CHICAGO TRANSIT BOARD

IN RE THE MATTER:

REGULAR MEETING

OF APRIL 14TH, 2021

Report of proceedings at the meeting of
the above-entitled cause, before Tabitha Watson, an
Illinois Shorthand Reporter, on the 14th day of
April, 2021, at the hour of 10:19 a.m., via
videoconference.

Reported by: Tabitha Watson, CSR, RPR
License No.: 084-004824
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

ARABEL ALVA ROSALES, Chairperson
KEVIN IRVINE
BERNARD JAKES
JOHNNY MILLER
ALEJANDRO SILVA

ALSO PRESENT:

MR. DORVAL R. CARTER, JR., President
MR. GREGORY LONGHINI, Secretary
MS. KAREN SEIMETZ, General Counsel
MR. CHRIS BUSHELL
MR. BILL MOONEY
MR. JUAN PABLO PRIETO
(Whereupon, the following proceedings were had via videoconference.)

SECRETARY LONGHINI: Good morning. This is Greg Longhini of the Chicago Transit Board and we are about to begin the April 14th meeting.

Chairman Alva Rosales, we may begin.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Good morning, everyone. I would like to call to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the Chicago Transit Board for April 14th, 2021.

Would the secretary call the roll?

SECRETARY LONGHINI: Yes.

Director Irvine?

DIRECTOR IRVINE: Here.

SECRETARY LONGHINI: Director Jakes?

DIRECTOR JAKES: Here.

SECRETARY LONGHINI: Director Miller?

DIRECTOR MILLER: Here.

SECRETARY LONGHINI: Director Silva?

DIRECTOR SILVA: Here.

SECRETARY LONGHINI: Chairman Alva Rosales?

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Here.

SECRETARY LONGHINI: We have a quorum with all
five members of the Board present and let the
record show President Carter and General Counsel
Karen Seimetz are also participating in this
meeting.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Great. Thank you.
Our first order of business is public comment. Do
we have any, Greg?

SECRETARY LONGHINI: No, Chairman. We do not.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Great. Then our
next order of business today is the approval of the
March 10th board minutes. The minutes were
previously distributed to all our board members and
I will now entertain a motion to approve the
minutes of the regular board meeting of March 10th,
2021.

DIRECTOR JAKES: So moved, Vice Chair.

DIRECTOR MILLER: Second.

SECRETARY LONGHINI: That motion was moved by
Directors Jakes and Miller. I'll take a vote.

Director Irvine?

DIRECTOR IRVINE: Yes.

SECRETARY LONGHINI: Director Jakes?

DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

SECRETARY LONGHINI: Director Miller?
DIRECTOR MILLER: Yes.
SECRETARY LONGHINI: Director -- Director Silva?
DIRECTOR SILVA: Yes.
SECRETARY LONGHINI: Chairman Alva Rosales?
CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Yes.
SECRETARY LONGHINI: That motion is approved with five yes votes.
CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Thank you. Our next order of business is Executive Session and it is my understanding, Karen, that today there will be no Executive Session, is that correct?
COUNSEL SEIMETZ: That's correct, Vice Chair. No Executive Session today.
CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Thank you. Since there are no more board matters, our next order of business is a report from the Committee on Finance, Audit & Budget. Director Silva.
DIRECTOR SILVA: The Committee on Finance, Audit & Budget met earlier this morning via Zoom video teleconference. The Committee approved the March 10, 2021 committee minutes. The Committee reviewed the finance report. The Committee also reviewed the following ordinances.
An ordinance authorizing a co-promotional trade agreement through its Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events for 2021.

An ordinance authorizing a facilities use license agreement with the City Colleges of Chicago for instruction space at Truman College, Chicago, Illinois.

An ordinance authorizing an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Chicago through its Department of Police for Federal fiscal year 2020 Transit security grant funds.

The Committee also reviewed six purchase and sales award recommendation. The Committee approved all items and recommends board approval of all items.

The committee placed the three ordinances and all six contracts on the omnibus.

That concludes my report, Chairman Alva Rosales.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Thank, Director Silva.

May I now have a motion to approve the omnibus as stated by Director Silva?
DIRECTOR JAKES: So moved.

DIRECTOR MILLER: Second.

SECRETARY LONGHINI: Moved by -- moved and seconded by Directors Jakes and Miller. I will now take a rollcall vote on the omnibus.

    Director Irvine?

DIRECTOR IRVINE: Yes.

SECRETARY LONGHINI: Director Jakes?

DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

SECRETARY LONGHINI: Director Miller?

DIRECTOR MILLER: Yes.

SECRETARY LONGHINI: Director Silva?

DIRECTOR SILVA: Yes.

SECRETARY LONGHINI: Chairman Alva Rosales?

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Yes.

SECRETARY LONGHINI: That motion is approved with five yes votes.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Thank you, Greg.

Our next order of business is the construction report and we will be hearing from Bill Mooney.

BILL MOONEY: Good morning. Bill Mooney, your Chief Infrastructure Officer. We'll move through the projects.
We'll begin today with Jefferson Park and O'Hare signals project. The project proceeds to move forward on budget and tight to schedule. We've had some progress since we last met. We've completed our fourth crossover of installation at Nagel. This was being processed the last time we met and we completed that installation.

We moved on to the Harlem interlocking, where we've begun the infrastructure work preparatory to start doing that cutover at that interlocking.

We continue to finalize designs on kind of the last two major interlockings at Rosemont and O'Hare, which are -- we're in a -- kind of a design review process. We've seen it. We're just working through kind of the final details as those move forward in fabrication as well.

Move to the pictures, please.

So part of the upcoming, you know, major work is termination of the new signal system at O'Hare terminal and it's a really complicated installation process and as part of the facilitation of that, we're installing a temporary signal system to operate on while we install the
permanent signal system. So you'll see in these
photos some preparatory installation work for that
future cutover at O'Hare and that temporary signal
system we're doing. Next slide.

Kind of the other key piece for that
cutover is getting the interlocking that's just
outside of O'Hare operational, which is that old
Mannheim. Just kind of outside the footprint of
the airport there. So you're seeing a junction box
similar to other ones I've shown you where we take
the wiring from the field apparatuses and we
connect them to the wiring in the house as we get
ready in the future to cut over the old Mannheim
house. Next slide, please.

And here is a photo of the Nagel
interlocking and service operating completely under
the new signal service at this point. Signal mask
ahead. Providing that aspect tells the operator
are they going on a straight route or divergent
route and whether or not they can proceed.

My next project is our traction power
upgrades project. As I purported in previous
months, all the work is finalizing at Franklin
substation at this point. The transformers are
getting ready to shift to the site for installation and we proceed on schedule and on budget. Next slide, please.

We talked previously, a lot of what's been going on on the site is remediation of the concrete pad in the area around it in preparation for the installation of those transformers here. What ended up happening on the site is we've had to do some soil sampling to make sure we've got good, clean soil. We've removed any soil that may have been contaminated from the historical oil transformers on the site and we're actually forming to pour kind of an extension to the pad that the transformer sits on. Next slide, please.

Part of that preparation, as I've shown you, the remediation of the pad last month, we were sweating the oil out of the pad. Now that that's complete and the pad is completely clean, we re-coat the pad with a series of epoxy coating to protect it in the future as we go forward. Here you can see kind of that epoxy coating in place. Next slide.

Part of the quality process of this is we actually take measurements of the thickness of that
epoxy coating. Our standard requires the epoxy coating to be a certain thickness. So you're seeing them actually take a measurement of the paint itself and then the finished layer on the right of what that product looks like.

My final slide is, you know, this pad is actually -- needs to be reinforced and bulked up for the future transformer installation. So they're actually forming a new structure over that pad and that epoxy coating, where we were pouring that concrete to build out that bigger pad for transformers that are coming to the site shortly.

And that concludes my report and I'm glad to take any questions at this time.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Bill, thank you. I have a quick question. Just with regards to the temporary signal systems that you mentioned, have we ever had any problems with, you know, temporary systems like that? I mean, it's --

BILL MOONEY: So, actually, the temporary signal system is a generation of equipment that we use broadly on our railroad as it exists today. It's a system by Hitachi. It's called AF-800. It's actually what Chris is installing as his
temporary signal system for advanced work on RPM.
It's actually the signal system we put in on the 
Blue about a decade ago on all of the remainder of 
that line. So from Jefferson Park all the way out 
to Forest Park terminal has that same generation of 
signal system. So it's a very reliable system 
we're very familiar with. So we're pretty 
comfortable with it operating. It's nothing fancy 
like this next generation that we're installing as 
part of this project, but it's a very reliable, 
safe system that has produced very well for us for 
many years.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Great. Thank you.

Questions. Director Jakes, do you have 
any questions?

DIRECTOR JAKES: I do not. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Thank you.

Director Irvine?

DIRECTOR IRVINE: No questions. Just thanks 
for the updates and also thanks to, Bill, to you 
and your team for your reports to the CTA ADA 
Advisory Committee earlier this week. Really great 
stuff. They appreciate it too.

BILL MOONEY: They're very exciting projects,
Director. We're excited to kind of see them advance forward.

DIRECTOR IRVINE: Me too. Thanks.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: That's great to hear.

Director Silva, do you have any questions?

DIRECTOR SILVA: No questions.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Great. Bill, thank you again. Thanks to your team for all the hard work. We appreciate it. Thank you so much.

BILL MOONEY: Thank you.

CHRIS BUSHELL: All right.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: No further questions, so I would like to ask, Chris Bushell and Juan Pablo Prieto, if you can now make your report on RPM and the diversity presentations.

CHRIS BUSHELL: All right. Thank you, Directors.

RPM phase one design-build contract continues tight to schedule and on budget.

If we go to the next slide, please. The next slide.

So we are still in design. Design is closing out. We are starting at sort of 80 percent
here. So we're now in the process of winding it
down.

In terms of the bypass, not winding it
down at all. Very much still under construction.
So we have assembled most of the foundations and
substructure. That's sort of the steel that's
holding up the concrete and will eventually hold up
the tracks and now we're starting to pour the
various pieces of concrete, the concrete slab, and
then we'll start pouring the plinth and installing
the track work over the course of spring and
summer.

Pre-stage work is drawing to a close. As
you saw from my previous presentations, we
installed two major interlockings at Thorndale and
Montrose and now we're in the process of
signalizing them. Much of the same sort of
activities that you've seen Bill describe in the
Blue Line, we're now engaged on the Red -- Red
Line -- Red and Purple Lines well.

And then with Lawrence to Bryn Mawr
modernization, we are casting various pieces
associated with the two major bridges and
completing efforts, as I said earlier, with design
in particular with regard to the station houses.

Next slide.

So here you can get a sense of kind of the sweep of the bypass. You really have a sense I think of its size and scale now. We have -- we are in the process, as I mentioned, of installing the concrete slabs so that green element that you see down there is the rebar that we then pour concrete around. That's the first part of the slab and then we build the track and the track sits on little plinths and we build -- cast those plinths and then we build a track on top of it. Next slide.

There is part of this bridge. The RPB bridge, which is built in an adjacent alley just to the north and west of the concrete. That part is not enclosed concrete. It's more of an open-deck structure. So that's being currently assembled now in the Roscoe-Sheffield alley area. Next slide.

Again, similar to Bill, we are in the process of installing and commissioning signaling systems. Actually, most of the installation is done. We're really just in the process of testing and commissioning. This is the Thorndale relay house. Next slide.
Then I mentioned we're casting various pieces of concrete associated with the Lawrence to Bryn Mawr segmented box girder bridges that we'll be starting this -- late this spring and into the summer. Next slide.

The temporary stations are nearing completion. We have two of them at Argyle and Bryn Mawr. They are looking good. No issues. We are in the final closeout of both of those efforts.

Next. And, of course, our outreach is busy as can be. With spring, we are, you know, continuing to talk to the community about various pieces of construction that we're involved with. We have a very busy Open For Business campaign that is seeking to encourage businesses -- local businesses in the area, many of whom have been more impacted by COVID than they have by our project; but, nonetheless, we're taking the opportunity to build good faith with those businesses with an aggressive campaign.

And that concludes my end of the report. I'll turn it over now to J.P. and the SBE/DBE efforts.

J.P. PRIETO: Thanks, Chris.
Good morning, Directors. Juan Pablo Prieto, Director of Diversity Programs.

We continue to hold our monthly meetings with the prime contractors to discuss workforce and DBE outreach and compliance. The Elevating Futures scholarship application deadline was March 1st and Chicago Scholars is preparing to announce the awardee this month.

RPM was featured on WCIU The Jam during March to focus on women in construction for Women's History Month. Our workforce goals and outreach on RPM have helped increase the labor hours performed by women. We encourage all individuals interested in a career in construction to connect with our workforce partners, the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership and HIRE360. We'll be playing that video here shortly.

On April 8th, HIRE360 hosted a trade informational session for individuals interested in a career in the building trades that are not current members of a union. There were over 100 attendees on the call who heard from HIRE360, their resource partners, and the Carpenter's Regional Council on how to prepare for entry into the
trades. Walsh-Fluor also presented on upcoming opportunities on RPM.

And, lastly, Walsh-Fluor will be hosting a DBE vendor outreach event later this month to inform DBE firms of upcoming trade packages, how to bid on them, and the resources available for DBEs, like the Building Small Businesses program. I will report on the attendance of the event at the next board meeting.

And now we will play the video of the WCIU RPM feature.

(A video was played.)

J.P. PRIETO: That concludes my portion of the report. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Thank you to both of you, to Chris and Juan Pablo. I just -- I just have a quick comment with regard to the Open For -- first of all, thanks for all the outreach that is being done on both ends and with regard to the RPM project.

With regards to Open For Business, I know on the briefing that we got -- that I got yesterday, I'm really happy to hear that we've ended up creating kind of a digital platform for
some of these businesses that did not -- that don't have a website, for example, or something because now they can utilize what we put out there to help communicate more about their business, especially during this COVID period, which digital has become so necessary. So I think indirectly, you know, we're doing something really great for the businesses that are involved in that area. I don't think necessarily that was planned, but, you know, that's what ended up being created.

Chris, are there -- have we gotten any -- do we continue I guess to get positive feedback from the communities that are being affected with the RPM project?

CHRIS BUSHELL: We get positive -- we get kudos for our level of communication. With a big construction project like this, there are always community challenges to be dealt with. I mean, so many of these people are happy that these old stations are being replaced with new, modern, accessible stations in particular. We get a lot of compliments on that, on the design; but we also have challenges. People call up and have issues with how we're closing alleyways, how we are
structuring some of the maintenance of traffic or
MOT setups, and we're out there addressing those as
quickly as we can. So I would say that by and
large, the feedback we're receiving in various
public meetings is positive, but we have challenges
and we're trying to be transparent and address
those as quickly as possible.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Well, we appreciate
it.

PRESIDENT CARTER: Director Rosales, I would
also point out, we do work very closely with the
aldermen in these communities and really seek their
advice and input on how best to approach a lot of
these issues. And so I think Chris's comments
about the community are also reflective of where
the aldermen are on this matter.

They recognize the project is going to be
disruptive, as Chris indicated, but they also
recognize the overall benefits that are going to
come to their wards with the improved
infrastructure we're putting in place and we've
coordinated with them, we make sure they have
information to give out to constituents. We
participate in their town halls and other
activities as well to make sure that we're getting
the message out there and we're in sync with what
the aldermen understand and expect is going to
happen on the project.

I think our bottom line here is that we're
trying to mitigate surprises because we know it's
disruptive, but we want to make sure people
understand before we start the work, what that work
is going to mean and what the impact is going to
be.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Well, and I like
that we're asking the community what's the best way
to approach this. We're not coming in and telling
them what to do, which is I think so important.
So --

CHRIS BUSHELL: And we're -- we're transparent.
We provide a lot of information, as Dorvel said, to
the community -- to aldermen, to the community
about where we're going, what we're doing, and the
impacts of that work. We don't sugarcoat it. We
are straightforward and try to get the best
schedule information that we have.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: That's great. Thank
you. Juan Pablo, great work. Everybody, great
work.

Quick question for you. Are we getting -- the women that are coming onto these projects, are they -- I heard Walsh, but are we getting them or are they getting them from a certain organization or they're just getting them, you know, through workers they already currently have?

J.P. PRIETO: It's a combination of both. Through workers they already have and also through our workforce partners. Whenever -- whenever either Walsh-Fluor or any other subs have any upcoming hiring opportunities, they'll communicate that to both partners and both partners will send over lists of qualified candidates for them to consider. So they're getting it from both.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: It was great to see that. I'm very happy to see that. I'm going to reach out to the other directors and see if we have any questions.

Director Jakes, do you have any questions?

DIRECTOR JAKES: No, I don't have any questions. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Director Irvine?

DIRECTOR IRVINE: No questions. And I'm
just -- you know, thanks again for all the work and also for your team that presented to the ADA Advisory Committee on Monday. They, again, really appreciated that. So thanks again to all of you.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Director Miller?

DIRECTOR MILLER: No questions. Just a ditto of what you have already said. Great job. And being such a large project, you know, so -- you know, and all of the presentation the other day was just beautiful coming up to here. So thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Thank you.

Director Silva?

DIRECTOR SILVA: No questions. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Okay. Great. Well, thank you again for all the hard work that everyone is doing. We really appreciate it and for these presentations.

So our next agenda item is new business.

Greg, is there any new business?

SECRETARY LONGHINI: No, Chairman. There is no new business today.

CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Great. Thank you.

Well, with no further business to come before the Board, may I now have a motion to
adjourn this meeting?

   DIRECTOR JAKES: So moved.

   DIRECTOR MILLER: Second.

   SECRETARY LONGHINI: Moved and seconded by Directors Jakes and Miller.

   Motion to adjourn, Director Irvine?

   DIRECTOR IRVINE: Yes.

   SECRETARY LONGHINI: Director Jakes?

   DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

   SECRETARY LONGHINI: Director Miller?

   DIRECTOR MILLER: Yes.

   SECRETARY LONGHINI: Director Silva?

   DIRECTOR SILVA: Yes.

   SECRETARY LONGHINI: Chairman Alva Rosales?

   CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Yes.

   SECRETARY LONGHINI: Chairman, that motion is approved with five yes votes.

   CHAIRPERSON ALVA ROSALES: Thanks, everybody, and stay healthy and stay happy.

   (Meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.)
STATE OF ILLINOIS 

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 COUNTY OF C O O K 

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Tabitha Watson, being first duly sworn, on oath says that she is a court reporter doing business in the State of Illinois and that she reported in shorthand the proceedings of said meeting and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of her shorthand notes so taken as aforesaid and contains the proceedings given at said meeting on said date.

[Signature]

Certified Shorthand Reporter