



**Railroad Advisory Board Meeting  
Thursday, February 21, 2019**

The Rochelle Railroad Advisory Board met on February 21, 2019, in the lower level conference center at City Hall, 420 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street; Rochelle, IL 61068.

**I. Call meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Jason Anderson.

**Present:** Bob Wingate, Ken Wise, Randy Wakenight, and Jason Anderson. Others present: Adriana Milan, Mayor Olson and Dale Meyers.

**Absent members:** None

**II. Approval of Minutes – “A motion by Mr. Wakenight and seconded by Mr. Wise to approve the minutes from October 25th, 2018”.** Motion passed by voice vote.

**III. Public Commentary –** None

**IV. Review of Rail Report –** Jason reviewed the end of year 2018 revenue report, compared to 2017 revenues we are down about 10% from January 2018. Severe winter weather has impacted frac sand volume from Coated Sands and MBI.

**V. Old Business**

**A. City of Rochelle Railroad**

1. Project Co-Op - Extending rail south of John's Creek and East of CHS. Construction has ceased due to weather conditions. Grant reimbursements have been received from IDOT and EDA.
2. GREDCO will close on the 200' strip of land for rail R-O-W on March 14<sup>th</sup>.
3. ICC Order – The order has been updated and submitted, waiting for approval, comments or amendments.

**B. Class I Interactions –**

1. UP – Jason was informed that the UP has notified its Rochelle customers that they will no longer switch unit trains in or out of Rochelle.

2. BNSF – Jason explained that now with UP’s change in operations we should shift our focus to develop a concept drawing plan for a new BNSF rail interchange further to the south where there are no at grade crossings. A consideration to explore FRA infrastructure funds was suggested.
3. MARS Conference – Jason and Jonathan from BJRY attended the conference and a networking event for opportunities for the transloading yard, it looks like there is a lot of potential for transloading services in Rochelle.

C. **BJRY** – All normal, encounter some issues due to weather conditions.

## **VI. New Business Discussion Items**

- A. A current rail customer is looking to switch and load unit trains in collaboration with BNSF. This presents a partnership opportunity for CIR once the transloading yard is completed.
- B. Strategic Rail Finance - Consultant with expertise in railroad development reached out to Jason and provided a proposal to assistance with identifying alternative finance options to expand rail infrastructure and evaluate service fees and operating cost. The cost is ~\$30,000.
- C. Railroad Advisory Board Nominations – Dale Meyers was nominated to the Mayor for appointment to the board. Mr. Meyers will formally apply to be approved by the Council.

**Next Meeting – May 16, 2019**

**Adjournment – Motion to adjourn meeting by Mr. Wakenight seconded by Mr. Wise - at 1:25 pm.**  
Motion passed by voice vote.

Submitted by,  
Adriana Milan