



**Railroad Advisory Board Meeting
Thursday, July 28, 2011**

The Rochelle Railroad Advisory Board met on July 28, 2011 in the lower level conference center at City Hall, 420 North 6th Street; Rochelle, IL 61068. The meeting was called to order by Scott Rozanas at 12:00 noon.

I. Roll Call

Present at the meeting were Board Members: Malcolm Patterson, Lenny Reynolds, Randy Wakenight, Bob Wingate, and Ken Wise. Others present were Jason Anderson-Economic Development Director, Scott Rozanas-Business Development Manager, Katie Wolf-Economic Development Administrative Assistant, Chet Olson-Mayor, Dave Plyman-City Manager, Kathy Hollonbeck- Councilwomen, Jeff Leon- WRHL Radio

II. Approval of Minutes

No minutes to approve as this was the first Railroad Advisory Board meeting.

III. Review of Financial Results

Scott Rozanas reviewed with the board the financials of the City Industrial Rail (CIR). A 5% increase in revenue from the CIR is expected for 2011. Projected increases over the next 3 years is due to two new companies: Nippon Sharyo and Project True Grit. Americold, an existing business, is also increasing their rail usage.

IV. Comments from the Public

Mayor Chet Olson thanked the board for their willingness to serve. Councilwomen Kathy Hollonbeck also expressed gratitude to the board for their willingness to serve and commented how this is a great opportunity for the City of Rochelle. Bev and Marv Binkley from Dixon Meyers commented that they came to the meeting just to check it out.

V. Status Report on Projects in Progress

A. Nippon Sharyo

The Japanese Rail company, Nippon Sharyo is busy working on their site. Utilities are being run to the site currently and concrete is expected to be poured within the next week. The rail construction will be going out for bid next month. Production operations are set to begin in May 2012.

B. True Grit

True Grit is a project that will be locating on the East side of Steward Road. Rail will be extended through IRE property. The construction is set to start in the spring of 2012. Currently the City of Rochelle, True Grit, and IRE are working through purchase, annexation, and license agreements. This company is going to bring a large number of new rail cars to the CIR.

VI. Old Business

No old business to review as this was the first Railroad Advisory Board meeting.



VII. New Business Discussion Items

A. Ordinance R10-28 Establishing RAB Summary

The board briefly reviewed the Ordinance establishing the RAB. It was noted that the RAB was established to specifically address issues and concerns related to the City Industrial Rail (CIR). Scott noted that non-CIR issues can be brought to the attention of the board and they will do their best to answer questions during the meetings. If they cannot be answered, Scott will take those questions/concerns to the appropriate contact (i.e. Union Pacific, Burlington Northern Santa Fe etc.) outside of the meeting.

B. Director of City Railroad

It was noted that Scott Rozanas will serve as the Director of the City Railroad.

C. Voting on Chair and Vice-Chair

A motion was made by Ken Wise and seconded by Malcolm Patterson to nominate Randy Wakenight as the Chairman of the Railroad Advisory Board. Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote; 1 abstain.

A motion was made by Bob Wingate and seconded by Randy Wakenight to nominate Ken Wise as the Vice-Chairman of the Railroad Advisory Board. Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote; 1 abstain.

The terms of the RAB members are as follows:

Malcolm Patterson (2) year term July 1, 2011 - July 1, 2013

Lenny Reynolds (2) year term July 1, 2011 – July 1, 2013

Ken Wise (3) year term July 1, 2011 – July 1, 2014

Bob Wingate (3) year term July 1, 2011 – July 1, 2014

Randy Wakenight (3) year term July 1, 2011 – July 1, 2014

It was noted that the RAB will meet the every other month on the 4th Thursday at 12:00 noon. The next meeting will be September 22, 2011. Due to the Thanksgiving holiday the RAB will meet on the 3rd Thursday in the month of November. The meeting date for that month is November 17, 2011.

D. List of Industries Served

Scott Rozanas provided the Board with a list of industries in Rochelle that are currently served by the CIR. Those industries are as follows; Americold, Boise-Cascade, Clark-Dietrich, Hines Lumber, Illinois River Energy, and TLC/Ryder.

E. Long Term Strategic Plan

Scott Rozanas asked the Board to begin thinking about a strategic plan for the CIR. At the next meeting the Board will begin the brainstorming discussion. Jason Anderson commented that a strategic plan has become even more important as the CIR has continued to grow over the past 25 years. A strategic plan will help to address issues and prioritize needs to maintain a safe and efficient railroad in the City of Rochelle.



VIII. Comments from the Board

Ken Wise and Randy Wakenight commented on how the switching service came to be in Rochelle, and also that the City of Rochelle has been very satisfied with Ryder-Burlington Junction and their services. Scott Rozanas also noted that as he has been out visiting industries over the past two months and they have all commented on their satisfaction with Ryder and the BJRY. Lenny Reynolds added that the relationship with the City of Rochelle and Ryder is very good at this time.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ken Wise and seconded by Randy Wakenight to adjourn the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Submitted By,

Katie Wolf

Katie Wolf
Economic Development Administrative Assistant