

NEVADA COMMISSION FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE V&T RAILWAY
Minutes of the Wednesday, February 23, 2022 Regular Meeting
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A regular meeting of the Nevada Commission for the Reconstruction of the V&T Railway was held at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, in the Community Center Robert “Bob” Crowell Boardroom, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

The meeting video is available on Carson City’s website by clicking on the link below:
https://carsoncity.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=1989

PRESENT: Vice Chair Clay Mitchell
Treasurer Jim Wells
Commissioner Stephanie Hicks
Commissioner Deny Dotson

ABSENT: Chairperson David Peterson

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Mitchell called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

1. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Roll was called and all Commissioners were present, establishing a quorum.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Mitchell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was made available via WebEx and over the phone via (775) 686-9037. Vice Chair Mitchell entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

**4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JANUARY 26, 2022
V&T RAILWAY COMMISSION MEETING**

Vice Chair Mitchell introduced the item and entertained comments, changes, or corrections.

Treasurer Wells noted that there is incorrect numbering on page 3: the item listed as item 8 should be item 9, and the item listed as item 9, for discussion only, should be listed as item 10.

MOTION: Treasurer Wells moved to approve the minutes for January 26, 2022 meeting with the noted correction. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hicks and carried 4-0-0.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Chair Mitchell asked the Commissioners if there were any items from the Consent Agenda they wanted to pull for review separately. There were none.

Treasurer Wells noted a slight difference in period activity expenditure totals compared to the amount on the check report. This discrepancy is due to the credit card fees from Fare Harbor as well as a deposit that went to the Treasurer's Office. The Fare Harbor credit card fee discrepancy is expected to occur regularly due to the way that system operates. Treasurer Wells also explained that Storey County's Tyler system still does not reflect the correct revenue GLs.

MOTION: Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the Consent Agenda as published. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dotson and carried 4-0-0.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

9. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CONTRACT FY22-C003 GABE WILLAMAN RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 2021-26 TRACK MAINTENANCE SERVICES.

Vice Chair Mitchell provided background information on this contract. In November, the Commission went to bid for track maintenance services and received one response of bid from Gabe Willaman Railroad Construction. At the previous Commission meeting, the Commission instructed Chairperson Peterson to move forward with creating a contract a contract for continued services with Mr. Willaman. This is the contract before the Commission today.

Vice Chair Mitchell opened the floor to public comment. There was none.

Commissioner Hicks shared that she likes the form the Commission uses for these contracts and appreciates the use of a standard form. She also extended her thanks to Mr. Willaman for submitting his bid. She feels that there has been a great relationship over the last year and looks forward to continuing that relationship. Treasurer Wells echoed these sentiments.

Vice Chair Mitchell questioned the end date of the contract as the term is four years and one month. He wants to ensure that the extra month does not burden Mr. Willaman. Treasurer Wells responded that the RFP dictated the term and shared that in conversations with Mr. Willaman he was comfortable with the timeframe.

MOTION: Commissioner Hicks moved to approve Contract No. FY22-C003, with Gabe Willaman Railroad Construction. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Wells and carried 4-0-0.

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10. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY:

MONTHLY NON-ACTION ITEMS:

A. ATTORNEY’S REPORT

Mike Rowe shared that he reviewed the agreement with Mr. Willaman at Chairperson Peterson’s request. Mr. Rowe found and corrected a handful of typos.

B. ENGINEER’S REPORT

There is no Engineer’s Report for today’s meeting.

D. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Vice Chair Mitchell read the following into the record:

- **V&T Railway Commission: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.**

Vice Chair Mitchell asked the Commission whether they wanted to continue online access of Commission meetings now that in-person public access is open. Treasurer Wells proposed the Commission continues to offer the opportunity to public access online as it greatly expands accessibility. Mr. Rowe agreed that online access should continue due to weather situations. Moving forward, Vice Chair Mitchell suggested removing information from public meeting notices that reference restrictions that are no longer in place. Commissioner Dotson agreed with maintaining the option of online access but only in settings when it is available while providing the ability to opt out of online access when it is not available.

11. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION FROM STAFF

Treasurer Wells noted that Freedom Rail’s numbers still have not been finalized/reconciled and recommends the issue be brought back to the board. He also shared a reminder that all contractors need to provide their insurance and business license information and ensure that it is up to date.

Allyson Bolton stated that there was a meeting with Freedom Rail on February 14, and their team is currently reconciling the numbers. Commissioner Dotson recommended setting a date for the budget meeting soon. Commissioner Hicks applauded efforts on the Commission retreat.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice Chair Mitchell entertained public comments. Carla Wilson came forth and offered to field questions or comments regarding a recent email she sent to the Commission regarding her work on the Polar Express (this email has been entered into the public record). Commissioner Hicks encouraged continued open dialog and was pleased with the Polar Express season. Treasurer

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Wells thanked Ms. Wilson for her work and agreed that enhanced communication is needed all around. He also suggested verbiage in future contracts to dictate a closer working relationship between the Production team and the Train Operations team to solve issues around sound on the train. Vice Chair Mitchell reiterated that the Commission would continue to do its due diligence for all its contractual relationships. Ms. Wilson stated that she believes there are potentially additional challenges in bringing the train sound up to par, including possibly additional financial investments. She also requested that vendors continue to have direct access to the Commission as needed and stated that the requested inventory had been completed and provided to the Commission.

13. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO ADJOURN

Vice Chair Mitchell adjourned the meeting at 9:47 a.m.