

ProRail Board Meeting Minutes: 01/03/2026

Attendees: Clyde Anderson, Bridger Corkill, Oluseye Fakinlede, Jim Hanna, Robert Kuzelka, Dave Purdy, Matthew Roque; Richard Schmeling

Discussion Items:

- **Follow-Up Items from Last Meeting**
- **Discussion About Supporting the Bill this Session**
- **Discussion of Organizations to Approach to Sign Letter of Support**
- **Discussion of Other State Agencies who have a role in Rail Planning**
- **Next board meeting will be Saturday, January 24th, 2026, at Scooters on 27th and Pine Lake in Lincoln**

Detailed Notes:

- **Follow-Up Items from Last Meeting**
 - The ProRail email account is setup at prorailnebraska@gmail.com. Email forwarding for board members is setup for those who opt-in.
 - Thank you letters have been sent to town hall attendees giving them a heads up about the session.
 - Bridger to setup the google drive/start saving notes and materials there.
 - General discussion of involving more/new members in legislative activities and planning. Goal for each board member to contact someone who may be interested.
- **Discussion About Supporting the Bill this Session**
 - Promotional materials – Oluseye has been working with Bridger to create print and social media materials to support the bill for a state rail plan.
 - Discussion of postcard mailing and next steps to share with members and town hall attendees. To go out when a hearing date has been set. Bridger to coordinate with Oluseye on draft.
 - Potentially hosting a reception on the day of the hearing for people who are testifying and co-sponsors. Discussion of where this could be and what refreshments may be offered. Bridger to make an RSVP form online that could be used to gauge interest.
 - Discussion of using material from the report and town halls to shape testimony.
 - Discussion of budget concerns this session and how that might impact the bill.
- **Discussion of Organizations to Approach to Sign Letter of Support**
 - Discussion of the various organizations that will be approached to sign onto a letter of support. Includes: professional organizations, industry groups, train unions, chambers of commerce, etc. Bridger and Oluseye to coordinate and share a google spreadsheet
- **Discussion of Other State Agencies who have a role in Rail Planning**
 - Discussion of whether or not there are other state agencies with a role in rail planning that should be contacted. Discussion of how these comments could be made most effectively. To find out more about the roles and responsibilities of agencies discussed ahead of the next meeting.
- **Next board meeting will be Saturday, January 24th, 2026, at Scooters on 27th and Pine Lake in Lincoln. Discussion to include**
 - Reviewing draft materials for the legislative session, Oluseye contract increase, and plans for the bill and hearing testimony.