

**NORTHEAST TEXAS RURAL RAIL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT**

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**A Regular Meeting of the Northeast Texas Rural Rail Transportation District's Board of Directors was convened on November 13, 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, Steve McCullough, Brad Johnson, Greg Sims, Stacy Sears, Nate Priefert, Duncan Webb, Mark Baird, Judge Cooper

**Members absent:**

**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.**  
Mark Hutchins opened with a prayer to the board
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 October 5, 2024, regular meeting.**  
Greg Sims made a motion to approve the minutes, a second was entered by Brad Johnson. The approval was unanimous.
5. **Approve Treasurer's Report for October 2024.**  
Steve McCullough made a motion to approve with a second of the motion by Scott Lee. The vote was unanimous and passed.
6. **Discuss approaching the bank purchasing land and track in Mount Vernon about carving out approximately 650' of track for NETEX**
7. **Update on FEMA Grant Request.**  
Cheyrl and Mike Salek provided an update on the FEMA Grant request. No additional questions were asked.

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- 8. Update on discussions with the Rail Customer and Public Assistance (RCPA) office at the Surface Transportation Board (STB) related to HASA**  
Cheryl provided update on calls and Mike Salek provided updates and answered some questions on terms as well.
- 9. 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 2:10 p.m.**
- 10. Return to Open Session. Chairman Williams reopened the meeting for Open Session at 2:50 p.m.**
- 11. Legislative Update**
- 12. Northeast Texas Connector (NETC) Monthly Update of Operator.**  
Amanda Fernandez gave a verbal overview to the Board. Mike Salek shared additional information. There was no action to be taken.
- 13. Consider items for future agendas**  
No additional items needed
- 14. Adjourn**  
With no further action, Judge Cooper made a motion to adjourn, and Mark Hutchins seconded the motion. Chairman Cheryl Williams declared the meeting adjourned at 3:03 PM

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**Cheryl Williams, Chairman**

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**Date**

Guests Included:

Tammy Vinson, News Telegram  
Mike Salek, NETC Operator-by phone  
Amanda Fernandez-NETC  
Ron Stutes, Attorney  
Judge Robert Newsom  
Chris Brown, SS-EDC Director  
Myron Malone

**Note:**

(1) The next meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. at the Sulphur Springs EDC and is subject to change.

(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.