

MINUTES . Regular Meeting
NORTHEAST TEXAS RURAL RAIL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

07.09.20

A Regular Meeting of the Northeast Texas Rural Rail Transportation District was convened on July 9, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. at the Hopkins County Civic Center, 1200 Houston St, Sulphur Springs, Texas.

Members present: Judge Brian Lee, Chairman; Nate Priefert, Stacy Sears, Mickey Barker, Treasurer Neal Barker, Sam Young, Paul Burt, Greg Sims, Bonnie Hunter. Legal Counsel Ron Stutes, Support Staff Mitzi Y'Barbo.

1. ***Call to Order***
Chairman Brian Lee called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and announced that a quorum was present.
2. ***Prayer for Board Members Guidance and Inspiration***
Judge Lee led everyone in prayer for guidance and inspiration.
3. ***Recognition and invitation to citizens: Any citizen may make a five-minute presentation; however, no action will be taken unless provided for on the Agenda.***
None
4. ***Comments by Board members, and/or staff, or declaration of conflict of interest.***
Sam Young asked for financial reports to be included on Agendas.
5. ***Approval of the minutes from the meeting on May 28, 2020.***
A motion was made by Bonnie Hunter and seconded by Neal Barker to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
6. ***Consider and possibly approve a Termination Agreement between NETEX and The Blacklands Railroad.***
Mickey Barker made a motion to approve the Termination Agreement.
Neal Barker Seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and passed.
7. ***Consider and possibly approve an Operating Agreement between NETEX and Freedom Rail Group doing business as Northeast Texas Connector (NETC).***
Bonnie Hunter made a motion to approve the Operating Agreement. Mickey Barker entered a second. The vote passed unanimously.

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8. ***Update by NETC regarding transition of operations with possible action to follow.***
Mike Salek gave a brief report on beginning operations for NETEX. Things going smoothly so far.
9. ***Discussion and possible action regarding a grant opportunity for NETEX.***
Brian Lee and Mike Salek discussed three possible grant opportunities. Freedom Rail Group will need to umbrella under the NETEX organization to pursue one of the grants. Bonnie Hunter made a motion to approve with a second by Mickey Barker. The motion passed unanimously.
10. ***Discussion and possible action regarding changing current bank authorized signatures to Brian Lee and Neal Barker as Chairman and Treasurer.***
Sam Young made a motion to with a second by Nate Priefert. The motion passed unanimously.
11. ***Update on pending land sale by NETEX with possible action.***
Ron Stutes informed the Board that UP is asking for a \$5000 fee to provide us with a Meets & Bounds deed required for the new title and sale closing. Options will be explored.
12. ***At this time Chairman Lee announced that the Board did not need to adjourn to Executive Session and entertained a motion to Adjourn the meeting.***
Mickey Barker made a motion to Adjourn with a second by Nate Priefert. The vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 2:06 pm.

Brian Lee, Chairman

Date

Guests included:

Matt Jasmer-Feeders Supply, Mike Salek. Jeff Lederer and Amanda Fernandez-Freedom Rail Group. Media: Taylor Nye-SS News Telegram, Lillie Bush-Reeves-Optic Herald, Hudson Old-East Texas Journal, Faith Huffman-KSST. Preston Ingram-TFL, Myron Malone-Railroad Partners Inc., Miguel Fernandez.