



**NORTHERN INDIANA COMMUTER TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING**

August 1, 2022

Webinar ID: 881 8729 1474

Passcode: 347987

Public Session – 10:30 a.m. (CST)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jerome Prince

Jim Arnold

Jeff Good

STAFF PARTICIPANTS:

Michael Noland
Chuck Lukmann, Esq.
Kelly Wenger
Alex Largen
Gary Babcoke

Tony Siegmund
Steve Plesha
Nicole Barker
Alexandra Woods
Amber Kettring

Connie Grashel
Jessie Watts Jr.
Derrick Wright
Stephanie Modglin
Christine Dearing

OTHERS PRESENT

Steven Lyons-Passenger
Greg Price-Passenger

Tim Zorn-Post Tribune

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Jeff Good, NICTD Board Member, called the meeting to order. Mr. Good requested a roll call. Chuck Lukmann, NICTD's General Counsel conducted the roll call. Jerome Prince, Jim Arnold, and Jeff Good were present. Andrew Kostielney and Michael Smith were absent.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Good requested a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of May 23, 2022. Mr. Prince made a motion to approve the board meeting minutes, Mr. Arnold seconded, and on roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

PURCHASING (Procurement Recommendation Packet Attached)

Tony Siegmund, NICTD's Purchasing Manager, presented two recommendations to the Board. The purchasing items are listed in the recommendations that follow and the Board's vote was requested at the end of each recommendation.

The first item was a sole source recommendation, Change Order 1 to the Double Track Project One. On December 21, 2021, the district executed Contract 95603, Walsh Herzog Joint Venture, for a not to exceed cost of \$375,519,909.30. Since this approval, additional scope

items have been sought and approved by the project team, to keep this project moving forward. Change Order 1 authorizes an additional \$371,772.19 to be added to the contract price.

The District requested the Board grant the President the authority to approve Change Order 1 to Contract 95603 in the amount of Three Hundred Seventy- One Thousand, Seven Hundred Seventy-Two Dollars and 19/100 (\$371,772.19), pending RDA and IFA approval.

Mr. Arnold made a motion to grant authority to the NICTD President to issue a Notice to Proceed, seconded by Mr. Prince, and on roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

The second item was a sole source recommendation, Change Order 4, to the West Lake Design-Build Project. On October 29, 2020, the district executed Contract 94028, with the FH Paschen/Ragnar Benson Joint Venture, for a not to exceed cost of \$554,940,521.00. To keep the project moving forward, three Change Orders have been approved by the District totaling \$9,754,997.76. Change Order 4 authorizes an additional \$579,935.44 to the contract price.

The District requested the Board grant the President the authority to approve Change Order 4 to Contract 94028 in the amount of Five Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred Thirty-Five Dollars and 44/100 (\$579,935.44), pending RDA and IFA approval.

Mr. Good asked for an explanation for the upgrade station platform topping to 2" Traprock. Mr. Noland explained that this would improve the durability and longevity of the platform and was a small investment to upgrade the platform.

Mr. Good made a motion to grant authority to the NICTD President to issue a Notice to Proceed, seconded by Mr. Prince, and on roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Double Track NWI and West Lake Corridor Project Updates

NICTD President, Michael Noland updated the board regarding the NICTD construction projects. Mr. Noland stated that significant construction activity is taking place on the Double Track Project. The new Miller parking lot, to the east of Lake Street, is under construction. To the west of Lake Street, NICTD is coordinating work with an INDOT project.

The Dune Park parking lot extension is complete. Construction is ongoing for parking lot and pedestrian crosswalk at Ogden Dunes, culvert installation, catenary installation, and crossings. Work in Michigan City is ongoing with the high-level platforms to be constructed next month. Mr. Noland thanked the board for allowing advance purchasing of materials in 2021. The project is on schedule for an opening day of May 2024.

West Lake is progressing as expected. They will begin building structures within the next few weeks. Work is slated to start in north Hammond, this is the most complex and most expensive portion of the project and progressing south. This project is on schedule for an opening day of May 2025.

Mr. Noland commented that everyone is working together to see that both projects are progressing as expected and to keep the projects moving forward.

Jim Arnold spoke on the Double Track NWI groundbreaking that occurred in June. Mr. Noland commented that the celebration of the start of construction was held in Michigan City. Governor Holcomb, Senator Young, Congressman Mrvan, and many other officials were in attendance. This signified the start of the economic investment coming to Northwest Indiana.

COVID-19 Operations/Status

Mr. Noland stated NICTD and the South Shore Line continue taking steps to be knowledgeable in the prevention of Covid-19. NICTD maintains a cleaning protocol to ensure the stations and railcars are sanitized for the safety of our passenger and staff.

We are monitoring trains, fare structure opportunities and methods to bring riders back. As events such as the Taste of Chicago and Lollapalooza return we are looking forward to seeing event travel increasing in the future.

South Bend Airport Station

Mr. Noland discussed the history of the South Shore Line in South Bend. In the late 1960's, the South Shore Line was relocated out of the downtown South Bend area. For approximately 15 years, the South Shore Line operated at the site of the current location of the Amtrak station, in South Bend. In the late 1980's the general manager of the South Bend International Airport approached the South Shore Line about relocating to the airport. Since 1990, the South Shore Line has been operating out of a "temporary" location on the east side of the airport.

Several studies have been made over the years to determine the best location of a South Shore Station in South Bend. In 2017, the Board authorized an RFP for environmental work as well as 30% design efforts in a relocation to the west side of the South Bend International Airport. Some concerns of the railway on the west end of the airport in the runway protection zone have been cleared.

The airport and county are supportive of the South Shore Line coming into the west side of the airport. Due to the current economic climate and increased costs of construction, the location at the west side of the airport is the most feasible location in South Bend while maintaining the opportunity to expand service in the future to run into the downtown area.

Mr. Noland strongly recommended that the board give NICTD and the South Shore Line, the authority to move forward with the RFP, environmental studies, engineering, and public hearings to move forward with the relocation of the rail line to the west side of the South Bend International Airport. Due to the infrastructure funding available, it is best to approach funding opportunities with the information in place.

Mr. Arnold made the motion to move forward with the studies, and Mr. Prince seconded the motion. On roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

TICKET SALES, ADVERTISING, AND MARKETING REPORT

Nicole Barker, NICTD Director of Capital Investment & Implementation, presented the **Ticket Sales, Advertising and Marketing Report**. Ms. Barker stated that single ride ticket sales are up year to date over 2020 and 2021. The same trend exists in all ticket sales. Ticket sales are trending towards 75% purchased digitally.

Ms. Barker commented about "Commute and Save" Campaign and accompanying billboard campaign. Ms. Barker commented on the popular "Teachers Ride Free" campaign returning, as a way we honor teachers.

Ms. Barker shared that we had over 5,000 passengers for the Chicago Pride Parade and commented about the shuttles available for the Festival of the Lakes in Hammond and for the Pierogi Fest. An additional stop will be made at 18th Street for the Elton John concert, and the extra trains and shuttles for the Bears and Notre Dame Football games.

OPERATIONS REPORT

Kelly Wenger, NICTD Grant Administrator, summarized **Ridership**. Ms. Wenger commented that ridership for Lollapalooza and Pierogi Fest were approximately 50% over 2019 ridership. Discretionary ridership is strong and is trending upward. Jeff Good questioned the return of business travel. Ms. Wenger indicated business travel is increasing. Mr. Noland comment that approximately 14% of ticket sales are monthly tickets compared to pre-pandemic amounts of 35%.

Ms. Wenger commented that at this time the construction has not significantly impacted ridership.

Ms. Wenger reported on the Bikes on Trains program. Bike riders have remained loyal, even during the pandemic. Ms. Wenger shared the busing numbers and trend reports. Mr. Noland commented that we are at 50% of previous weekday riders and at 60% of previous discretionary riders. Ridership is trending positively.

Mr. Noland commented that our buy one get one monthly promotion is similar to the new Metra flat rate monthly fee, and other such programs across the nation. We are also monitoring the trends occurring in the return of business to the downtown area.

Derrick Wright, NICTD Chief Operating Officer, commented on **On-Time Performance**. Mr. Wright stated that due to busing, On-Time Performance is lacking.

Mr. Wright commented that our cleanliness level has maintained since Covid. NICTD has moved all the equipment to Gary, due to the construction. NICTD operations are complex, with construction, busing, and collaboration. There are challenges, however riders are being patient.

Mr. Noland commented that we are making a \$650 million dollar capital investment in the railroad. This does not happen without disruptions, and these are expected to continue until the end of the project.


OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Noland stated that Andrew Kostielney will be resigning from public service and will be stepping down as commissioner. The requirement that board members are elected officials signifies that Mr. Kostielney may no longer be a member of the board. Mr. Noland acknowledged and expressed gratitude for the work Mr. Kostielney has provided the railroad and Northern Indiana

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Prince made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Good, and on roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for September 26, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



Jim Arnold, Secretary



PROCUREMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Double Track:

Sole Source:

- **Contract One – Walsh-Herzog JV – Change Order 1**

West Lake:

Sole Source:

- **Design-Build – FH Paschen/Ragnar Benson JV – Change Order 4**

RECOMMENDATION
Double Track Contract One
Change Order 1
Sole Source
August 1, 2022

RECOMMENDATION:

The District executed Contract 95603 for Double Track Contract One with Walsh-Herzog Joint Venture on December 21, 2021 for a not to exceed cost of \$375,519,909.30. Since this approval, additional scope items have been sought and approved by the project team to keep this project moving forward, as further described below. Change Order 1 authorized an additional \$371,772.19 to be added to the contract price.

PCO #	Change Description	Cost
001	Pines Yard – Appendix U Revisions	\$0.00
003	Insulated Poly Joint for Bumping Posts (RFI-23)	\$11,487.30
004	Miller West Parking Lot Entrance (Plan Rev 3)	\$20,376.71
006	Tree Clearing West of Miller Station	\$9,483.42
007	Broadway Pedestrian Crossing – NPS Trail	\$9,040.09
009	Another Train Coming Warning Logic Revisions	\$0.00
011	Storm Sewer Encasement at Michigan City 10 th St. & Douglas	(\$20,837.44)
012	Brown Ditch Permanent Sheet Pile Walls – Substitution Request	\$0.00
014	Michigan City Retaining Walls/Mezzanine (RFI-61)	\$28,123.06
018	High Level Platform Revision – Project Wide	\$0.00
019	Rip Rap Substitution for Culverts (RFI-152)	\$0.00
021	Michigan City Sanitary Sewer, Storm Sewer and Water Main Revisions	\$73,623.17
022	Guardrail and Fence Grounding	\$81,781.44
023	Miller 54” Sewer Milestone Dates and Scope	\$0.00
026	Michigan City MOT Plan Revision	\$158,694.44
029	Michigan City Light Pole ADA Revisions	\$0.00
030	Michigan City Retaining Wall Detail Clarifications	\$0.00
Total		\$371,772.19

An independent cost estimate has been prepared for all of the PCOs listed above and the costs associated with each have been determined to be fair and reasonable.

The District is advising the Board that the President used his authority to approve Change Order 1 to Contract 95603 in the amount of Three Hundred Seventy-One Thousand, Seven Hundred Seventy-Two Dollars and ¹⁹/₁₀₀ (\$371,772.19), with RDA and IFA approval.

RECOMMENDATION
West Lake Design-Build
Change Order 4
Sole Source
August 1, 2022

RECOMMENDATION:

The District executed Contract 94028 for West Lake Design-Build Project with the FH Paschen/Ragnar Benson Joint Venture on October 29, 2020, for a not to exceed cost of \$554,940,521.00. To keep the project moving forward, three Change Orders have been approved by the District totaling \$9,754,997.76. Change Order 4 authorizes an additional \$579,935.44 to be added to the contract price.

PCO #	Change Description	Cost
002	Credit for changing BR101A Pedestrian Bridge over Main St. Structural Steel Finish from galvanized to a 3-coat paint system.	(\$6,907.66)
006	Upgrade Station Platform Topping to 2" Traprock.	\$174,592.25
059	Credit for Design-Builder proposed minimum dimension of Mass Concrete placements from 4-feet or greater to dimensions greater than 5-feet.	(\$7,498.97)
067	The design and construction associated with applying joint sealants to all longitudinal and transverse asphalt joints.	\$13,988.63
081	The design, procurement, and installation associated with providing a bubbler at the Munster/Dyer detention pond.	\$53,119.02
086	Hammond Gateway North Pond #3 Elimination Study.	\$23,772.41
087	Extending the sidewalk and curb into the parking lane at 165th Street in Hammond on the south side of the crossing, to reduce the length of the gate arms.	\$50,804.10
093	Including additional directional flashers at 9 grade crossings aimed at adjacent streets along the corridor.	\$214,273.92
094	Adding a concrete curb median north and south of the crossing at Hohman Avenue.	\$33,243.36
103	Work by the Design-Build team to re-route Bulletin Court through West Lake Parcel No. 84 to Willow Court, due to the placement of a bridge pier in the middle of the alley.	\$30,548.38
Total		\$579,935.44

An independent cost estimate has been prepared for all of the PCOs listed above and the costs associated with each have been determined to be fair and reasonable.

The District is requesting the Board grant the President the authority to approve Change Order 4 to Contract 94028 in the amount of Five Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred Thirty-Five Dollars and ⁴⁴/₁₀₀ (\$579,935.44), pending RDA and IFA approval.