



- I. **Call to Order:** The RDA Board of Director's meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. CST on Thursday, August 20, 2015 with Chairman Donald P. Fesko presiding.
- II. **Roll Call:** Present: Chairman Donald P. Fesko, Harley Snyder, Bill Joiner, Chris Campbell, Ed Glover, Tom Dabertin and Randy Palmateer. Seven members were present constituting a quorum.
- III. **General Public Comment:** *None*
- IV. **Consent Agenda:** R. Palmateer motioned to approve the consent agenda with a second by B. Joiner. All were in favor and the motion was approved.
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| a. Minutes: Board Meeting of June 18, 2015: | Approved |
| b. Contracts: President and CEO's Employment Contract | Approved |
| c. Contracts: SEH Professional Services, Regional Cities Initiative | Approved |
| d. Contracts: ODS Additional Compliance Monitoring per HEA 1398 | Approved |
- V. **Regional Cities Presentation:** B. Hanna reported that the RDA is considering applying for the Regional Cities program to secure funding from the State of Indiana. The Regional Cities application will focus on fully double-tracking the South Shore line and TOD investment opportunities around existing stations. Currently, the South Shore line is double-tracked from Chicago to Tennessee Street in Gary. For 17.2 of the 25.9 miles from there to Michigan City, the South Shore is a single-track railroad. Constructing a continuous double track would increase scheduling flexibility, improve reliability, expand maintenance windows and eliminate the single point of failure that exists with single track operation. Encouraging development (TOD) around the South Shore line that compliments existing neighborhoods can enhance ridership, access to job markets and help the region in economic growth.
- The team that was put together to assist with the application process includes: the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD), which operates the South Shore line, Office of Congressman Peter J. Visclosky, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC), the Regional Development Authority, the Northwest Indiana Forum, NIPSCO and One Region. Policy Analytics and SEH have also been involved in the process.
- B. Hanna asked the Board for their consideration to enter in an application for the double tracking and TOD.
- T. Dabertin motioned to approve the recommendation, with a second by E. Glover. All were in favor and the motion was approved.
- VI. **Actions on Recommendations from Fiscal Task Force:**
- a. **Recommendations:**
- i. **Funding Applications: City of East Chicago, Phase II Waterfront & Demolition Grant:** B. Hanna reported to the Board that Phase I of the City of East Chicago grant has laid the groundwork for significant private investment and additional public leveraging in phases II and III. In order to maintain the transformational momentum, the City requests the second phase of funding in the amount of \$12,935,000.



B. Hanna asked the Board to accept for review the City of East Chicago's phase II funding application in the amount of \$12,935,000.

E. Glover motioned to approve the recommendation with a second by T. Dabertin. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

- ii. **Funding Application: Porter County Regional Municipal Airport:** B. Hanna deferred to S. Ziller.

S. Ziller reported to the Board that the Porter County Regional Municipal Airport application aims at rehabilitating and reconstructing the Runway 9-27, runway/taxiway system pavement, which is now being evaluated as falling below minimum service levels, and to complete a High Intensity Runway Lighting Rehabilitation project for the runway's edge lighting system, in which components have substantially exceeded their expected time in service and which is experiencing increased operational outages and emergency maintenance procedures.

S. Ziller asked the Board to accept for review the Porter County Regional Municipal Airport application in the amount of \$317,197.

B. Joiner offered a motion to approve the Porter County Regional Municipal Airport application in the amount of \$317,197.00; contingent upon the approval by Porter County in the matching amount of \$317,197.00 with a second by R. Palmateer. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

VII. Project Status Review:

a. Surface Transportation:

- i. **Update:** None

b. Shoreline Redevelopment:

- i. **Update:** None

c. Expansion of the Gary Airport:

- i. **Update:** None

d. Economic Development:

- i. **Update:** None

e. RDA Operations:



- i. **Update:** S. Ziller reported to the Board that the RDA’s annual report is a few days away from being completed and that the RDA is in the process of proofing the report for accuracy and plans on having it ready for print by early next week. Staff will provide the Board with a copy when they are available.
- VIII. **Unfinished Business:**
 - i. **Update:** *None*
- IX. **New Business:**
 - i. **Update:** *None*
- X. **2015 Future Meeting Planning:** The quarterly Board structure and the monthly Working Groups are reflected in the planning calendar.
- XI. **General Public Comment:** *None*
- XII. **Adjournment:** Without further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Jakubin