



WILLIAMS
BAPTIST COLLEGE

210604

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

FILED

APR 14 2004



April 8, 2004

Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K St. NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Mr. Williams:

Enclosed please find a Notice of Interim Trail Use to be filed on behalf of Lawrence County, Arkansas. This is in reference to Docket No. AB-6, Sub-No. 411X. Also enclosed are a map of the rail corridor in question and minutes to the Lawrence County Quorum Court Meeting in which the project was adopted by the County.

Please notify us if you need further information in regard to this filing. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Brett Cooper
Director of Public Relations

FILING FEE WAIVED

Enclosures (3)

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

APR 15 2004

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Public Record

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Lawrence County / STATE OF ARKANSAS

ROOM 1, LAWRENCE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
WALNUT RIDGE, ARKANSAS 72476

Alex A. Latham, County Judge
(870) 886-1110
FAX (870) 886-1125



April 1, 2004

BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company
Abandonment, Hoxie to Walport, AR and the Walnut Ridge
Industrial Spur in Lawrence County, Arkansas

Docket, AB-6, Sub-No. 411X

Statement of Willingness to Assume Financial Responsibility

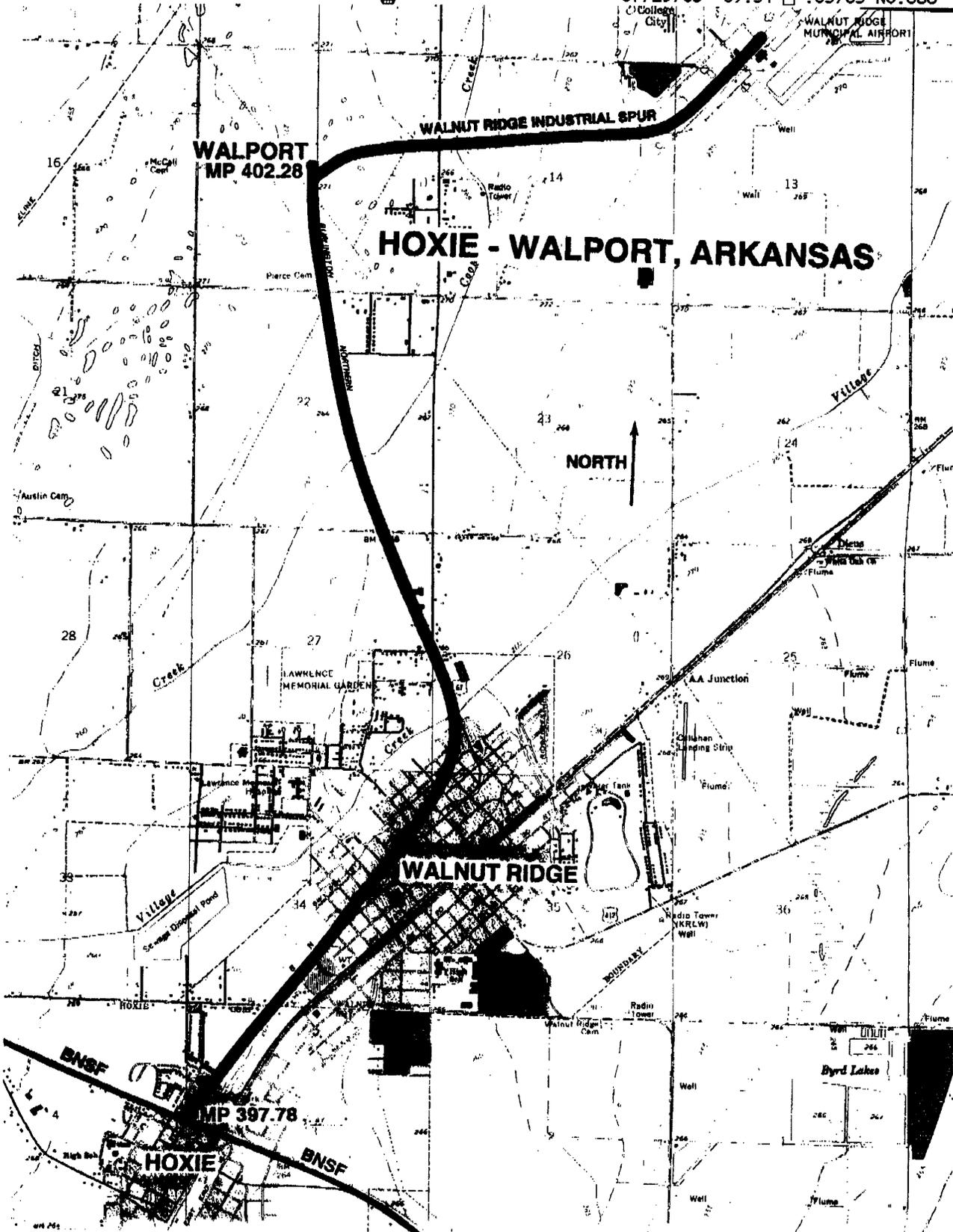
In order to establish interim trail use and rail banking under 16 U. S. C. 1247 (d) and 49 CFR 1152.29, Leadership Lawrence County a 501 3C not for Profit organization and Lawrence County ("Interim Trail User"), is willing to assume full responsibility for management of, for any legal liability arising out of (unless the user is immune from liability, in which case it need only indemnify the railroad against any potential liability), and for the payment of any and all taxes that may be levied or assessed against the right-of-way owned and operated by the The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company, (Railroad) with respect to that portion of the right-of-way in Lawrence County, Arkansas. The property extends from Milepost .397.78 near Hoxie to Milepost 402.28 near Walport, a distance of 4.50 miles and also includes the 2.20 mile Walnut Ridge Industrial Spur for a total distance of 6.50 miles in Lawrence County, Arkansas. The right of way is a line proposed for abandonment in Docket AB-6, Sub-No 411X

A map depicting the property is enclosed.

Leadership Lawrence County acknowledges that use of the right-of-way is subject to the user's continuing to meet its responsibilities described above and subject to possible future reconstruction and reactivation of the right-of-way for rail service. A copy of this statement is being served on the railroad on the same date it is being served on the Board.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alex Latham".

Alex Latham
Lawrence County, Judge
315 West Main, Room 1
Walnut Ridge, AR 72476
Phone: 870-886-1110



WALPORT
MP 402.28

HOXIE - WALPORT, ARKANSAS

NORTH

WALNUT RIDGE

MP 397.78

HOXIE

Byrd Lake

**Lawrence County Quorum Court
Journal of Proceedings
October 13, 2003
7:00 P.M.**

The Lawrence County Quorum Court met in regular session in the conference room of the Lawrence County Courthouse with Judge Latham presiding. Members present: Boyd, Briner, Coker, Davis, Johnson, Richey, Slaughter, Snedeker. Absent: Smith.

Judge Latham welcomed guests and press.

Minutes of the previous meeting, which had been provided in advance, were dispensed with by motion of Briner, seconded by Richey. By voice vote motion carried.

Treasurer's report having been provided in advance was dispensed with by motion of Richey, seconded by Snedeker. By voice vote motion carried.

Mr. Lee Gentry, representing Lawrence Memorial Hospital, presented the quarterly financial report for the hospital. No action was taken.

Brent Cooper, representing Lawrence County Leadership Alumni, asked the court to to serve as administrator of the grant for a project converting the abandoned railroad that runs from Hoxie to College City into a trail for joggers or bicyclists. The committee is in the process of getting a grant to cover the cost. Richey moved, seconded by Coker, to approve the project and the county being grant administrator. By voice vote the motion was approved unanimously.

Ron Thomas, Lawrence County Arkansans with Disabilities Coordinator, asked the court to appoint a new coordinator. He also spoke to the court about making the courthouse handicap accessible. The court asked the Judge to get a new handbook on the rules and report back to the court.

Larry Corbett gave a report on the generator for the county. Justice Briner said he would oversee the project to determine if the city and rural water could use it in an emergency situation.

An ordinance appropriating \$450.00 to cover promotional brochures was discussed. Coker moved, seconded by Davis to appropriate the money. The roll call vote for: Boyd, Briner, Coker, Davis, Johnson, Richey, Slaughter, Snedeker. Absent: Smith.

Appropriating \$3,185.59 to cover repair to the radio tower was discussed. Briner moved, seconded by Davis, to appropriate the money. The roll call vote for: Boyd, Briner, Coker, Davis, Johnson, Richey, Slaughter, Snedeker. Absent: Smith. The ordinance was approved.

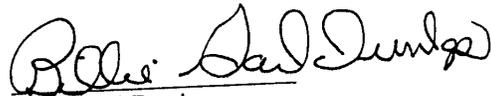
Coker moved, seconded by Davis, to confirm the appointment of Candy Jones of CMS Consulting, Inc. as grant administrator to acquire funding for rural water hookups. By voice vote motion carried.

All business being complete Richey moved, seconded by Briner, for adjournment. By voice vote motion carried.

Lawrence County Quorum Court stands in adjournment.



Alex A. Latham
County Judge



Billie Gail Dunlap
Lawrence County Clerk



WILLIAMS

BAPTIST COLLEGE

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS



April 14, 2004

Tim Cambridge
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K St. NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Mr. Cambridge:

This letter is to confirm that Lawrence County, Ark., and the Leadership Lawrence County organization have established contact with BNSF Railway concerning the proposed abandonment of the railroad spur from Hoxie to Walport, Ark. The railway has been made aware of our desire to convert the rail corridor into a walking and bicycling trail. This is in reference to Docket No. AB-6, Sub-No. 411X in the Surface Transportation Board filings.

Our contact at BNSF Railway and his mailing address are as follows: Rich Batic, Short Line Development, BNSF Railway, 2500 Lou Menk Dr., 3rd Floor, Ft. Worth, TX 76131.

Please let us know if you need further information.

Sincerely,

Brett Cooper
Director of Public Relations

cc: Sarah Bailiff, BNSF Railway
Rich Batic, BNSF Railway

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