kubly, Chair • Commission Office Phone 608.342.1637 • Fax 608.342.1220
 MEMBER COUNTIES: DANE • GREEN

**Wednesday, October 21st, 2020, 3:00 PM,
 Green County Courthouse, 2nd Floor Courtroom,
 1016 16th Ave, Monroe, WI
 and Online via ZOOM**

1. **3:01 Call to Order** – *Harvey Kubly, Chair*

2. Roll Call. **Establishment of Quorum** – *Matthew Honer, SCWRTC Administrator*

	Commission members present for all/part of meeting:		Others present for all/part of meeting:
Dane County	Jay Allen	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matthew Honer - Admin. Rich Kedzior, Josh Cotter, Lisa Stern – WisDOT Drew Hanson, Missy Vanlanduyt - WIDNR
	Chris James	X	
	Roger Hillebrand, <i>Vice Chair</i>	<i>absent</i>	
Green County	Harvey Kubly, <i>Chair</i>	X	
	Oscar Olson, <i>Secretary</i>	X	
	Michael Lowery	X	

3. Action Item. **Certification of Meeting’s Public Notice** – *Prepared by Honer*

Honer stated that the notice and agenda were sent to the counties and confirmation of posting was received.

- Motion to approve certification of meeting – Olson/James. Passed Unanimously*

4. Action Item. **Approval of Agenda** – *Prepared by Honer*

- Motion to approve agenda. – James/Allen. Passed Unanimously*

5. Action Item. **Approval of draft July 2020 meeting minutes** – *Prepared by Honer.*

- Motion to approve July 2020 draft minutes – Allen/Olson. Passed Unanimously*

6. Updates. **Announcements by Commissioners**

Kubly suggested commission check out the east troy Trolley.

7. Updates. **Public Comment**

No public comment.

8. Action Item **Election of the Commission’s Treasurer** – *Kubly, Chair*

- a. *Motion to nominate Michael Lower as Treasurer – Olson/Allen. Passed Unanimously*

REPORTS & COMMISSION BUSINESS

9. **SCWRTC Financial Report** – *Lowery/Kubly, Chair (Acting Treasurer).*

Lower reported that as a jun 30 the total accounts was. He reported receipts and invoices. Total receipts were \$37,200.69. Disbursements were for SWWRPC for \$2,200. Checking balance was \$40,391.39 as of September 30.

Total certificates of deposit were \$140,391.35.

Kubly added that when the CD came due at WI Bank and Trust it was cashed in because the CD that came due at Greenwoods was missed.

Lowery reported a bill from Johnson Block for \$1600. And SWWRPC for \$1,100.

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Olson asked about the interest rate on the CD that was cashed in.

- *Motion to accept the treasurers report and pay the bills. – Olson/Allen. Passed Unanimously.*

10. Discussion and Action on Commission account location – Kubly, Chair (Acting Treasurer).

Kubly explained that he had an issue with Greenwoods Bank not providing notice to him or Paul Beach that the large CD account was expiring. Kubly suggested that banking should be done in Monroe because it is a central location for the Commission. Kubly suggested that the Commission move the account from Greenwoods to Woodford State Bank.

- Motion to move checking account from Greenwoods to Woodford State Bank – Allen/Olson. Passed Unanimously.

11. WisDOT Report – Lisa Stern, Josh Cotter, Rich Kedzior- WisDOT.

Stern reported that WisDOT is working with the City to locate the field survey of encroachments. WisDOT's consultants will go out and follow up on the 150 encroachments. Stern stated that the next meeting with the City is in November. Allen asked about adverse possession. Stern stated that because it is a state corridor adverse possession is unlikely and that WisDOT will be working to permit and remove the issues. Kedzior stated that they discovered a new encroachment of concrete stairs entering the corridor. The stairs were built by a private individual on an adjoining parcel that he does not own. Rich stated that they will be offering the property owner the option of removing the stairs or entering into an agreement with WisDOT. Honer asked if the commission has a responsibility to review the agreements. Stern thinks that would make sense and can bring it to the commission. Kedzior stated that the extent and severity of encroachments varies greatly from very easily removed issues to buildings and patios.

Cotter stated that he received a trans 29 permit (utility) from MMSD for underneath a trestle bridge.

12. WIDNR Report – Drew Hanson, WIDNR.

The City of Fitchburg completed the bridge over highway PD. Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District is planning a sanitary line replacement under the Badger State Trail trestle bridge at the bicycle roundabout—between McKee Road and Lovell Lane. MMSD has an easement for the work which is not expected to affect the Badger State Trail.

Vandals started the same trestle bridge on fire in September. Damage estimates are around \$5,000. DNR staff performed a temporary patch and the bridge is still open. No one is in custody. DNR plans to have repairs complete by December. Staff are currently working on it. The process continues for the southwest savannah master plan and the draft plan is expected to ready this winter, which will open an official public comment period.

13. SCWRTC Administrator's Report – Honer, SCWRTC Admin.

Honer stated that he has nothing to report beyond the communication on the Stewart Tunnel and the 2019 Audit.

14. Discussion and Possible Action on Stewart Tunnel – Drew Hanson, WIDNR.

Hanson stated that he received a letter from Honer requesting a solid cover for the portals of the Tunnel. Hanson forwarded that communication to WIDNR Staff. Hanson stated that doors are currently in the design phase. Hanson stated that Missy Vandanluyt sent a letter responding to Honer's letter stating WIDNR's position that they will continue to study the situation including the use of a bat biologist. The chainlink fencing was installed just inside the portals. The chainlink fence is approximately 8 ft tall and will help prevent the public from entering the tunnel and allows WIDNR staff to study the tunnel.

Allen stated that he does not feel that we are not closer to a solution than we were a year ago. Kubly stated he was happy that doors are being designed but would like to see an effective measure to insulate the tunnel. Hanson stated that the chainlink fence does prevent public safety. Vandanluyt stated that local law enforcement and WIDNR staff thought that the economic option of hay or straw bales were a safety concern. Vandanluyt stated that it was estimated to cost \$60k – \$90k for the doors, she stated that it is not clear if the tunnel is in a condition where the doors can be added as a good investment. Allen stated that over the past 4 – 5 years the Commission has discussed the tunnel and feels that it has been taking a long time. Kubly stated that he feels that it is overdue. Honer asked when the engineering study is schedule. Missy stated that they are hoping to get the scope to the DOA yet this year and hopefully plan for the project will move ahead in 2021. Honer asked for Missy to share the scope with the Commission and WisDOT.

Honer asked if the WIDNR has worked with the township on an agreement for trail users to use the township roads.

Cotter asked if the corridor is closed is it a breach of the interim trail use agreement. Stern stated that the tunnel would require significant cost if rail were to return or not but it is important to maintain and control the corridor. Cotter asked what

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type of engineer is working on the general inspection of the tunnel. Vanlanduyt stated that WIDNR has several types of engineers that are making notes and developing information for consultants. Valanduyt stated that WIDNR is aware of the responsibility to maintain the trail and if there were any major changes, it would need to be signed off by WisDOT that WIDNR will make changes if Rail were to ever return.

15. Discussion and Action on 2019 Audit - Kubly, Chair.

Kubly presented the draft audit.

- *Motion to acknowledge the 2019 Audit – Allen/Olson. Passed Unanimously.*

16. Action Item – Adjournment

- *Motion to adjourn at 4:03 – Allen/Lowery. Passed Unanimously.*