

MID MON VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
1300 MCKEAN AVE
CHARLEROI, PA 15022
July 28, 2022
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Board members and staff went on a brief bus ride prior to meeting to demonstrate the new electric infotainment signs 5:30 PM.

1. Call to Order-Chairman- 6:00 PM
2. Pledge to Flag- Chairman
3. Roll Call- Secretary

There being 13 members present at 6:00 PM, there was a quorum

Members Present

Ed Bryner
Fred Berestecky
Bernie Bandini Zoom
Earl Doman
Diann Donaldson
Sandy Davis
George Eckert
Fred Exley
Devlin Fisher
William Furlong
Fred Naccarato
Rik Pankiewicz
Carrie Zeletski

Members Absent:

John Lorenzo
Chris Carroll
Frank Kennedy
John Habel III
Timothy Herd

California Borough (awaiting member appointment)
Fayette City (awaiting member appointment)

Staff Present:

Ashley Seman
Nancy Basile
Aeriel Dochenetz
Beth O'Neil

Others Present:

Blane Black, ESQ
Marc Roncone, MV

4. Mr. Fisher inquired if there were any additions or corrections to the Board of Director's Meeting Minutes or the Re-organizational Meeting Minutes of June 23, 2022, as mailed/emailed.

- a.) There being none, Mr. Fisher asked for a motion to approve the Board Minutes and the Re-organization Meeting Minutes for June 23, 2022. Ms. Davis made the motion. Mr. Pankiewicz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

5. Public Forum - No report

6. Report from the Carrier: MV Transportation Inc, Marc Roncone

- a.) Mr. Roncone reported on fixed route service for the month of June 2022 as follows: Actual Vehicle Miles were 67,592.00; Revenue Vehicle miles were 54,587.00; Actual Vehicle Hours were 3,896.65; and the Revenue Vehicle Hours were 3,248.96.
- b.) Mr. Roncone also reported that there were 4 incidents w/out injury; 0 incident with injury; 2 accidents w/out injury; 0 accident with injury; 2 security issues; 1 valid complaint; 0 compliment. He also reported on 3 road calls: 6 major mechanical failures and 3 other mechanical failures.
- c.) See **Attachment I.6** for further details, provided in the agenda packet.

7. Chairman's Report

- a.) Mr. Fisher stated that he hoped everyone enjoyed the bus trip and added that it was nice to see the updated technology features that our transit provides. Mr. Fisher stated that he rides our buses frequently himself and encourages all board members to do the same.
- b.) Mr. Fisher thanked all present for voting him in as Chairman of the Board and sent out congratulations to the newly appointed Executive Committee.
- c.) Mr. Fisher announced that he will be stepping down from being the Chairman of the Steering Committee and he would prefer that the person interested in taking his place be from Washington County. Also, he wants any board member interested in joining one of MMVTA's committees to please contact him.

8. TREASURER'S REPORT

- a.) Ms. Zeletski reported that the Finance Management Committee was sent the finance report to review and referred all members present to **Attachment I.8.a.** in their agenda packets.
 - i. The total bills for July amount to \$359,295.46 in Operating Expenses and \$76,600.28 in Covid Expenses.
 - ii. MMVTA has received reimbursement for Covid expenses expended in the 4th quarter of FY 21-22 in the amount of \$248,329.
 - iii. Capital Expenditures for July are:
 - 1. \$13,995 payable to All Tire Supply for maintenance facility digital truck wheel balancer (Federal, Local and State Funds)
 - 2. \$10,144.22 payable to Scheidt & Bachmann for Farebox Extended Warranty (Federal & Local Funds)
 - 3. \$5,150.00 payable to JED Heating and Cooling for 50% down on TC HVAC System (Federal Funds)

iv. Ms. Zeletski made a motion that the board accept this month's Financial Report and approve payment of the same. Mr. Berestecky seconded the motion. Motion carried.

b.) The Capital Projects list followed the Finance Report and is found in **Attachmentl.8.b** of the agenda packet.

i. Mrs. Seman stated the deadline to receive proposals for the 2022 Maintenance Facility Equipment Security Fence/Gate was extended to July 29, 2022, at 12:00 PM.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a.) Human Resources – Carrie Zeletski, Chairperson

- i. Ms. Zeletski reported that the HR Committee met on July 7, 2022 at 5:30 PM. At this meeting the committee discussed employee compensation raises, employee benefits, HR policies and procedures and other personnel matters. They discussed these matters for a significant amount of time and were not able to come to an agreement with any specific topics. The committee felt it necessary to do more research before bringing any item before the board for a vote. The HR Committee will meet again Thursday, August 4, 2022, at 5:30 PM.
- ii. At this time Mr. Fisher called for an Executive Session at 6:16 PM. The purpose of the Executive Session was to discuss personnel issues. Executive Session ended at 7:12 PM.

1. Ms. Donaldson made a motion to authorize the Human Resource Committee to act upon the recommendation of the steps stated while in Executive Session. Mr. Pankiewicz seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

b.) Steering Committee - Devlin Fisher, Chairperson

- i. Mr. Fisher stated that there was a committee meeting held on July 18, 2022 at 5:30 PM. Discussed amongst other things was ongoing research into the electric vehicles and the electric vehicle charging stations. At this meeting the committee was joined by Mr. Colton Brown. He is the Energy Specialist at the Dept. of Environmental Protection-Energy Programs Office. Mr. Brown is very knowledgeable on these topics. He discussed with the committee electric vehicles technology and the charging station technology, as well as several funding sources and methods that exist and can be utilized by MMVTA.
- ii. Mr. Fisher stated that based on their discussions, the committee believes that our next step is to put out surveys to get a better sense of the possible utilization of these technologies by riders. The results of the survey will give MMVTA a better idea of whether the Transit Authority should move forward with this initiative. The committee will continue to keep the board updated.

c.) Safety & Security – Ed Bryner, Chairperson

- i. Mr. Bryner reported that the MMVTA Has been made aware of a potential safety issue regarding passengers boarding and getting off on Craven Hill at 4th Street Foods. MMVTA is concerned for the safety of those crossing over this busy stretch of highway. To keep the board aware of efforts the staff is taking to remedy the situation, following actions have been taken:

1. On July 29, 2022 Mrs. Seman sent a letter to PennDOT, District 12-0 urging them to investigate safety measures in this area. Suggesting flashing lights, or crosswalks.
2. The staff has communicated with the Southwestern Planning Commission, and they have agreed to include a project in a regional grant application in the new US DOT Safe Streets and Roads For All discretionary grant program. They will be applying for engineering and design funds to study a solution for this issue.
3. Ms. Basile is looking into applying for a Smart Grant under systems to improve transportation safety. She participated in a webinar regarding this grant on July 28, 2022. The Committee will continue to keep the board updated with any progress regarding this matter.
 - Mr. Berestecky suggested writing to Senator Bartolotta and Representative Cook regarding this matter.

d.) By-Laws – Fred Berestecky, Chairperson

- i. Mr. Berestecky stated that there will be a By-Laws Committee meeting in August 2022.

e.) Capital/Construction – Chris Carroll, Chairperson- No Report

10. REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

a.) Executive Director

- i. Mrs. Seman reported on an update to the Express Stop Policy and referred the board to **Attachment I.10.a.i** in the agenda packet. In order to provide outbound and inbound riders quicker travel times to end destinations, all express routes will change to the following:

1. Outbound trips to the Valley will be drop off only.
2. Inbound trips to Pittsburgh will be pickups only.

Non-Express riders will still have other options besides the Express Route.

- ii. Mrs. Seman updated the board on the new stops and route changes. Handouts were given to all present. The new service starts October 1, 2022. The slogan for this is “You Asked, We Listened”. New additions include service to the Gabe’s Plaza on all Local Bus Routes and the Weekender 1 and 2. The Speers Industrial Park will be a new stop on the Local 2 and Weekender 2. The Spartan Health Complex will be a by request only stop on the Local 1 and the Local 3. Some of the marketing/outreach strategies are yard signs, ad teasers/articles, signage on the buses and information on Facebook and the MMVTA website are also ways of reaching out to riders. Mrs. Seman stated that she will be having events at each location during the first week of service.

b.) Marketing

- i. Ms. Dochenetz reported that the summer newsletter has been released. A copy was provided to all present and is also available on Facebook.
- ii. The Vulcan Flyer and Cal Commuter routes will begin on August 13, 2022. The MMVTA is running a special schedule for the Vulcan Flyer to accommodate the Cal U Students on their Move-In Day which is August 18, 2022.

- iii. There has been a 24% increase in ridership from FY 20-21 to FY 21-22. Ms. Dochenetz hopes this trend will continue in this current FY 22-23.

11. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

- a.) Mr. Naccarato read a brief article from the July 28, 2022 Mon Valley Independent "Pages of the Past" from 1992 regarding prior employees.

12. OLD BUSINESS- No Report

13. NEW BUSINESS-

- a.) Mr. Roncone reported to the board of the passing of long-time employee, John Knepshield. Mr. Knepshield has been with the company for 30 years. Mr. Roncone asked to keep his wife and family in thoughts and prayers.

14. ADJOURNMENT

- a.) Mr. Fisher asked if there were any further business to discuss? There being none, Mr. Fisher requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Furlong made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Bryner seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
- b.) The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

REMINDER:

THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR:

THURSDAY, August 25, 2022, AT 6:00 PM

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING