

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
SEPTEMBER 8, 2009

The Washington County Regional Railroad Authority convened at 9:00 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room. Present were Commissioners Hegberg, Peterson, Weik and Kriesel. Commissioner Pulkrabek absent. RRA Chair Peterson presided. Also present were James Schug, County Administrator; Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; Linda Krafthefer, Assistant County Attorney; Meredith Magers, Assistant County Attorney; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Amanda Strommer, Program Manager; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Don Theisen, Director of Public Works; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director; Ted Schoenecker, Transportation Manager; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Harley Will, Accounting and Finance Director; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; and Yvonne Klinnert, Public Information Coordinator II.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

RRA MEETING MINUTES FROM JULY 28, 2009

Commissioner Weik moved to approve the July 28, 2009 Regional Railroad Authority Meeting minutes. Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioner Pulkrabek absent.

Commissioner Pulkrabek arrived at 9:07 a.m.

RESOLUTIONS OF SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL FUNDING REQUESTS FOR HIGH SPEED RAIL AND THE UNION DEPOT

Commissioner Pulkrabek moved to adopt **Resolution No. RRA-2009-007** as follows:

September 8, 2009

Support for the Submittal of an ARRA Grant Request for the
Twin Cities to Chicago High Speed Rail Corridor
by the Minnesota Department of Transportation

WHEREAS, the States of Minnesota and Wisconsin will be submitting a \$1.2 million ARRA (American Reinvestment and Recovery Act) Track 3 planning grant application to prepare the environmental work necessary for a Track 2 planning grant application for the Milwaukee WI, to St. Paul/Minneapolis, MN leg of the MWRRI (Midwest Regional Rail Initiative) high speed rail line to Chicago; and

WHEREAS, the States of Minnesota and Wisconsin will provide the required 50% local match (\$300,000 each) if the application is successful; and

WHEREAS, the intent is to have the environmental document completed in order to submit a Track 2 planning grant application next year when the second round of ARRA grants will be considered for the completion of preliminary engineering and more detailed environmental work for this leg of the MWRRI high speed rail line to Chicago; and

WHEREAS, the completion of this work is necessary for the establishment of high speed rail between the Twin Cities and Chicago; and

WHEREAS; funding for high speed rail in this corridor is vitally important to the mobility, economic vitality, and quality of life for the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area and the greater State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the high speed rail corridor to Chicago shares the Red Rock Corridor rail alignment from Hastings to St. Paul, creating the opportunity for one investment to benefit multiple transportation options; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Regional Railroad Authority hereby supports the efforts by the States of Minnesota and Wisconsin to seek ARRA funding for the completion the environmental documentation and Preliminary Engineering work for the Milwaukee WI, to St. Paul/Minneapolis, MN leg of the MWRRI high speed rail line to Chicago.

Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Pulkrabek moved to adopt **Resolution No. RRA-2009-008** as follows:

September 8, 2009

Support for the Submittal of a High Priority Project Request for the
Union Depot Multi-Modal Transit Hub in Downtown St. Paul
by the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority

WHEREAS, the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has submitted a High Priority Project (HPP) request for \$138.2 million for the Union Depot Multi-modal Transit Hub in St. Paul; and

WHEREAS, the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has purchased the Union Depot's head house and concourse in the process of assembling 40 acres of property for the implementation of a multi-modal transit hub at the Union Depot; and

WHEREAS, this request is consistent with recognition of the Union Depot as a Project of National and Regional Significance in SAFETEA-LU; and

WHEREAS, the award of this funding will allow the build out of the station so that it can accommodate Amtrak, high speed rail, light rail transit, commuter rail, inter and intra city buses, pedestrians, and bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, the Union Depot Multi-modal Transit Hub is the St. Paul station for high speed rail serving the Twin Cities and Chicago and for the Red Rock Corridor Commuter Rail line; and

WHEREAS, the Rush Line and potentially the I-94 Corridor will also share a stop at the Union Depot; and

WHEREAS, improvements in the Union Depot create the opportunity for one investment to benefit multiple transportation corridors; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Regional Railroad Authority hereby supports the efforts by the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority to seek \$138.2 million in HPP funding for the build out of the Union Depot Multi-modal Transit Hub in St. Paul.

Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Pulkrabek moved to adopt **Resolution No. RRA-2009-009** as follows:

September 8, 2009

Support for the Submittal of an ARRA Grant Request for the
Union Depot Multi-Modal Transit Hub in Downtown St. Paul
by the Minnesota Department of Transportation

WHEREAS, the Mn/DOT (Minnesota Department of Transportation) has submitted a \$135.8 million ARRA (American Reinvestment and Recovery Act) Track 1 capital funding grant application for the Union Depot Multi-modal Hub in downtown St. Paul, Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has purchased the Union Depot's head house and concourse in the process of assembling 40 acres of property for the implementation of a multi-modal transit hub at the Union Depot; and

WHEREAS, the award of this funding will allow the build out of the station so that it can accommodate Amtrak, high speed rail, light rail transit, commuter rail, inter and intra city buses, pedestrians, and bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, the Union Depot Multi-modal Transit Hub is the St. Paul station for high speed rail serving the Twin Cities and Chicago and for the Red Rock Corridor Commuter Rail line; and

WHEREAS, the Rush Line and potentially the I-94 Corridor will also share a stop at the Union Depot; and

WHEREAS, improvements in the Union Depot create the opportunity for one investment to benefit multiple transportation corridors; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Regional Railroad Authority hereby supports the efforts by the Mn/DOT to seek ARRA capital funding for Union Depot Multi-modal Hub in downtown St. Paul, Minnesota.

Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Pulkrabek moved to adopt **Resolution No. RRA-2009-010** as follows:

Support for the Submittal of a TIGER (Transportation Investment
Generating Economic Recovery) Grant for the Union Depot
Multi-Modal Transit Hub in Downtown St. Paul
by the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority

September 8, 2009

WHEREAS, the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority will be submitting a TIGER Grant request for \$138.2 million for the Union Depot Multi-modal Transit Hub in St. Paul; and

WHEREAS, the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has purchased the Union Depot's head house and concourse in the process of assembling 40 acres of property for the implementation of a multi-modal transit hub at the Union Depot; and

WHEREAS, this request is consistent with recognition of the Union Depot as a Project of National and Regional Significance in SAFETEA-LU; and

WHEREAS, the award of this funding will allow the build out of the station so that it can accommodate Amtrak, high speed rail, light rail transit, commuter rail, inter and intra city buses, pedestrians, and bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, the Union Depot Multi-modal Transit Hub is the St. Paul station for high speed rail serving the Twin Cities and Chicago and for the Red Rock Corridor Commuter Rail line; and

WHEREAS, the Rush Line and potentially the I-94 Corridor will also share a stop at the Union Depot; and

WHEREAS, improvements in the Union Depot create the opportunity for one investment to benefit multiple transportation corridors; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Regional Railroad Authority hereby supports the efforts by the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority to seek \$138.2 million in TIGER funding for the build out of the Union Depot Multi-modal Transit Hub in St. Paul.

Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the RRA, Commissioner Kriesel moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Weik and it was adopted unanimously. The Regional Railroad Authority adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Myra Peterson, Chair
Regional Railroad Authority

Attest:

James R. Schug
County Administrator