

MINUTES

COMMUTER RAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY TASK FORCE

FEBRUARY 17, 2004

IN ATTENDANCE:

TASK FORCE MEMBER AGENCIES

Aroma Park - Mayor Grimsley
 Bourbonnais – Frank Koehler
 Bradley – Mayor Balthazor
 Illinois Department of Transportation – Chuck Abraham
 Kankakee – Tim Schmidt
 Kankakee County – Sam Nicholos
 Manteno – no attendee
 Monee – Mike Gruberman
 Peotone – George Gray
 Will County – Colin Duesing

OTHERS PRESENT

Karl Kruse, Mike Van Mill, Dave Bergdahl, Mike Lammey, Delbert Skimerhorn, and Eric Sadler, Kankakee County; Dennis Gary and Mary DeBacker, Parsons Brinckerhoff; David Senft; Lee Provost, Daily Journal; and Laura McElroy, Herald.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Chairman Nicholos called the meeting to order at 2:07 P.M., thanked everyone for attending, and asked for all in attendance to introduce themselves.

MINUTES

Mr. Koehler moved that the Minutes of the November 18, 2003 Meeting be approved, and Mr. Schmidt seconded. Unanimous vote.

AGENDA

Mr. Koehler moved that the Agenda be amended to reverse the order of items 4 and 5, and Mr. Schmidt seconded. Unanimous vote.

COMMUTER RAIL EXPANSIONS

Mr. Abraham made a presentation on the current status of the ten potential expansions of commuter rail service in the northeastern Illinois area, including both those within and outside the RTA jurisdiction. He also gave the phase of study and construction on each route, and responded to questions.

CONSULTANT PROJECT INITIATION

Mr. Gary made a presentation on the engineering aspects of the study, including the presentation used at the interview, and added some recent information. Topics covered included:

- Possible Mainline Upgrades,
- Chicago Service Alternatives,
- South Suburban Considerations,
- Service Alternatives to University Park,
- Yard Alternatives, and
- Motive Power Alternatives.

Background historical information and details about service were provided by Mr. Gruberman, who has been involved with the line to University Park for some time.

Mr. Gary stated that data needs to be collected from each of the local jurisdictions. His team will contact each jurisdiction in the near future for that information, and get input on its desires of each jurisdiction.

LOCAL SHARE BILLING

Mr. Gruberman stated that he needed a bill sent to him for the local share, so that he could respond with his share of the funding. Others also stated that they needed a bill to initiate the process, and Mr. Lammey stated that billings would be provided.

NEXT MEETING

Chairman Nicholos stated that the next meeting was scheduled for March 16, 2004, and that the Village of Aroma Park had volunteered to host the meeting. Mr. Lammey stated that a map would be sent with the mailing. Mr. Gruberman stated that he had not yet received his packet for today's meeting, and Mr. Lammey apologized, stating that the length of time between the County Board meeting on February 10, combined with a holiday on February 16 had caused some of the mailings to be late.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Schmidt moved adjournment, and Mayor Grimsley seconded. Chairman Nicholos adjourned the meeting at 3:46 P.M.