

PENNSYLVANIA NORTHEAST REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
September 17, 2024

The regular meeting of the Pennsylvania Northeast Regional Railroad Authority Board of Directors was held in Executive Room A at the Pocono Mountain Public Library, 5500 Municipal Drive, Tobyhanna, PA 18466 and was called to order by Dominic Keating, Chairman at 9:00 AM.

1. FLAG SALUTE

2. ROLL CALL

Roll was called. The following board members were present: Bob Hay (via phone), Atty Jim Tierney, Dominic Keating, Greg Christine, Charles Garris, Atty Jerry Weinberger and Andy Forte. Jim McLaughlin was absent. Also present: Larry Malski, PNRRA President, Charlene Doyle, PNRRA Vice President of Administration, and Lorie Ransom, General Superintendent, representing the Delaware-Lackawanna Railroad.

3. READING AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

Upon motion of Atty Tierney, seconded by Atty Weinberger, the board dispensed with the reading of the minutes from the July 16, 2024 meeting and unanimously approved the minutes as presented.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION-

Joe Grabin, Linde, was present and stated that Marcellus gas drilling is shutting down for at least another 6 months. Coterra then may begin 2 months on and 2 months off. They are trying to get other business to the Carbondale unloading site. He noted that competitors are loading water on PNRRA rail lines. Linde submitted a letter to the staff asking to review their lease on the Carbondale property.

Mr. Hay suggested that the staff and maybe a few board members meet with Linde. This real estate issue will be discussed in Executive Session.

Chuck Walsh reported that the Roseville Tunnel is on schedule to be completed in November and then track will be laid. Trackwork should go out until 2025. Service should start in 2027.

5. REPORTS

--PNRRA Receipt and Expenses.

Ms. Doyle presented the monthly financial reports for the PNRRA. Upon motion of Mr. Christine, seconded by Mr. Forte, the board unanimously approved the financial reports as submitted.

--DLRR Traffic/Maintenance/Marketing

Lorie Ransom reported that general maintenance continues. There was a lot of rain in August, ditching continues. The signal gates at Montage were replaced. The replacement of 6 switches on Bridge 60 should be completed in October, approximately \$999,000 RFAP project. The crossover at Bridge 60, along with ties, rail and improvements at Green Ridge are included in another \$1,000,000 grant.

Mr. Keating thanked the DL for their participation in RailFest. It was a great success.

6. NEW BUSINESS – There was no New Business

7. OLD BUSINESS – Henryville real estate situation is close to being resolved. This will be discussed in Executive Session.

8. PASSENGER SERVICE UPDATE – Larry Malski reported that applications have been submitted for almost \$23 million in grant funding. PennDOT has committed \$3,000,000 to add to the \$2,000,000 CDS funding for the Slateford Road Bridge Project. Slateford is one of 3 bridges that are included on the passenger corridor.

The tie project (43,000 ties) will bring that portion of the line up to Class IV Amtrak standards. These projects are the first funding received for construction for the Scranton to New York City passenger project. The project has the full support of the Governor and PennDOT.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION-

Upon motion of Atty Weinberger, seconded by Atty Tierney, the board moved into Executive Session to discuss real estate issues at 9:32 AM.

Upon motion of Atty Tierney, seconded by Mr. Christine, the meeting re-convened at 9:52 AM.

Upon motion of Mr. Christine, seconded by Atty Weinberger, board authorized, directed and empowered the staff to work with PNRRA Counsel and DL Counsel to finalize the settlement agreement regarding the Henryville Conservation Club and authorized the President to sign the document once it is finalized. All in Favor.

The Board directed the staff plus the Chairman and Vice Chairman to meet with Linde regarding their lease at the Carbondale Yards.

10. OTHER BUSINESS – There was no Other Business.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to go before the board, and upon motion of Mr. Christine seconded by Mr. Forte, the meeting was adjourned at 9:56 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,


