



501 Union Street, 6th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37219-1705

East Corridor Oversight Committee

Tuesday, January 11, 2005 10:00 a.m.
Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA)
130 Nestor Street, Nashville, TN

MINUTES

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE:

Jim Ladiou	TDOT
Mike Choate	TDOT
Jeff Baines	City of Lebanon
Rob Shearer	City of Mt. Juliet
Don Fox	City of Lebanon
Gene Turnage	NERC
John Kennedy	Metro
Tom Brashear	Wilson County
Eric C. Beyer	RTA
Randall Dunn	MDHA
Joseph Perry	Citizen
Allyson Shumate	RTA
Kevin Walker	RTA – NS/BAH
Hanne Flippen	RTA

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Rob Shearer called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 on Tuesday, January 11, 2005.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Joseph Perry asked if the crossing at Powell Grove Road will be an at-grade crossing. It was stated by TDOT representatives that it will be an at-grade crossing and will be upgraded during the TDOT project in the area.

Mr. Mike Choate was introduced to the committee. He is the Project Manager assigned to the TDOT HWY 109 project. He briefed the committee on the project. Mr. Tom Brashear asked about the realignment of the tracks in the area. He wanted to make sure this does not interfere with the Martha station. Kevin Walker stated that he is not aware of any changes to the realignment. Kevin will report back to the committee at the next meeting on this issue. Mayor Fox is concerned about the safety of this crossing.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 14, 2004

Mr. Shearer called for approval of the minutes from the December 14, 2004 meeting. Jim Ladiou made a motion to approve the minutes. Jeff Baines seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Status of Commuter Rail Director

Lora Baulsir briefed the committee on the status of the Commuter Rail Director Position. She stated that she approached Laura Ray with the employment package to determine if it was of interest. She is interested, but has some concerns regarding relocation. Laura Baulsir believes that agreement can be reached if we can agree on the relocation issues. Lora Baulsir wanted direction from the committee on the relocation issue.

Mr. Tom Brashear asked how this would be budgeted. RTA staff stated that the budget for the position and the relocation would come out of the project contingency. Nancy Allen had emailed that the relocation assistance would be appropriate. We could offer assistance for up a certain amount.

Tom Brashear made a motion to offer relocation assistance for up to six months for no more than \$1,000 / month. Lora Baulsir stated that she would work with the candidate to establish the parameters and try to keep the costs down. Rob Shearer mentioned that a vehicle was a point of contention with the previous candidate. Lora Baulsir asked if the committee would want this candidate to meet the RTA Board. The committee believed that if she could be present at the Board meeting, it would be advantageous. However, the recommendation would need to be made to the Board, and could be made without the candidate present. Eric Beyer asked if this could be done for next weeks meeting. Jeff Baines seconded the motion to offer relocation assistance as noted above and the motion passed unanimously. Eric Beyer will present this to the finance committee.

Lora Baulsir asked the committee what the next step would be if the candidate did not accept the offer. The committee stated that they would like to discuss the candidates with Paul Price and then make the next step. Lora stated that she would email everyone with status.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW STATUS AND ACTION PLAN

RTA staff briefed the committee on the Environmental Assessment. The document was issued for public review and comment on November 26, 2004. A public hearing is scheduled for January 11, 2005, directly after the regularly scheduled ECOC meeting. ECOC members were asked to stay for the hearing.

After the public hearing and comment process, a request for a supplemental Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be requested from the FTA. After this is received and other items as noted below are completed, the remaining properties can be acquired and the construction at Riverfront station can begin.

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

a. Management Action Plan

The sublease agreement between Metro and RTA for the use of Riverfront Park is going before the Parks Board on February 1, 2005. Briefings are being scheduled with the Transportation Committee and Parks Committee of the Metro Council for this month.

A full court press is needed to obtain the remaining federal funds. We need a hero and Mayor Fox will lead the charge.

b. Construction Status Update

Mr. Kevin Walker briefed the committee on the status of construction and a briefing paper is attached.

Pending changes:

Funding from the O&M contractor is anticipated in March or April. In the meantime, the construction team is working on strategies to keep the contractors working. They are currently working to move Phase II scope into the current contract.

The committee agreed with the approach and stated that Limited Notice to Proceed could be provided at the next meeting, as well as approval of the change order to go on to the board for approval.

c. Cost / Schedule Update – Allyson Shumate

RTA staff briefed the committee on the costs and obligations made to date. NERA matching funds are needed 7 to 10 business days after request is made. Support is needed at the NERA board meeting on January 20, 2005.

Grant status – FY 2004 appropriation is still not available. We are trying to find out the status so that phone calls can be made to expedite.

d. Fare Policy – Paul Price

Request that this be deferred.

e. Spare Locomotive

The revised lease has been provided to the Tennessee Central Rail Museum. They should have comments back within two to three weeks. This can then go to the board for approval.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2005.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:10 a.m.



Music City Star East Corridor Commuter Rail Construction Update for the ECOC – January 11, 2005

Work Performed

Railroad Rehabilitation

- All 10,000 Phase I ties have been delivered. They have been distributed in bundles along the right-of-way.
- Tie installation began near the riverfront area, currently ties are being installed near River Hills Drive (M.P. 3.7)
- The last five rail cars with tie plates were received and unloaded. The tie plates were distributed along the right-of-way.
- Work continued on the Dry Fork Creek Bridge replacement at M.P. 11.25. The concrete for the Bent #2 footing was placed.
- Work continued on the Stoner's Creek Bridge Rehabilitation at M.P. 13.3.
- Ditching and embankment widening has begun near McGavock Pike.

Signals

- Grade Crossing signal work was started at Omohundro, River Hills Drive, McGavock Pike, Central Pike and Old Lebanon Dirt Road.
- Engineering for the Automatic Block Signal System has commenced.

Look Ahead

Railroad Rehabilitation

- Queen City will continue installing ties, working from west to east.
- Grade Crossing construction will begin at Anthes Dr. (M.P. 1.09)
- Dry Fork Creek and Stoner's Creek bridge work will continue.
- Ditching and embankment widening will continue.
- Grading for the Donelson Siding will start.

Signals

- Signal work will continue at Omohundro, River Hills Drive, McGavock Pike, Central Pike and Old Lebanon Dirt Road.

ECOC Briefing on Strategy for Phase II Construction Work

Due to funding constraints, the Phase II work cannot be awarded in its entirety. In an effort to continue construction efforts and not impact the construction end date of October 2005, the construction team has come up with a plan.

This plan will move part of the Phase II work (tie materials and installation) into the current contract. The plan is to issue a change order to Queen City for the Phase II ties and installation. That is 10,446 ties at \$58.04 / tie for a total of \$606,285.84.

This is in the project scope and the project budget. There will be ***no increase to the budget*** and ***no impact to the project contingency***.

The recommendation is to approve a contract change order for the Phase II tie materials and installation in the amount of \$606,285.84 at the January 25, 2005 ECOC meeting.