
RAILROAD-SHIPPER TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, DC

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Pursuant to Section 726 of the ICC Termination Act (ICCTA), the Chair of the Surface Transportation Board (STB) in mid-1996 announced the formation of the Railroad Shippers Transportation Advisory Council (RSTAC). As required by Section 726(f) (4) of the ICCTA, RSTAC submits its Annual Report for 2019.

1. Membership

The following individuals were the appointed members of the 15-member RSTAC for 2019, listed by category each represents:

Small Shipper (Four Voting Members):

Kevin Murray, Red Gold, Inc.

Matthew Brainerd, Brainerd Chemical, Inc.

Paul Delp, Lansdale Warehouse Co.

Ben Abrams, Consolidated Scrap Resources, Inc.

Small Railroad (Four Voting Members):

Mark Wegner, Twin Cities & Western and Red River Valley and Western Railroad Companies

Lawrence Malski, Pennsylvania Northeast Regional Railroad Authority

Nathan Asplund, Florida East Coast Railway

Michael Peters, Genesee & Wyoming Railroad Services, Inc.

Large Shipper (Three Non-Voting Members)

Robert Byrd, Nucor Corporation

Jeanne Sebring, International Paper

Terrence McDermott, Bunge North America

Large Railroad (Three Non-Voting Members)

Tim McNulty, CSX who was replaced by Arthur Adams , CSX

Mike Bilovesky, Kansas City Southern Railroad

Kari Kirchhoefer, Union Pacific Railroad

At-Large (One Voting Member)

Brandy Christian, Port of New Orleans

Ex-Officio Members

The Honorable Ann Begeman, Chairman, Surface Transportation Board

Patrick Fuchs, Vice Chairman 2019, Surface Transportation Board

Martin Oberman, Vice Chairman 2020, Surface Transportation Board

Stephen O'Connor, Federal Railroad Administration, representing The Honorable Elaine Chao, Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation.

RSTAC Officers for 2019 effective at the February 2019 meeting:

Kevin Murray, Chairman

Mark Wegner, Vice Chairman

Nathan Asplund, Secretary/Treasurer

2. RSTAC Meetings

The Council met four times in 2019. The meeting dates are as follows for the year 2019 and the minutes for each meeting are attached hereto and made a part hereof.

February 26 and 27, 2019

May 20 and 21, 2019

August 7 and 8, 2019

October 29 and 30, 2019

3. RSTAC Achievements in 2019

- RSTAC continued its steady focus on its 'Role' and Mission Statement giving a voice to small and large industry as well as railroads and their role in their respective communities.
- Mission Statement
To work together as a council of rail advocates on a common goal to strengthen the national rail industry, improve service levels and foster mutually beneficial relationships between large and small railroads and shippers, across all commodity groups. To that end, we will address improvements in the primary issues of capacity constraints and the evolution of merchandise carload network including the elements that impact them and bring forth recommendations for improvement.
- RSTAC continued personal visits to the 'Hill' to discuss with Senate Commerce and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee important issues to the railroads and shipping community.
- An RSTAC field trip to Jacksonville hosted by the Florida East Coast Railway, Genesee & Wyoming Railroad Services, Inc. and CSX. This trip allowed the STB Commissioners and RSTAC members to meet and learn about numerous of issues among shortlines, Class I's, large shippers, small shippers and Jacksonville regional specific concerns

and successes. The group enjoyed informative tours of Florida East Coast Railway, Rayonier, First Coast Railroad, UPS Jacksonville and CSX

- Throughout the year, RSTAC reviewed Surface Transportation Board updates from the Office of the General Counsel (Craig Keats) and the Office of Economics (William Brennan)
- Obtained input from Chuck Baker (President of the American Shortline Railroad Association) who provided updates on important issues to small railroads and their customers.
- Obtained input from David Sellers – Sellers Transportation Consulting, Herman Haksteen and Barb Cataneo – PRFBA, who facilitated a general discussion on Boxcar fleet supply.
- Monitored the progress of PTC. This issue has required billions of dollars in investment and will impact industry everywhere – costs as well as service.

4. Future Plans

- RSTAC will continue to pursue its charge by following the Mission Statement of the Council.
- RSTAC Members will strive to meet this mission by:
 - Applying the diversity of the RSTAC Council to fairly and openly address small shipper/railroad concerns; being accessible to shippers, communities and elected officials; monitoring and discussing the issues; and providing knowledge and education wherever possible.
 - Encouraging shippers and railroads to improve communications toward a goal of improved customer satisfaction.
 - Focusing on discussion/problem solving for concerns that impact the access of shippers to a viable, healthy and stable rail transportation option to meet market demands.
 - Consider recommendations regarding rail policy and the STB's role to create more effective oversight of the domestic rail network.
 - Continue interaction with Congress and maintaining outreach to all parties with an interest in a vibrant rail network.