

Board of Commissioners

Special Meeting

September 14, 2009 – 3:02 pm

Meeting called to order by President Rininger. Commissioners Rininger, Logsdon, Gogel, and Board Attorney Lueken were present.

Rininger explained that the reason for the special meeting was to discuss the Public/Private TIGER Grant (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) application in conjunction with Mid-American Terminal (MAT) and Rockport River Terminal (RRT).

Jack Lashenik of American Structure Point, Inc. discussed the grant application. To apply for the TIGER Grant the minimum request is \$20 million and it must be used for transportation that generates economic development. Lashenik stated that the county and MAT would be applying for \$41 million for a port infrastructure investment project including freight rail transportation expansion and a rail grade separation. In the application, the project is described as “The overall objective for the Project is to provide roadway, rail and port infrastructure to enable Spencer County to take advantage of its unique intermodal opportunities on America’s inland waterway system. The roadway portion consists of one mile of heavy-duty access road to connect the existing port into the expanded 900 acre site. The railway portion would include the addition of 75,000 ft of new rail line that would connect to the existing Norfolk Southern line located approximately 5 miles north of the Ohio River. The port infrastructure portion would include the addition of the 100’ wide and 800’ long 75-ton overhead bridge crane and a 100-ton crane transloader and pad which would allow movement of steel, containers, and heavy lifts from the existing port, as well as intermodal connections.”

Lashenik also listed the long-term benefits of supporting the terminal project as a) MAT and the County intend to enter into an arrangement for MAT to provide maintenance and upkeep for the Project once it is complete. b) Job creation, increased tax base, and increased property value. c) The Project would reduce truck traffic and congestion on local and regional rail and road routes due to the railway and barging alternatives. d) Reduced carbon emissions will be realized with the completion of the Project due to more economical, safer, and eco-friendly transportation alternatives. e) Moving hazardous material via rail will help prevent unintended spills along roadways.

Lashenik stated that even though Spencer County is the applicant, no county funds would be spent on the project. MAT and RRT have committed to pay up to \$6 million for the project.

Lueken discussed the proposed Order to allow Rininger to sign the TIGER grant application.

Lueken stated that to complete the application, the commissioners need to pass the proposed Order, sign the wage certification and sign a letter of support.

Gogel made a motion to pass Order 2009-01. Logsdon seconded. All in favor. Logsdon made a motion to sign the letter of support. Gogel seconded. All in favor. Gogel made a motion to adopt the Federal Wage Rate and sign the wage certification. Logsdon seconded. All in favor.

Logsdon made a motion to adjourn. Gogel seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 3:59 pm.

Board of Commissioners,

President
Attest:

Cindy Shelton, Auditor

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