

ANOKA COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY MEETING AGENDA

FOR THE AUGUST 9, 2011, MEETING

10:30 A.M.

Or Immediately Following the 9:30 a.m. Meeting of the County Board
Lino Lakes City Hall, Lino Lakes, MN

1. Chair calls meeting to order.

2. Present:	District #1	Matt Look
	District #2	Andy Westerberg
	District #3	Robyn West
	District #4	Jim A. Kordiak
	District #5	Carol LeDoux
	District #6	Rhonda Sivarajah
	District #7	Dan Erhart

Others:

3. Consider approving the minutes from the Anoka County Regional Railroad Authority (ACRRA) Meeting of April 12, 2011.
4. Chair's remarks.
5. Consider the Anoka County Regional Railroad Management Committee Report of June 27, 2011 - **see attached** ACRRA Management Committee Report.
6. Consider authorizing the chair to submit a grant application to the Counties Transit Improvement Board requesting up to \$2M in 2012 for the right of way acquisition, design, and construction of the Ramsey commuter rail station, and authorizing the commitment of up to \$3M in matching funds - **see attached** memorandum of August 4, 2011.
7. For informational purposes, consider an update from Jon Olson, Public Services Division Manager, regarding continued participation of the Anoka County Regional Railroad Authority as a member of the Minneapolis-Duluth/Superior Passenger Rail Alliance.
8. Other.

ANOKA COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY MEETING

Government Center
Board Room
Anoka, Minnesota

April 12, 2011

Chair Matt Look called the meeting to order at 11:12 a.m.

Present:	District #1	Matt Look
	District #2	Andy Westerberg
	District #3	Robyn West
	District #4	Jim A. Kordiak
	District #5	Carol LeDoux
	District #6	Rhonda Sivarajah
	District #7	Dan Erhart

Others Present: Tim Yantos, ACRRA Executive Director; Terry Johnson, County Administrator; Mary Richardson, Special Assistant Anoka County Attorney; Jon Olson, Public Services Division Manager; Martha Weaver, Public Information Manager; Jill Brown, Public Information Specialist; Steve Novak, Governmental Services Division Manager; Dee Guthman, Associate County Administrator; Kurt Ulrich, Administrator, City of Ramsey; Brian Olson, Director of Public Works, City of Ramsey; Jim Dickinson, Administrator, City of Andover; Linda Hedstrom, Community Development Program Assistant; Kathy Koontz, Principal Administrative Secretary; other governmental officials and staff.

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Commissioner West moved the minutes from the Anoka County Regional Railroad Authority (ACRRA) meeting of December 3, 2010, and the ACRRA Statutory and Organizational meeting on January 4, 2011, be approved as presented. Commissioner Westerberg seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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Tim Yantos presented the ACRRA Management Committee Reports of January 25, 2011, and March 25, 2011. Tim Yantos called on Jon Olson to provide an update on the Third Main as part of the Management Committee Reports.

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Commissioner Look moved to authorize the chair to finalize negotiations and execute the Counties Transit Improvement Board Capital Grant Agreement for the Northstar Commuter Rail: Ramsey Station Project (Contract #2011-0095), in the amount of \$1,000,000, subject to review by the county attorney as to form and legality. Trustee West seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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Commissioner Kordiak moved to authorize the chair to finalize negotiations and execute Contract #2009-0015B, Second Amendment to the Counties Transit Improvement Board Grant Agreement Capital Grant for the Fridley Commuter Rail Station, Anoka County Project, extending the grant activity period through June 30, 2011, subject to review by the county attorney as to form and legality. Trustee Sivarajah seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Look discussed an article, "Updated: Board question's transparency of rail station effort," in the Star News on April 10, 2011. Commissioner Look noted that the article, as written, indicated the integrity of the ACRRRA had been publicly questioned by Sherburne County Commissioners Schmiesing and Leonard. Commissioner Look stated that everything completed in regard to the Ramsey Station Project by the ACRRRA has been above-board and openly discussed at several meetings. Commissioner Look also expressed his appreciation for the response of the Metropolitan Council Public Affairs Officer Bonnie Kollodge, who stated to the Star News that she was present at meetings where the Ramsey Station Project had been discussed while Sherburne County personnel were present.

The Anoka County Regional Railroad Authority meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

ATTEST:

**ANOKA COUNTY REGIONAL
RAILROAD AUTHORITY**

By: _____
Andy Westerberg

By: _____
Matt Look, its Chair

Motion carried means all commissioners in attendance voted affirmatively unless otherwise noted.

**ANOKA COUNTY
REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

FOR THE AUGUST 9, 2011, REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY MEETING

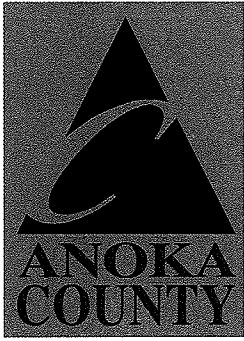
The Anoka County Regional Railroad Authority (ACRRA) Management Committee meeting was held on June 27, 2011, in Reception Room #710, Anoka County Government Center, Anoka, Minnesota.

Persons Present: **Committee Members** – Commissioner Matt Look, Chair; Commissioner Rhonda Sivarajah; Commissioner Andy Westerberg

Others Present – Tim Yantos, ACHRA Executive Director; Mary Richardson, Special Assistant County Attorney; Dee Guthman, Associate County Administrator; Kathy Tingelstad, Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator; Linda Hedstrom, CD Program Assistant; Kathy Koontz, Principal Administrative Assistant.

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:19 a.m.
- *2. Commissioner Sivarajah moved to recommend the ACRRA Board authorize its chair to finalize negotiations and execute Contract #2010-0053A, Amendment No. 1 to Anoka County Regional Railroad Authority Agreement for Engineering Services Relating to Final Design of Foley Boulevard-BNSF Railway Grade Separation with Toltz, King, Duvall, Anderson and Associates, Inc., extending the term of the contract to December 31, 2011, subject to review by the county attorney as to form and legality. Commissioner Westerberg seconded the motion. Commissioners Look, Sivarajah, and Westerberg voted “yes.”
3. Executive Director Tim Yantos provided an update on the Northstar Commuter Rail Project. Information was provided about the need for an amendment to the Financial Management Service Agreement with Anoka County. Tim Yantos also shared news that the Northstar Corridor Development Authority had secured a Transit Oriented Development Grant (HUD Grant passed through Met Council) that will allow for studies of Northstar stations to determine what type of development may be best for each station area. A Request for Proposals for the NCDA Transit Oriented Development Strategy Project was issued Monday, June 27, 2011, with proposals due July 27, 2011.
4. Tim Yantos provided an update on the Ramsey Station Project, including information on funding, BNSF negotiations, and other issues.
5. Jon Olson, Public Services Division Manager, provided a written update on the Northern Lights Express. (Memorandum dated June 23, 2011, is on file in County Administration.)

*Requires Board approval.



ANOKA COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY (ACRRA)

Matt Look, Chair
Carol LeDoux
Andy Westerberg
Dan Erhart

Rhonda Sivarajah, Vice-Chair
Robyn West
Jim A. Kordiak

August 4, 2011

TO: Anoka County Regional Railroad Authority

FROM: Tim Yantos, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Construction of the Ramsey Station

As you may recall, the ACRRA received a capital grant of \$1M from the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) in 2011 for the implementation of Ramsey Station.

The CTIB is now soliciting grant applications for 2012 funding, and we have an opportunity to apply for additional funds for the Ramsey Station. Grant applications are due September 9, 2011. In order for this to happen, and in consulting our City of Ramsey, Mn/DOT, and Metro Transit partners, it makes the most sense for the ACRRA to apply for a CTIB grant of up to an additional \$2M and move forward in cooperation with our partners.

It is anticipated that the State of Minnesota will contribute \$4M in state bonding. Met Council has committed \$1.3M; and the City of Ramsey has committed up to \$3.1M. The proposed application to CTIB would result in a total of \$3M in grants. It is proposed the ACRRA commit up to \$3M as well. This results in the total funding necessary to complete the station.

With your approval, we will be requesting CTIB funding in the amount of approximately \$2M in 2012 to contribute to right of way acquisition, design, and construction of the Ramsey commuter rail station.

Action Requested: That the ACRRA Board authorize the chair to submit a grant application to the Counties Transit Improvement Board requesting up to \$2M in 2012 for right of way acquisition, design, and construction of the Ramsey commuter rail station; the ACRRA further authorizes the commitment of up to \$3M matching funds.