

# PECATONICA RAIL TRANSIT COMMISSION

PO Box 262 • 20 S Court Street • Platteville, Wisconsin 53818  
MEMBER COUNTIES: GREEN • IOWA • LAFAYETTE • ROCK

## PRTC/WRRTC FORMAL FUNDING AGREEMENT WORKING COMMITTEE May 29, 2015

Green Co. Courthouse 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Courtroom, 1016 16<sup>th</sup> Ave • Monroe, WI

**1. Call to Order** – *Harvey W. Kubly, Chair*

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kubly at 2:14 PM

**2. Establishment of Committee Members Present** – *Mary Penn, PRTC Administrator*

<i>Commissioner</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Harvey W. Kubly</i>	<i>Green</i>	<i>x</i>
<i>Ron Wolter</i>	<i>Green</i>	<i>x</i>
<i>Philip Mrozinski</i>	<i>Iowa</i>	<i>x</i>
<i>Charles Anderson</i>	<i>Iowa</i>	<i>x</i>
<i>Alan Sweeney</i>	<i>Rock</i>	<i>x</i>
<i>Wayne Gustina</i>	<i>Rock</i>	<i>x</i>

Also attending: Kim Tollers, WDOT, Mary Penn, PRTC Administrator

**3. Call to Order** – *Harvey Kubly, Chair*

**4. Roll Call. Establishment of Committee Members Present** – *Mary Penn, PRTC Administrator*

**5. Action Item. Certification of Meeting's Public Notice** – *Noticed by Penn*

- *Motion to approve certification of notice – Mrozinski/Sweeney, Passed Unanimously*

**6. Action Item. Approval of Agenda** – *Prepared by Penn*

- *Motion to approve the agenda – Gustina/Mrozinski, Passed Unanimously*

**7. Action Item. Approval of draft Minutes from January, 2015 meeting** – *Prepared by Penn*

- *Motion to approve January 2015 minutes – Sweeney/Anderson, Passed Unanimously, Mrozinski abstained*

### COMMITTEE BUSINESS

**8. Continued discussion of possibility of Green County joining WRRTC**

Harvey Kubly said that in the past he had been hoping to resolve the Lafayette County issue but seeing as how it was going so slowly, they should think about moving ahead on the issue. He said he had spoken to Art Carter about making a formal request to the County Board. He said he thought the Board would want some sort of understanding (i.e. MOU) that the Green County contribution should go to Green and therefore the PRTC. Alan Sweeney concurred, given the projects were somewhat equal and the PRTC recognized that the rail benefits did not stop in Janesville. He said language in an MOU to that effect would certainly go a long way to have everyone on the same page. Kubly said the first step would be to draft an MOU. He said either Eileen Brownlee or the County's corporation counsel could do that. Sweeney said obviously it would have to come to both commissions and all the counties involved so it would not be done by the next

meeting: there could not be a big rush in getting it done. Kubly said he thought that the County's corp counsel could draft it. Sweeney agreed and said Brownlee would review it anyway. Kubly said that would not be a bad idea. Charles Anderson asked for clarification. Sweeney said that there may be some support needed for issues and capital improvement outside the PRTC line, within the WRRTC track ROW. Kubly said he thought that before the County gave money to the PRTC, if the PRTC decided to invest in infrastructure outside their corridor that would be ok. Sweeney said if the MOU stated that, it would be helpful in getting the other nine counties to go along with this and have the contribution for the PRTC stay in the PRTC unless the MOU stated a project that needed PRTC support. Kubly said the MOU could state that any requests be made to the PRTC, not Green County. Sweeney said Green County corp counsel would be looking out for Green County and in that case, the "view would have to be broadened".

Kubly said to some extent this was a "chicken and an egg thing". He said he thought the Board would not agree unless there were assurances. Sweeney said the WRRTC "is run pretty much on a zero balance" and as he had said in the past, if the WRRTC commissioners saw a treasurer's report from the PRTC with a high balance and there was a project (e.g. bridge project elsewhere outside of PRTC), there could be an opportunity for the WRRTC to request a "certain amount" from the PRTC. He did not say what exactly that amount could be because there was no way to know but there would need to be language to address those situations as they came up: an MOU would need to reflect that.

Ron Wolter said when he started, he believed the PRTC was giving their contribution to the WRRTC. Kubly agreed that in the past they had given directly to the WRRTC. Wolter said they needed to make sure they kept enough funds in the PRTC to administer. Sweeney said he thought it important to make a start and see what sort of a document could be developed and see the response of the parties involved. Kubly said if he could have a document in hand by July that would be a start. Sweeney said corp counsel could also draft a letter requesting Lafayette County's contribution.

#### **9. Discussion and possible action on Lafayette County Contribution**

Penn distributed minutes from a 2005 meeting and a draft economic analysis to the Committee. Sweeney said if Lafayette County could show some response to not support, legally that would formally establish their position. Penn said that she was planning on sending out the county contribution request letter to all counties in July, regardless of past payment history. She noted that she had sent a letter to Lafayette County Board Chair Jack Sauer formally inviting him to the Commission meeting. She asked Kubly if he had spoken to Jack Sauer about Lafayette County paying administrative costs. Kubly confirmed that he had and if nothing else, it would be an acknowledgement that Lafayette County was part of the Commission and needed to pay. He said Sauer had said he would try to make the January meeting and that Sauer was formally invited by Penn. Sweeney asked if the Green County Board was aware of the arears situation. Kubly confirmed that they were for the most part, in particular Mike Doyle, the Clerk and Art Carter, the Board Chair. He said one good thing about this was that if the bill was sent in July it was not tax time and he could go to Lafayette County if need be.

#### **10. Action Item – Adjournment**

- *Motion to adjourn at 2:38 PM – Gustina/Wolter, Passed Unanimously*