

**CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
MARCH 9, 2015
555 SO. 10TH STREET
BILL LUXFORD STUDIO
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DIRECTORS' MEETING**

I. MINUTES

1. Directors' and Organizational meeting minutes of March 2, 2015.

II. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONFERENCE REPORTS

1. Railroad Transportation Safety District (RTSD) - Christensen, Emery, Gaylor Baird
2. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) - Emery, Fellers

III. REQUESTS FROM MAYOR

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VI. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

See invitation list.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
MARCH 9, 2015**

Present: Doug Emery, Chair; Trent Fellers, Vice Chair; Roy Christensen; Carl Eskridge; and Jon Camp

Absent: Jonathan Cook; and Leirion Gaylor Baird

Chair Emery called the meeting to order at 2:14 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

I. MINUTES

1. Directors' and Organizational meeting minutes of March 2, 2015.

With no corrections the above minutes placed on file in the City Council office.

II. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONFERENCE REPORTS

1. Railroad Transportation Safety District (RTSD) - Christensen, Emery, Gaylor Baird

Christensen stated two items, first, Certificates of Deposit. The District has built up cash, which we save. For the FDIC guarantee to be in force we deposit different amounts in different banks. Also have CR's which help us receive the best rates. At this meeting we voted on which banks to use.

Christensen added they received a presentation from the County Engineer, Pam Dingman. She stated there are five railroad crossings in need of repair. One common factor all the crossings share is the railroad and street crossing are not at 90 degrees to each other, which causes problems including accidents. The crossings are located at Raymond Road, North 48th Street, Denton Road - east village limits, 70th Street - north of Yankee Hill Road, West Whitstruck Road - between SW 128th and SW 142nd. Also in Roca at Roy Street. Many more which need attention but these five were found to be the most pressing to inspect.

He stated the board went over budget projections, the Draft Budget and CIP.

Emery thought the fact of having many more railroad crossings to look at speaks to our concern about the County lessening their portion of what they invest, in the RTSD. There will be numerous projects. Someone said the projects must about be all done, which certainly is not correct. Emery stated, and Christensen agreed, the RTSD does not have bonding authority, and therefore base our projections on when projects are completed by the amount of money we take in. In many cases this is based upon what the City, and County, portions are. If you see reductions in these amounts then obviously some project will be delayed.

Christensen commented what he sees with Figard's projections for the budget and the CIP going forward are based on receiving the full levy. Emery commented we have not received full levy for the last three years.

Eskridge stated some time ago Council received a plan for Cornhusker, 33rd and Adams Street area, which was elaborate. Understood the idea has risen again. Emery replied they are going forward with some design ideas and speaking with business people who will be effected. Do not know if there's a final rendering which looks like the first design, except at some point we will have a bridge

going over Cornhusker. Christensen agreed saying we will need a grade separation. Emery stated the RTSD is now starting to save money for the engineering. If you look at the budget for the next 5 years they're also starting to save money for the South Beltway.

Christensen stated the difficulty is, while we look forward and say, this is what we want to do, it's year by year in terms of the amount of money we have to deal with. Much is dependent upon tax revenues and even more dependent on what the County does. Emery stated the good news is that the railroad would want to get these two crossings done, because they present almost a million opportunities everyday for potential problems. There is federal safety money which could be part of this, also highway money, and the NRD is looking at Dead Man's Run to do improvements and would like to be part of this. Multiple agencies want to participate, and it would be to their benefit to be involved, but is not a near term project.

Camp stated we read about more transport of oil by rail, do we have those types of transports in Lincoln? Both Emery and Christensen replied yes. Camp asked if there is anything done locally, and how many trains? Christensen replied this is nothing done. Emery added on the amount going through doesn't know if Members would be able to speak to this.

Christensen added for years he's seen these trains at the tracks at Yankee Hill Road and 14th Street. Eskridge commented he understood these trains are stopped during football games.

2. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) - Emery, Fellers

Emery was unable to attend this meeting. Fellers added he also missed as he was traveling but received reports. Fellers stated they discussed the 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program. Then received a briefing on StarTran's transit development plan, and their traffic model for the 2040 Long Term Transportation Plan.

III. REQUESTS FROM MAYOR

None

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

None

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

No comments.

VI. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

See invitation list.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Emery adjourned the meeting at 2:21 p.m.