

Water Transportation Advisory Board (WTAB)
June 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Approved by WTAB (date): 6/24/2024

The meeting of the Water Transportation Advisory Board (WTAB) was called to order at 2:01 PM on June 9, 2023 held virtually.

The WTAB members in attendance were:

Brian Wright, Chair	Amanda Davenport
Chuck Davis	Steve Alley
Billy Ray Coursey	Tim Cahill

Also in attendance were:

Jeremy Edgeworth, KYTC	Ben Weithman, Henderson Riverport
Mikael Pelfrey, KYTC	Glen Kinder, Eddyville Riverport
Maegan Mansfield, Bacon, Farmer, Workman	Miguel Zamora, Louisville Riverport
Greg Curlin, Hickman Riverport	Jerry Pace, West Kentucky Regional Riverport
Chad Dorsey, MARAD	Jennifer Kirchner, KBT
Rachel Bayens, Government Strategies	

Welcome and Introductions:

Jeremy Edgeworth provided general housekeeping reminders for the virtual meeting after which the meeting was turned over to the Chair to conduct. The Chair welcomed all in attendance and all attendees introduced themselves.

Public Comment Period:

The Chair invited all attendees to make comments. No public comments were made.

Presentation of Minutes from June 10, 2022

The minutes of the June 10, 2022, meeting were presented and subsequently unanimously approved on motion of Tim Cahill, seconded by Steve Alley.

Election of WTAB Vice Chair

The prior Vice Chair was not renominated to the WTAB, thus a vacancy existed. After Board discussion about ability to serve, Billy Ray Coursey was nominated and unanimously approved as Vice Chair on motion of Amanda Davenport, seconded by Tim Cahill.

Update on Status of Open and Closed KRI projects

Jeremy Edgeworth presented a PowerPoint presentation of open and closed projects and invited representatives from the Riverports to discuss the status of their projects.

- Miguel Zamora (Louisville Riverport)-Riverport Rail Tie Replacement #7-Project will replace 1,000 ties and 49 switch ties to hold gage of 13 miles of track owned by Riverport. Increased work from Rail Tie #6 funds adds 21 switch ties, the tamping and regulating of 1-2 miles of main line, and all turnouts on industrial leads. Work is complete, project closed.
- Miguel Zamora (Louisville Riverport)-Construction of Tangent Connection at Loop Project-Project would construct 1,775 feet of new track and turnouts to allow rail traffic to bypass loop tracks. Bids came in higher than riverport budgeted and they could not cover increase. Project was canceled.

- Billy Ray Coursey (Eddyville Riverport)- Barge Positioning Winch System- Project will install barge positioning winch system that through a remote control will shift a barge when loading/unloading. Winch system has been received, RFP for installation is out for bids.
- Billy Ray Coursey (Eddyville Riverport)-Laydown Yard Project-Project will grade, clear, and level 3 acres and spread 2 inches dense grade aggregate to create additional port storage capabilities. Install rip rap in necessary areas to prevent further erosion. Work is completed, awaiting KYTC inspection.
- Greg Curlin (Hickman Riverport)-Dock Dredging Project- Project dredged a 700 ft. by 30 ft. area around the docks and removed approximately 15,000 cubic yards of material to maintain normal business operations. Work has been completed; the project has been closed.
- Greg Curlin (Hickman Riverport)-Mooring Dock Cell Repair Project-Project will make repairs to Mooring Cell 3, Mooring Cell 4, and Mooring Cell 6. Includes adding ballast, replacing damaged guardrail and patch plates over open interlock. Contract awarded, waiting on ordered materials & appropriate water levels.
- Brian Wright (Owensboro Riverport)-Bucket for Liebherr LH 120 Project-Project replaced 12-year-old bucket critical for dry bulk handling operation with new bucket ensuring sustainable production during peak season. Bucket received; Project closed.
- Brian Wright (Owensboro Riverport)-Caterpillar 903D Wheel Loader Project-Project replaced one steer used in daily operations with Skid Steer with improved emissions, fuel consumption, and higher clearance from bottom of the barge using Statewide Master Agreement. Skid Steer delivered; project closed.
- Brian Wright (Owensboro Riverport)-Grapple for Sennebogen 875 Project-Project replaced a leased smaller grapple on Sennebogen Material Handler with a larger capacity grapple for a new steel scrap barge loading business segment. Grapple delivered; project closed.
- Tim Cahill (Paducah Riverport)-Bulk Commodity Receiving Hopper Project-Project constructed and installed new steel hopper and gate system within existing support leg system. The previous steel hopper has been relined twice and was experiencing metal fatigue. Project completed; project closed.

Conflicts of Interest for Board Members

Prior to discussion of KRI project applications, Disclosure of Conflict-of-Interest Statement forms were finalized. Prior to the meeting, Conflict of Interest Statement forms had been emailed to all board member and upon completion were forwarded to the Chair before the meeting began. The Chair reported that four board members had a conflict of interest that was noted on their forms. Those members will not vote or prioritize their submitted projects for funding.

Review and Prioritization of FY 2024 Kentucky Riverport Improvement projects applications

Six applications were received for the \$500,000 in funding available through the FY 2024 KRI grant program by the deadline. Jeremy Edgeworth announced each project and applicants presented the details of the project to the Board. Board members then asked any questions of the applicants. The applications requested \$523,305.43.

Riverport	Project	Total Cost	Requested
Eddyville	Caterpillar 330 Hydraulic Excavator Project	\$368,122.00	\$184,061.00
Henderson	Automated Truck Scale Project	\$244,913.63	\$122,000.00
Owensboro	10,000 lbs. Forklift Project	\$78,950.00	\$39,475.00
Owensboro	25,000 lbs. Forklift Project	\$231,719.20	\$115,859.60
Owensboro	Compact Track Loader Project	\$62,799.66	\$31,399.83
Paducah	4th Street Concrete Aprons Project	\$61,020.00	\$30,510.00
<i>Total</i>		\$1,047,524.49	\$523,305.43

Project Eligibility discussion:

Jeremy Edgeworth had previously emailed a customized Project Eligibility Ballot to each WTAB member. Board members evaluated each project for which they did not have a conflict of interest as eligible for funding. These ballots were emailed back to Jeremy Edgeworth for tabulation. All applications were unanimously determined to be eligible.

Project Prioritization discussion:

Jeremy Edgeworth had previously distributed a customized Project Prioritization Ballot to each WTAB member. Board members ranked each project for which they did not have a conflict of interest from highest priority to lowest priority for funding. The customized ballots omitted any projects for which the Board member had a conflict of interest preventing them from prioritizing those projects. These ballots were emailed back to Jeremy Edgeworth for tabulation.

After calculating the total score for each project, and ranking the projects by their average score, the WTAB board prioritized the awarding of the KRI funds as follows:

Riverport	Project	Total Cost	Requested	WTAB Rank
Paducah	4th Street Concrete Aprons Project	\$61,020.00	\$30,510.00	1
Henderson	Automated Truck Scale Project	\$244,913.63	\$122,000.00	2
Owensboro	25,000 lbs. Forklift Project	\$231,719.20	\$115,859.60	3
Eddyville	Caterpillar 330 Hydraulic Excavator Project	\$368,122.00	\$184,061.00	4
Owensboro	Compact Track Loader Project	\$62,799.66	\$31,399.83	5
Owensboro	10,000 lbs. Forklift Project	\$78,950.00	\$39,475.00	6

Total \$1,047,524.49 \$523,305.43

The board proposed fully funding the first five projects on the prioritization list, and providing the remaining funding to the sixth project as follows:

Riverport	Project	WTAB Rank	KRI Requested	KRI Funding Recommendation
Paducah	4th Street Concrete Aprons Project	1	\$30,510.00	\$30,510.00
Henderson	Automated Truck Scale Project	2	\$122,000.00	\$122,000.00
Owensboro	25,000 lbs. Forklift Project	3	\$115,859.60	\$115,859.60
Eddyville	Caterpillar 330 Hydraulic Excavator Project	4	\$184,061.00	\$184,061.00
Owensboro	Compact Track Loader Project	5	\$31,399.83	\$31,399.83
Owensboro	10,000 lbs. Forklift Project	6	\$39,475.00	\$16,169.57

Total \$523,305.43 \$500,000.00

The board then unanimously approved on motion of Steve Alley, seconded by Tim Cahill these are the funding amounts to recommend to the Secretary of the Transportation Cabinet for approval.

Update on Kentucky Association of Riverports/Kentuckians for Better Transportation Legislative Efforts

While WTAB staff were tallying the results of the KRI prioritization, Chair Wright updated the board on the status of Kentucky Association of Riverports/Kentuckians for Better Transportation Legislative Efforts. Provided background of recent Riverport Study that guided legislative efforts for new board members. Discussed need to educate legislators on role of riverports and then lobby for additional port funding. KAR/KBT meeting again Monday to finalize efforts. Multimodal Freight Task Force established by legislature will begin meeting in July on 18th at 3:00pm. KAR/KBT may be asked to participate in that or other Task Force meetings.

OKI Conference on Freight, Sept 5-7, Cincinnati. OH

Jeremy Edgeworth announced the OKI Conference on Freight that will be held on September 5-7 in Cincinnati, OH. This will be cohosted by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Ohio Department of Transportation, Mid America Freight Coalition, and the Institute for Trade and Transportation Studies. It will include private and public freight stakeholders from trucking, rail, water and air cargo sectors across 18 Midwest and Southern states. Jeremy invited the Board to attend and indicated he would email out the conference website with registration link.

There being no further business, on motion of Amanda Davenport, seconded by Steve Alley and with unanimous approval, the meeting adjourned at 3:39 PM.

Submitted:

Jeremy Edgeworth

Water Transportation Advisory Board Staff, KYTC