

## Minutes

West Central Ohio  
Port Authority

January 19, 2011

### **Members Present**

Gordon Conn, Gerald Damewood, John Detrick, Dr. Richard Henry, Betty Mowrey, Dale Ritenour, and Alan Thompson.

### **Others Present**

Jim Peifer  
Rhonda Atkins, Levine Realty  
Barb Estep, Clark Schaefer Hackett  
Scott Schmid, TCC Director  
Zachary Balassone, Secretary-Treasurer

The meeting was called to order by Alan Thompson at 9:00 am and the roll was called. Having a quorum, the Board proceeded with the agenda.

### **Minutes**

Director Ritenour moved to approve the corrected minutes from the December 10, 2010 meeting. Director Damewood seconded the motion. Director Henry abstained as he was not present for the last meeting.

Vote: Motion Carried

### **Financial Report**

Zach Balassone reported on the statement of Receipts and Disbursements for October and December 2010. Receipts for November were \$114,149.00 and disbursements were \$25,741.83. Receipts for December were 23,437.85 and disbursements were \$82,942.87. In December, WESTCO made the final payment for the bridge rehabilitation project and the payment for the Fayette County Crossing repair. Pending reimbursements from ORDC include the final track reimbursement and three bridge payments. Zach stated that he sent another letter to ORDC regarding these reimbursements. Director Henry asked if any of the state's financial troubles

would have an impact on WESTCO. Zach stated that it wouldn't have an effect on WESTCO directly, but possibly through ORDC's grant loan program. The ORDC program has already been cut significantly and Zach is unsure if it will get cut again.

Director Conn moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Director Henry seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion Carried

Zach reported on a Budget Amendment for Environmental Legal Services. There was \$10,000 budgeted last year and the last billing came in at \$419.00 over the budgeted amount. Director Henry asked what the environmental work included. Zach stated that this was legal work between ConveyIt, the EPA, and the CCCHD. At the last meeting it was discussed if the budget for legal services should be increased for the next year, but it was decided to keep it at \$10,000. Jim Peifer added that there is a pending lawsuit from ConveyIt, currently not against WESTCO, but in the context of what is going on, WESTCO may still need legal representation.

Director Henry moved to approve the additional amount on the 2010 budget for Environmental Legal Services. Director Detrick seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion Carried.

## **Administration Report**

### 2011 Meeting Schedule

Zach reported that the meeting schedule for 2011 was distributed at the meeting.

Director Henry moved to approve the 2011 meeting schedule. Director Detrick seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion Carried

### 2010 Year in Review

Zach reported to the board on the 2010 year in review. A presentation will be given at the TCC Policy Board in February and it can also be distributed to help further market WESTCO.

Director Henry asked what kind of reception WESTCO has received from the various counties. Zach stated that he has the most contact with members in Clark and Champaign, which WESTCO is the most active with, but believes the outlook is good for the future in terms of economic growth. Most of the counties were unaware of what the port authority was. Director Thompson added that the increased carloads of fertilizer at the Southwest Landmark plant have helped farmers so they don't have to travel to Washington Courthouse. Zach noted that Fayette

County was the most organized in terms of “planning for the future.” They had several sites already located for potential development, some of which are along the WESTCO line.

#### ORDC Urbana Line Rehabilitation Update

Zach reported that he has not heard anything regarding the ORDC Urbana Line Rehabilitation Grant and Loan. Last communication was in December and at that time all the funding had not been distributed.

#### **Operations Report**

##### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Carloads Report

Zach reported that this was the second highest year for WESTCO. There were 2,592 carloads reported for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, which was a 570 carload increase from the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter in 2009. For the year, there were 7,591 carloads reported compared to 4,742 carloads in 2009. The maintenance fee is approximately \$245, 000 higher than last year. It was noted that there has been a significant return on the track rehabilitation on the South Charleston line. Director Conn added that there are least 2 to 3 trips along the track a day compared to the 2 trips a week in the past. Director Henry asked if there was any significant traffic on the line to the Cold Springs junction. Zach stated that there is very little traffic on the line because everything has been re-routed.

##### Service Update

Director Thompson reported that there are complaints coming from South Charleston regarding communication between the CSX and the IORY. When CSX contacts South Charleston to let them know a train will be delivered to Cook Station, the IORY isn't necessarily aware of it. South Charleston is loading 65 car grain trains and the plan is to increase to 90 cars. When South Charleston makes this increase, they will need more of a lead time and more communication between the handlers of the train. Zach stated that he would follow-up with the grain manager at South Charleston.

#### **Property Report**

Director Mowrey moved to enter into executive session to discuss property matters. Director Henry seconded the motion. Vote: Motion Carried

## **Adjournment**

Director Conn motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Mowrey seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion Carried

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Zachary Balassone  
Secretary – Treasurer