

## Minutes

### RTA Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee

9:02 a.m. April 2, 2024

**Committee Members:** Welch (Chair), Love, Sleasman

**Other Board Members:** Biasiotta, Koomar, Lucas, Mersmann, Pacetti, Weiss

**Not present:** McPherson

**Staff:** Birdsong Terry, Brooks Williams, Burney, Caver, Dangelo, Davidson, Fesler, Fields, Fleig, Ford, Freilich, Garofoli, Gautam, Gibson, Grubb, Haradem, Jupina, Laule, Marquit Renwald, McGervey, Mothes, Prebish, Reed, Rosenlieb, Rusnov, Schipper, Talley, Tarka, Thompson, Togher, Walker-Minor

**Public:** DCI consultants (virtual), Gibbons, Hagar, Loh, Russell

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. Three (3) committee members were present.

#### License Agreement with NeoGraf Solutions, LLC for Access and Laydown Area for W. 117<sup>th</sup> Bridge Rehabilitation Project

Jim Reed, Property Manager, gave the presentation.

The W. 117<sup>th</sup> Bridge Rehab is a multi-year project. No existing access to the construction site exists and laydown areas are required for material and equipment. NeoGraf property is adjacent to the site allowing access from Madison Avenue. The W. 117<sup>th</sup> Street Madison Station is located northeast of the project site. RTA and its contractors will enter from Madison Avenue to avoid the daily operations of NeoGraf. There will be two laydown areas.

#### Agreement Highlights:

- Term starting May 18, 2024 and ending December 31, 2025
- Subject to early termination by GCRTA upon completion
- License Fees of \$3,000.00 per month (not to exceed cost of \$58,400.00)

Staff recommends approval of an agreement with NeoGraf Solutions, LLC for the term beginning May 18, 2024 and ending December 31, 2025 at a cost of \$58,400.00.

It was moved by Mr. Love, seconded by Mr. Sleasman and approved to move this to the full Board.

#### IFB Procurement for Port of Cleveland connection to the Waterfront Line

Jonathan Laule, Program Contract Manager and Kathleen McGervey, Engineering Project Manager, Track gave the presentation.

#### *Project Overview*

The Port Connector track will connect the Waterfront Line track to the Port. The new Siemens railcars will be shipped to RTA by rail. RTA does not have a freight railroad connection to receive the railcars.

The Port will provide a track connection that will allow for the delivery and transfer of the new railcars from the freight railroads to the RTA Rail System. The Port of Cleveland has trackwork and safe unloading areas for the new railcars. RTA negotiated a temporary easement with the Port for construction purposes.

Project Elements:

- Install two turnouts
  - One turnout on Port of Cleveland trackage
  - One turnout on the Waterfront Line inbound
- Install new track to connect the turnouts
- Install new concrete drainage pipe
- Install new fencing and gates for Port security

*Procurement Overview*

The Invitation for Bid (IFB) was issued January 15, 2024. It was accessed on the GCRTA website by 16 interested parties. Four (4) firms submitted a bid. The lowest responsive and responsible bidder is Kennedy Railroad Services, LLC. A 5% DBE participation goal was assigned to this project and will be achieved using Cook Paving & Construction Co., Inc. Kennedy Railroad Services, LLC has successfully completed projects for Cargill, Lubrizol, M&M Industries, Alaron Nuclear Services, among others.

Staff requests that the Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee recommend award to Kennedy Railroad Services, LLC for the Port of Cleveland Connection to Waterfront Line. The contract is in an amount not to exceed \$883,443.00.

Mayor Weiss asked for the timeline on the delivery of the cars. Dr. Caver said the cars will begin delivery in June 2026. We will receive one car a month. No more than 12 cars will be on the property. They will be shipped by rail. The longshoreman will unload the trains and place on our tracks to be towed to Brookpark. We'll receive cars for 7 years.

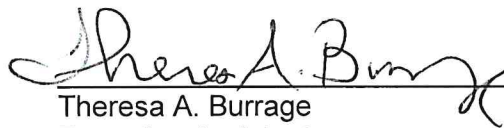
Mr. Schipper added that the Port has been a good partner. They will receive some revenue for receiving the trains. This section of the Port is not heavily utilized. This is coming to the Board now because the turnouts have a 45-week (9 months) lead time. It will be built in 2025. Dr. Caver added that this will be an asset to RTA to accept more items on the rail. Mr. Love asked if this is an RTA asset. Ms. McGervey said RTA will own the track. A permanent easement will come before the Board in the future. Mayor Koomar asked if a crane is used to lift the trains. That was confirmed.

It was moved by Mr. Sleasman, seconded by Mr. Love and approved to move this to the full Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 a.m.



Rajan D. Gautam  
Secretary/Treasurer



Theresa A. Burrage  
Executive Assistant