

**Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission**  
**Commission Meeting – Friday April 10, 2026, at 10:00 am APPROVED**

1. 10:00 AM **Call to Order** – Marty Krueger, Chair 10:00

2. Roll Call **Establishment of Quorum**

|          |                                                    |                       |           |                                                      |                  |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Crawford | Carl Orr, <i>1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair</i>         | X                     | Jefferson | Mary Roberts                                         | X                |
|          | Mark Gilberts                                      | X                     |           | John Kannard, <i>Vice-Secretary</i>                  | X                |
|          | Tom Cornford                                       | X                     |           | Jeff Smith                                           | X                |
|          |                                                    |                       |           | Dan Herbst, <i>Alternate</i>                         | <i>Alternate</i> |
| Dane     | Kevin Potter                                       | X                     | Rock      | Dave Homan, <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Treasurer</i>     | X                |
|          | Jeff Huttenburg, <i>Treasurer</i>                  | X                     |           | Tom Brien                                            | X                |
|          | Jim Bolitho                                        | X                     |           | Kevin Stone                                          | <i>Absent</i>    |
| Grant    | David Wiederholt                                   | X                     | Sauk      | Brian Peper                                          | X                |
|          | Mike Lieurance                                     | X                     |           | Gaile Burchill                                       | X                |
|          | Robert Scallon, <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair</i>   | <i>Excused</i>        |           | Marty Krueger, <i>Chair</i>                          | X                |
|          |                                                    |                       |           | Tim McCumber, <i>Alternate</i>                       | X                |
| Green    | Harvey Kubly, <i>1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Treasurer</i> | <i>Excused</i>        | Walworth  | Al Stanek                                            | <i>Absent</i>    |
|          | Larry Kranig                                       | <i>Absent</i>         |           | Richard Kuhnke, <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Secretary</i> | X                |
|          | Mark Gundlach                                      | X                     |           | Allan Polyock                                        | <i>Absent</i>    |
| Iowa     | Charles Anderson, <i>Secretary</i>                 | X                     | Waukesha  | Rick Beutler, <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-Treasurer</i>   | <i>Absent</i>    |
|          | Kate Reimann                                       | X                     |           | Karl Nilson                                          | <i>Excused</i>   |
|          | Craig Hardy Michael Gates                          | <i>Alternate</i><br>X |           | Wayne Euclide                                        | X                |

The commission met quorum.

**Others present for all or some of the meeting:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lisa Stern, WisDOT</li> <li>• Sarah Simonson, WisDOT</li> <li>• Drew Archie, WisDOT</li> <li>• Ken Lucht, WSOR (virtual)</li> <li>• Don Vruwink, OCR</li> <li>• Scott Edmundson, WisDOT</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Troy Maggied, WRTC Administrator</li> <li>• Chris Petykowski, City of Madison</li> <li>• Aaron Canton, City of Madison</li> <li>• Robert Keeney, Grant County (Virtual)</li> <li>• Alan Anderson, Pink Lady</li> <li>• Sara Rigelman, WDNR</li> </ul> |
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3. Action Item. **Certification of Meeting's Public Notice**

Motion to approve meeting's public notice – Kuhnke/Gundlach. Passed unanimously.

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

Krueger would like to move item 10 towards the bottom of the agenda, and asked for members from the City of Madison to have permission to speak under item 14.

Motion to approve agenda with the requested changes noted above – Cornford/Burchill. Passed unanimously.

5. Action Item. **Approval of draft March 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes as presented – Kannard/Lieurance. Passed unanimously.

6. Updates. **Public Comment** – Time for public comment may be limited by the Chair.

None.

7. Updates. **Announcements by Commissioners**

Gates reported on a conference workshop at which there was a presentation about a student group analyzing crossing safety under the Safe Streets for All program, and the potential benefit to municipalities under this program. Commissioner Vruwink stated the OCR can help support this effort as well.

## REPORTS & COMMISSION BUSINESS

8. **WRTC Financial Report**

The monthly financial statements for February 2026 were presented, including accounts payable and receivable. February LGIP interest is 3.69%. There was one bill for payment – SSWRPC Administrative services for Q1 for \$9,187.50.

Motion to approve the February 2026 Treasurer's Report and invoice for payment as presented. Anderson/Reimann. Motion passed.

A proposed 2027 budget adoption timeline was presented. Gates stated that Iowa County would like to see the payments increase in the next agreement.

Motion to approve the budget timeline as presented. Euclide/Reimann. Motion passed.

#### **9. Wisconsin & Southern Railroad's Report on Operations**

The Merrimac Bridge Ribbon Cutting is scheduled for April 29 at 10am. The agenda is being finalized and invitations will be sent out soon. The event is in Columbia County due to parking accessibility. Jersey barriers have been placed at the Varesi Auto business in Oregon as outlined in the Lease. Both WSOR and the business are in agreement with the resolution to the issue. WSOR continues to work with the DOT on various encroachment issues. Bids for work on the Prairie Subdivision between Boscobel and Wauzeka are in and work will proceed this summer. Lucht reported that the court has upheld the OCR decision identifying a crossing in Middleton as private, and he will be bringing a design to the Commission that permanently closes the crossing. WSOR is helping businesses expand in Milton and Reedsburg. Lucht will bring 2025 production totals, the 2026 capital plan, and the 10-year capital plan to the May meeting.

#### **10. WisDOT Report**

Stern shared a webinar opportunity to hear progress on the Hiawatha line extension.

#### **11. Acceptance of the UW Extension Rail Economic Impact Study**

Euclide had requested economic data by county. Chair Krueger stated that UWEX will provide memos regarding county impacts, and will provide costs and characteristics of these memos for counties to review at the June meeting.

Motion to receive and accept the report as presented, and to send a letter of thanks and recommendation to UW Extension for this work. Gates/Reimann. Motion passed.

#### **12. Update on Iowa County's actions related to its membership in the Rail Transit Commissions**

Two Iowa County resolutions were presented to the Commission: One reflected the intention to withdraw from the Pecatonica Rail Transit Commission and the second rescinds a previous resolution to withdraw from the WRRTC. The intention is to leave both Commissions at the same time, and these actions reflect the longer time required to withdraw from the PRTC.

#### **13. Discussion and action on the Janesville bridge preliminary engineering plans**

Archie provided an overview of the progress on the design of the Janesville bridges. Design agreements have been reached with UP and the design as presented is ready to be provided to the FRA. Construction is planned for 2027. The WRRTC is partial owners of the bridge abutments and needs to approve the design.

Motion to approve the preliminary plan sheets and authorize the Commission's chair to sign. Homan/Burchill. Motion passed.

#### **14. Presentation and discussion of the proposed fee sale of additional right-of-way to the City of Madison**

City engineers shared the design for the proposed bike trail to connect the Cap City Trail on the west with the future expansion of the Glacial Drumlin Trail in the west. When complete, this trail will connect Milwaukee to Dodgeville. The trail requires a transfer of land from the WSOR-used corridor. Safety concerns were addressed, including inclusion of a fence between the path and railroad. Construction is scheduled for 2027 and 2028. Lucht shared that this portion of the corridor can be conveyed and that WSOR finds the plans acceptable. The Commission will need to take action in May to accept the plans inclusive of the fencing, and to waive its first right of refusal on the corridor.

#### **15. Adjournment**

Chair Krueger thanked out-going Commissioners Stone, Homan, and Roberts for their service. Motion to Adjourn at 11:04 am. Kannard/Brien. Passed unanimously.