

2005 IN REVIEW

WEST CENTRAL OHIO PORT AUTHORITY

OPERATIONS

- 7,108 railcars were served on WESTCO lines by Indiana & Ohio Railway (IORY) in 2005 compared to 6,003 in 2004.
- Effective May 1, 2005, the Indiana & Ohio Central Railroad (IOCR) was merged into the IORY to streamline operations and business management by the railroad. The restructuring precipitated the need to update existing WESTCO agreements with the IOCR.
- In October, 2005, the IORY implemented a new operations plan that will use the South Charleston line on a scheduled basis for some overhead traffic, with other overhead traffic remaining on the Maitland line.
- The acquisition of the Midland Subdivision and other additions to the Indiana & Ohio Rail System in the second half of 2004 contributed to power and crew problems during the first half of 2005.
- A change to Norfolk Southern-Canadian National routing protocol in April, 2005 reduced overhead traffic over WESTCO lines.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE

- The bridge over Upper Valley Pike was completed and placed in service in April, 2005. The project cost was almost \$2.1 million.
- The Stoney Run culvert on the Maitland line near Old Mill Road in Clark County was replaced. The project cost was \$153,000.
- Two culverts on the South Charleston line near Old Springfield Road in Clark County were replaced. The project cost was \$45,000.
- The bridge at M.P. 224.7 on the South Charleston line in Fayette County was repaired at a cost of almost \$24,000.
- Repairs were made on the South Charleston line to eliminate slow orders and to the Glen Echo passing track to eliminate an FRA defect so the track can be used by the IORY for staging overhead traffic and traffic for Urbana. The cost was \$35,250.
- Construction was started on safety upgrades at two crossings on SR 4 in Champaign County and at SR 41 and SR 729 in Fayette County. The crossing on SR41 in Madison County was added to the program of projects.
- Letters of interest and consultant qualifications were solicited and received for services to rehabilitate and enhance the bridge over US 36 in Urbana.
- A Sperry car inspection was completed for all WESTCO lines.

PROPERTY

- Eight property matters – parcel sales, utility licenses and other agreements – were processed during the year.
- WESTCO and the Clark County Engineer's Department agreed to the use of WESTCO's Glen Echo facility for the engineer's borrow & fill needs.

PLANNING & MARKETING

- The Cooperative Marketing Partnership, together with WESTCO and the IORY hosted an excursion train and luncheon meeting on August 26, 2005. About 80 people took part in the event.
- The federal transportation re-authorization included \$528,000 to partly finance the rehabilitation of the railroad bridge over US 36 in Urbana. The Ohio Department of Transportation approved \$141,800 for the enhancement of the bridge. The total preliminary cost estimate is \$1,060,000.
- The Cooperative Marketing Partnership placed advertisements in business expansion/site selection magazines and met with a CSX industrial development representative.

ADMINISTRATION

- The WESTCO Board of Directors met ten times in 2005.
- Martin Gainer resigned from the WESTCO Board due to poor health. Betty Mowrey was appointed by the Board of Champaign County Commissioners to complete the remaining term ending September 1, 2006.
- Dale Ritenour was re-appointed by the Board of Fayette County Commissioners to a new four year term ending September 1, 2009.
- Gordon Conn (Fayette County) and Alan Thompson (Clark County) were elected Chairman and Vice Chairman, respectively, for 2006.
- The budget was approved for 2006.
- The audit was completed for 2004.
- WESTCO participated on the Ohio Ports Council.