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**NORTHERN INDIANA COMMUTER TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING**

**March 24, 2017**

**Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District**

**33 East U.S. Highway 12**

**Chesterton, IN 46304-3514**

**Public Session – 10:30 a.m. (CST)**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mark Yagelski  
Mark Catanzarite  
David Franckus

Christine Cid  
Andrew Kostielney

Michael Repay  
Jim Biggs

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Adam Wojasinski – Leg. Rep. Smart TP 1526  
Todd Bjornstad – CSS&SB RR  
Mike Yacullo – Ciorba Group  
Kim Anderson – Parsons  
Greg W. Smith – Gannett Fleming  
Christopher Murphy – Structurepoint  
Roy G. Benedict – Passenger  
Paul F. Willer – Passenger  
Steve Lyons – Passenger  
Andrew Steele – NWI Times  
Fred Owens – Harry O. Hefter Associates

Bob Gorski – AECOM  
Randy Strasser – US Engineering  
Pam Eames – Concerned Families WLCP  
Nick LaRocco – Parsons  
Kerry Keith – SEH of Indiana  
Greg Price – Passenger  
Esther Gabriel  
Jim Nowacki – Passenger  
Gerald Williamson – Passenger  
Tim Zorn – Post-Tribune

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Michael Noland  
Cassandra Francis  
Boris Matakovic  
Victor Babin  
Pat Guest  
Bjarne Henderson

John Parsons  
Chuck Lukmann, Esq.  
Anthony Siegmund  
Chris Beck  
Steve Plesha  
Laura Harrington

Nicole Barker  
Christine Dearing  
Bill O’Dea  
Jodi Hellenga  
Joe Crnkovich  
Lisa J. Johnson

## CALL TO ORDER

Board Chairman, Mr. Yagelski, called the meeting to order.

## MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Yagelski requested approval of the minutes from January 27, 2017. Mr. Kostielney motioned to accept the Public Session and Executive Session Board minutes for January 27, 2017. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cid. The motion was approved unanimously.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Nowacki, Gary, Indiana, stated he opposes new projects and is concerned that there are more than two tracks being installed in Miller under the Double Track NWI project.

Mr. Noland stated that NICTD has a single track at Miller, South Shore Freight has a single track and CSX has two tracks north of the South Shore Line station as well. A second South Shore Line commuter track will be installed along our current track in Miller as part of the project. Public hearings will be held for Double Track NWI in July 2017 in both Gary (Miller) and Michigan City should the public want more information.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### Legislative Update:

**HB 1001.** Mr. Noland stated that Double Track NWI could receive funding under House Bill 1001 currently pending in the State Legislature. The bill next moves to the Senate for consideration.

**HB 1144.** This legislation authorizes the establishment of Transit Development Districts coupled with Tax Increment Financing and Sales Tax Increment Financing along the South Shore and West Lake corridors. The bill also provides a framework for the four counties to provide local matching funds as part of the project.

**SB 128.** Senate Bill 128, which passed the Senate and is now pending in the House, would provide another vehicle for counties contiguous to the South Shore Line to use excess bridge funds. The bill also includes an intercept provision to secure CEDIT funding from local entities that have pledged support for West Lake.

**HB 1260.** This bill has passed both chambers. It pertains to our eminent domain authority. The bill permits us to follow federal procedures for land acquisition under the Uniform Relocation Act. As a recipient of federal funding, we must follow the Uniform Act, so we wanted the state

statute to be clear on this matter. The Uniform Act process is more protective of property owners' rights.

Mr. Noland stated that President Trump recently presented Congress with a "skinny budget" requesting significant decreases in spending, including Capital Investment Grants, which are the targeted source of federal funds for both the West Lake Corridor Project and the Double Track NWI project. The President's budget also eliminated TIGER grants, a funding source we utilize on a periodic basis. Mr. Noland acknowledged that the President's budget is a recommendation; Congress has the ultimate responsibility to determine the budget, and emphasized the widespread support for both projects.

**Update on West Lake and Double Track Projects.** Mr. Noland stated we are advancing our preliminary engineering for both projects and are still on target to submit both projects to the Federal Transit Administration in late summer for a project rating. The Town of Munster recently passed a resolution asking SSL to revisit the station and platform location at the Ridge Road station; Mr. Noland assured the Board that this request will be reviewed and a recommendation made to the Board.

The Double Track Project's environmental review process – an Environmental Assessment is well underway. Public hearings will be held in late July in Gary (Miller) and Michigan City.

**Proposed Timetable Changes Effective July 1, 2017.** Mr. Noland stated a proposed timetable was advertised, and riders provided both positive and negative feedback with the changes. NICTD is refining the schedule based on the feedback, and will soon place the proposed new schedule on our website asking for additional comments from passengers. All passenger feedback will be compiled and reported to the Board at the May 12, 2017, meeting, with a target implementation date of July 1, 2017, for the new schedule. Mr. Noland stated that proposed evening train times will be more beneficial to passengers participating in activities/events in Chicago. Mr. Noland further stated that with the gaps in the weekend schedule in the late morning/early afternoon, additional trains are to be negotiated with Metra.

**Bikes on Trains Update.** Bikes on Trains season will begin April 1, 2017. Mr. Noland stated NICTD will be adding morning and evening rush hour bike service on both Train #6 and #106 heading into Chicago, and #11 and #111 heading east out of Chicago. Mr. Yagelski asked if there were any issues with the program; Mr. Noland responded there have been no issues to date. Mr. Prankus confirmed that he has not heard negative feedback from riders about the Bikes on Trains program.

#### **POSITIVE TRAIN CONTROL UPDATE FROM NICK LaROCCO, VICE PRESIDENT PARSONS TRANSPORTATION GROUP**

Mr. Noland reminded the Board that in accordance with the Federal Safety Act of 2008, we are required to have Positive Train Control implemented on our trains by a deadline of December 31, 2018. NICTD hired Parsons Transportation Group to be our system integrator.

We have been working with Parsons for the past year or so with the goal of making that date. Mr. Noland introduced Mr. LaRocco, Vice President from Parsons to update the Board on their progress, and Mr. Vic Babin, NICTD's Chief Engineering Officer on this project. Mr. Noland also reminded the Board that NICTD is paying \$6.15 Million per year over the next 25 years to implement the Positive Train Control System.

Mr. LaRocco informed the Board that PTC is a predictive collision system. Mr. LaRocco went on to explain the processes and various parts involved in PTC. Mr. LaRocco stated that 2016 was a year of design and familiarization with our systems and equipment. In November 2017, systems testing will begin. By the end of May 2018, NICTD will be in revenue service demonstration and PTC will be fully operational by December 31, 2018.

Mr. Noland stated that NICTD submitted a PTC grant request to the federal government; we await status on that funding decision.

#### **RATIFICATION OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE NORTHWEST INDIANA RDA GOVERNING WEST LAKE AND DOUBLE TRACK PROJECTS' DEVELOPMENT COSTS.**

Mr. Noland stated that both contracts involve funding for the engineering work being performed by HDR; both have been approved previously by this Board (Double Track in April 2016 and West Lake in September 2016). West Lake funds will be coordinated through the Regional Development Authority. NICTD has been working with the NWI RDA to finalize our contract with them. The Double Track project is a four-county project. NWIRDA is funding 20% for Lake County and 20% for Porter County (combined 40%). The LaPorte County Council and Michigan City approved their 20% share approximately one month ago. The Northern Indiana RDA in South Bend approved their 20% late last summer. We have been waiting for the NWI RDA to approve their share of the Double Track project and their funding of the West Lake project. They did so at their last board meeting, and we have before you today a request that you ratify and approve those interlocal agreements.

Mr. Repay motioned to ratify the Interlocal Agreements. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kostielney. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Lukmann discussed that there will be a working group that will keep informed as to the progress and any issues we see coming. The working group does not make any final decisions. The working group will consist of the Chairman of the RDA and NICTD, or their designee. The other two members are one additional member of each board and the fifth and sixth members are Mike Noland and Bill Hanna as CEO and President of the RDA. Mr. Lukmann asked the board to consider which Board Member they would like to be part of the working group.

Mr. Yagelski nominated Mr. Mike Repay to be part of the RDA working group. Mr. Kostielney seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Name	Form 95	Eligible Bidder	Lower Tier	DBE %	Non-Discrim.	Rest. Lobby	Drug Free	Buy America	Cert. of Qual.	Illegal Act.	Iran Invst.
South Lake Stone, LLC. Hebron, IN	X	X	X	12%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Shoreline Aggregate, Inc. Michigan City, IN	X	X	X	42%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Hanson Material Service Francesville, IN	X	X	X	69%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

### C. ENGINEERING REVIEW & COST ANALYSIS

The bids were evaluated for responsiveness to the technical specifications. All bidders were responsive and took no exceptions to the technical specifications. There were no alternates or options associated with this bid.

<b>Engineer's estimate:</b>	<b>\$402,781.00</b>
<b>Lowest &amp; responsive bid:</b>	<b>\$261,820.00</b>
<b>Lowest &amp; most responsive bidder was 35% Less than staff estimate</b>	<b>\$140,961.00</b>

South Lake Stone's DBE amount was 12%.	\$ 31,418.00
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Name	Description	Delivery	Quantity	\$/ Net Ton	Extended Cost
South Lake Stone, LLC.	#3 Limestone Ballast	All Locations	1,000	\$23.25	\$23,250.00
Hebron, IN	#3 Limestone Ballast	Michigan City	1,100	\$22.70	\$24,970.00
	#3 Limestone Ballast	Gary	12,000	\$17.80	\$213,600.00
<b>TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT</b>					<b>\$261,820.00</b>
Shoreline Aggregate, Inc.	#3 Limestone Ballast	All Locations	1,000	\$30.45	\$30,450.00
Michigan City, IN	#3 Limestone Ballast	Michigan City	1,100	\$24.25	\$26,675.00
	#3 Limestone Ballast	Gary	12,000	\$17.75	\$213,000.00
<b>TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT</b>					<b>\$270,125.00</b>
Hanson Material Service	#3 Limestone Ballast	All Locations	1,000	\$28.65	\$28,650.00
Francesville, IN	#3 Limestone Ballast	Michigan City	1,100	\$22.20	\$24,420.00
	#3 Limestone Ballast	Gary	12,000	\$28.65	\$343,800.00
<b>TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT</b>					<b>\$396,870.00</b>

## D. DELIVERY

South Lake Stone can meet the District's delivery schedule for 2017.

## E. RECOMMENDATION

The Staff recommends that South Lake Stone, Hebron, IN, be awarded the 2017 MOW Contract for Ballast for the not to exceed amount of Two Hundred Sixty One Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Dollars <sup>00</sup>/100 (\$261,820.00).

The Staff is requesting that the Board grant the President the authority to issue the Notice to Proceed for Ballast at his discretion.

Mr. Repay motioned to grant the President the authority to issue the Notice to Proceed for Ballast to South Lake Stone. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kostielney. The motion was approved unanimously.

Name	Form 96	Eligible Bidder	Lower Tier	DBE %	Non-Discrim.	Rest. Lobby	Drug Free	Buy America	Cert. of Qual.	Illegal Act.	Iran Invst.
Balfour Beatty Rail Fleming Island, FL	X	X	X	11.4%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Railworks Track Services, Inc. Minooka, IL	X	X	X	10.56%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

### C. ENGINEERING REVIEW & COST ANALYSIS

The Bids were evaluated for responsiveness to the technical specifications. All companies were responsive and took no exceptions to the technical specifications. The option and alternate pricing were submitted on the bid sheets.

The lowest and most responsive bid for undercutting is \$389,492.00. This is 10.0% (\$43,508.00) less than the engineer's estimate of \$433,000.00.

Balfour Beatty Rail's DBE amount is 11.4% (\$44,640.00).

Name	Description	Amount
<b>Balfour Beatty Rail Fleming Island, FL</b>	Weekday Hourly Rate Per Hour	\$2,017.75
	Weekend Hourly Rate Per Hour	\$1,934.75
	Estimated Transportation Cost	\$41,237.00
	<b>TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$389,492.00</b>
<b>Railworks Track Services, Inc. Minooka, IL</b>	Weekday Hourly Rate Per Hour	\$2,840.00
	Weekend Hourly Rate Per Hour	\$2,840.00
	Estimated Transportation Cost	\$35,000.00
	<b>TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$560,000.00</b>

NICTD's Engineering Dept. has reviewed the bids and technical specifications and has deemed Balfour Beatty Rail as a competent contractor.

opportunity. Consequently, NICTD now needs to change the cost and delivery schedule per Section 16 of the PTC Program Management Agreement with Gannett Fleming.

The Staff is requesting that the Board grant the President the authority to issue a change order to extend the agreement to August 16, 2019 and the amount for an additional Three Million Two Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand Thirty-Six Dollars and <sup>00</sup>/100 (\$3,224,036.<sup>00</sup>) to Gannett Fleming, Inc. of Audobon, PA for the PTC Program Management Services Contract.

Mr. Repay motioned to grant the President the authority to issue a change order to extend the agreement to August 16, 2019 and the amount for an additional Three Million Two Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand Thirty-Six Dollars and <sup>00</sup>/100 (3,224,036.00) to Gannett Fleming, Inc. of Audobon, PA for the PTC Program Management Services Contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kostielney. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **RIDERSHIP AND PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Mr. Parsons updated the Board on ticket sales for the time period January through February, 2017. He stated we have moved more into digital sales by utilizing the app and ticket vending machines. Almost 58% of sales were digital, which is up slightly over last year. He stated it has been a difficult two months in terms of ridership, which has declined roughly 2.6% year to date thru February. The average weekend is up about 3.2%, due in part to good weather. In terms of on-time performance, we are better this year than last year at this time in terms of weekday peak. Weekday off-peak and weekend is looking much better this year for the first two months than last year.

Mr. Parsons reviewed various spring events coming up throughout the region and updated the Board on enhanced Bikes on Trains marketing. Mr. Parsons informed the Board that we have partnered with the Porter County Visitors Bureau and the South Shore Trails. They will help us this year to get the word out with respect to the Bikes on Trains program. Mr. Parsons showed some of the artwork being used to promote Bikes on Trains and the effort involved in attracting more passengers.

## **OPERATIONS REPORT**

Mr. O'Dea stated that the winter has been mild and operations were strong. He reminded the Board that last meeting they had discussed three very difficult days in January. He stated that we have done much since that time to follow through with plans to improve operations. Mr. O'Dea stated that the next step is to post transit links to CTA, East Chicago and Gary transit links on our website. Mr. O'Dea informed the Board that we will be adding a dedicated staff member who is going to handle the Passenger Communications Office.



Mr. O'Dea discussed that we will be having Incident Command training in April, as well as preparedness drills. Mr. Noland added that our icing protocols will be enhanced and the addition of another diesel locomotive unit, and this equipment will be positioned out west to be better positioned to respond to circumstances.

Mr. Yagelski announced that the next meeting will take place on Friday, May 12, 2017. Mr. Noland introduced Cassandra Francis as the new Chief Real Estate and Development Officer.

Mr. Repay made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kostielney. The motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Repay', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Repay, Board Secretary