

NORTHEAST TEXAS RURAL RAIL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

A Regular Meeting of the Northeast Texas Rural Rail Transportation District's Board of Directors was convened on September 5, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. at the offices of the Sulphur Springs Economic Development Corporation, 1200 Enterprise Drive, Sulphur Springs, Texas 75482.

Members present: Secretary – Paul Burt, Treasurer – Mark Hutchins, Vice Chairman – Scott Lee, Chairman-Cheryl Williams, Mark Baird, Steve McCullough, Brad Johnson, Greg Sims.

Members absent: Duncan Webb, Galen Adams, Stacy Sears, Nate Priefert

Call to Order

1. Chairman Cheryl Williams called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM and announced that a quorum was present.
2. **Prayer for Board Members Guidance and Inspiration.**
Scott Lee
3. **Recognition of quests and invitation to citizens to speak: Any citizen may sign-in to address the Board for five-minutes. Time can be extended should NETEX have a question for clarification purposes. However, no action will be taken, unless previously provided for as an Agenda Item.**
4. **Approval of minutes from meeting on August 15, 2024, regular meeting.**
Scott Lee made a motion to approve the minutes, a second was entered by Mark Baird. The approval was unanimous.
5. **Approve Treasurer's Report..** Steve McCullough made a motion to approve with a second of the motion by Scott Lee. The vote was unanimous and passed.
6. **Discussion on proposed Budget FY24-25. The Board reviewed the proposed budget and had a discussion.**
Chairman Williams adjusted the proposed budget, increasing Travel amount to \$5,000.00 and it passed with a motion by Scott Lee and a second by Brad Johnson.
7. **Update on FEMA grant.**
Chairman Williams informed the Board that there would be a meeting on September 11th. No action needed.

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8. Discussion and possible action on Appointment of a Texas Registered Agent.

Mark Hutchins made a motion to choose Ron Stutes. Mark Baird made a second. The vote passed selecting Ron as our Agent.

9. Discussion and possible action on a policy for travel reimbursement

Greg Sims made a motion for approval of a policy for travel reimbursement, with one minor change. Scott Lee made a second and the vote was passed unanimously.

10. Discussion and possible action on a policy for emergency signatures.

Greg Sims moved approval of a policy on emergency signatures. It was determined that a policy would be adopted at the next meeting.

11. Legislative update

Brad Johnson updated the Board on the efforts. Mr. Johnson informed the Board that there are 13 resolutions worth \$24m up for discussion. There was no action to be taken.

12. Report and Discussion on State Rep Jill Dutton's visit at August Texas Transportation Commission Meeting.

13. Northeast Texas Connector (NETC) Monthly Update of Operator.

Amanda gave a verbal overview to the Board. Mike Salek was reached by phone and shared additional information. There were some questions and comments. There was no action to be taken.

14. Chairman Williams read paragraph 14.a. *The Board will convene into a closed section to discuss: (A) A private consultation with its attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation pursuant to Section 551.071 (1)(A) of the Open Meetings Act.* Chairman Williams announced the Board to be in Executive Agenda at 2:19 p.m.

15. Return to Open Session. Chairman Williams reopened the meeting for Open Session at 3:06 p.m.

16. Action needed as a result of Executive Session. No actions were needed.

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17. Consider items for future agendas

ROWs needing attention.

18. Adjourn. With no further action, Greg Sims made a motion to adjourn, and Scott Lee seconded the motion. Chairman Cheryl Williams declared the meeting adjourned at 3:10 PM.

Cheryl Williams, Chairman

Date

Guests Included:

Tammy Vinson, News Telegram
SS City Manager Marc Maxwell
Mike Salek, NETC Operator-by phone
Mitzi Y'Barbo, Acting admin SS-EDC)
Amanda Fernandez-NETC
Ron Stutes, Attorney

Note:

(1) The next meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. at the Sulphur Springs EDC.

(2) Any Board Member wishing to have an item placed on the agenda for discussion or action, is asked to contact the Chairman in advance of each meeting, Items not listed on the agenda, cannot be discussed.