

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION (BPTC) JANUARY 27, 2015, 5:30 P.M.

In the Edward J. Kuntz Board Room of the Bloomington Transit Operating Facility, 130 W. Grimes Lane, Chairman McConn convened the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bloomington Public Transportation Corporation.

ROLL CALL

Board Members present: Chairman McConn, Vice Chairman McDaniel, Secretary Hasler, Board Member Obermeyer, and Board Member Cartwright. Also present were Lewis May, General Manager, Brenda Underwood, Human Resources/Marketing Administration, Christa Browning, Controller, and there were no members of the public present.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS

There were no Petitions and Communications.

MESSAGES FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Vice Chairman McDaniel noted that proposed House Bill 1215 specifies that the PMTF appropriation for state fiscal year 2015-2016 would be \$60,000,000 and also for fiscal year 2016-2017. He said it has not been scheduled for a hearing. This would be an increase over the current \$42.5 million. He said they are still going through all the State department budgets. He said we do have some good sponsors for the bill including Representative Randy Truitt, a Republican from Lafayette who is on the Ways and Means Committee, Representative Edmond Soliday, a Republican who is the Chairman of Roads and Transportation Committee, Representative David Niezgodski, a Democrat from South Bend who is on the Ways and Means Committee, and Representative David Ober, a Republican from Ft. Wayne who is also on the Ways and Means Committee. Mr. McDaniel also noted that Senator Mark Stoops has introduced Senate Bill 379 that is specifically for BPTC so as to provide the County Council with authority to adopt a county economic development tax (CEDIT) that would be between 0.1 to 0.25 percent and could potentially generate anywhere from \$2.8 to \$6.9 million locally for BPTC to enhance and improve public transit service both in the County and the City. A hearing is expected on this bill soon in one of the Senate committees.

MESSAGES FROM THE MANAGER

Mr. May said at the last Board Meeting the Board asked him about helping the Board answer questions relative to Board appointments. He provided a copy of the City's website for Bloomington Transit's Board appointments and what the term expiration dates are. He said Al and Kent are not shown on the website because their appointments have expired. He said Ray's expiration date is wrong we do have an appointment letter on file saying his expiration date is July 31, 2017. He said he spoke with Sue Wanzer and he brought up the error of Ray's expiration appointment and she said she would correct the date. He asked what the status was of the expired appointments and she responded that the Council has not made a decision but on February 11 they are supposed to discuss it at their meeting. He said the decision is going to be

whether or not to interview candidates or reappoint the existing members. He said it is a Council decision and she does not know what they will decide. He said he suspects that if there are candidates they may hold interviews which was what they did last time Kent's appointment was up. Mr. May said the Board also asked him to provide a copy of the Indiana Code. He said he provided the complete Code for all the Public Transportation Corporations (PTCs) that shows how PTCs are to be governed, managed, and operated under Indiana law. He marked and highlighted the area in the Code that deals with board appointments. He said he sees nothing in the Code where an appointing authority can arbitrarily shorten a Board member term. Vice Chairman McDaniel asked where the Term Expiration Date information that is shown in the table comes from. Mr. May noted that the information is from the letters that we have on file for each Board Member. Vice Chairman McDaniel said he is sure that these are not technically correct because they were all appointed at the same time which is 7/31 it got off 6 months somehow. Mr. May said Al's expiration letter is 1/31/14, Kent's expiration letter is 7/31/14, Ray's expiration letter is 7/31/17, and we don't have a letter for Nancy. Vice Chairman McDaniel said he has one for Nancy that he will forward to Nancy. Mr. May said we don't always get a copy from the appointing authority. Vice Chairman McDaniel said he had not reapplied yet and was reviewing his application and will submit it soon. Board Member Cartwright said technically he should not be here if his appointment has expired. Mr. May said you continue to serve until you are replaced. Board Member Cartwright said he submitted his application in the Fall of 2013 when Sue Wanzer contacted him. Vice Chairman McDaniel suggested Board Member Cartwright should resubmit his application.

Mr. May said at the last Board Meeting we discussed that the MPO recently solicited for projects for the 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He said there have been some updates to that. He said all the projects were due a couple of weeks ago and we have since had a meeting with the Technical Advisory Committee. He said he has been able to see all the STP projects that were submitted. He said the City has submitted three road projects for the use of STP funding totaling \$1.15 million. He said the first one is the 10th Street underpass which they are looking to do the preliminary engineering. He said we cannot get hybrid buses nor articulated buses or CNG buses so we have been advocating a long time to have something done to that and it has finally seem to hit the radar of MPO. He said the next one is 17th Street reconstruction between Crescent and Monroe. He said BT does not operate on that street but it is a very narrow, poorly constructed road almost rural in nature in some respects. He said when I-69 opens the plan is for 17th Street to be connected across the interstate to Vernal Pike. So they need to improve this section of the road and in the TIP is a project for preliminary engineering at \$400,000 in 2016. He said they have put in a request for STP funding for construction of a new Woodlawn railroad crossing at \$476,369. He said Rural Transit has submitted a bus replacement request for \$130,000 in STP funds. Mr. May said the total new projects submitted for 2016 between Rural Transit and the City's three projects was approximately \$1.28 million. He said the MPO gets about \$2.4 million in STP funds every year so that leaves about \$1.12 million in uncommitted STP funds even if they fund all four of those projects. He said he does not know if there were any previously committed STP projects that aren't included. He said it is his hope that BT can get at least \$1 million in STP funding to use for replacement of (3) 40-foot diesel buses that will be overdue for replacement in 2016. Vice Chairman McDaniel said he was surprised the County did not submit any projects. Mr. May said they did not have any new projects for 2016, however, there may be previous committed projects. Mr. May said the TIP will not be approved until later in the spring so there is more discussion and maybe more negotiation that has to take place between all the public agencies.

Mr. May said he wanted to update the Board on a couple of things related to the Downtown Transit Center. He said the DoubleMap bus tracker arrival signs and interior monitor went live today. He said everything is working fine we have digital overhead signs that indicate the route name and how many minutes until the next bus is arriving of course based on the real time location of the bus. He said if you go in the interior of the building we have two large screen monitors in there we have a first arrival board that gives the name of the route and the number of minutes until the next bus is arriving for that route. Next to this monitor is another flat screen monitor that has a map of the entire system and the real time location of each of the buses displayed on the street where you can actually see the bus moving on the map.

He said we have been talking with Miller Transportation about the possibility of bringing in the intercity buses that operate between Indianapolis and Evansville and come through Bloomington. He said these routes currently stop at the Yellow Cab Station on 6th and Morton and have been for many years. He said there are about 9 intercity buses a day. He said we approached Miller last year about the possibility of them coming into our new station once it was completed. He said Miller has expressed interest. He said the fact that people can ride into the new transit center on a Bloomington Transit or Rural Transit bus and transfer to an intercity bus is appealing to Miller. He said it makes a lot of sense for them to come into our facility and that they are already going into the public transit centers in Muncie and Ft. Wayne. He said we are interested in doing it for all the same reasons and we could potentially generate a small amount of revenue on commissions from sale proceeds for tickets and freight that are handled. He said we would be the agent for the sale of tickets and also handling any freight coming or going from Bloomington. He said the commission rate is somewhere around 15 to 16 percent for most tickets. He said a minimum annual guarantee from Miller has been proposed at \$25,000 per year and we have asked \$30,000 per year. He said we have prepared a draft contract and had our legal counsel review it. He said legal counsel submitted edits and comments and we made the changes and sent the draft on to Miller Transportation. Chairman McConn asked where would Miller buses physically park on the site. Mr. May said we have extra bus parking berths in the downtown transit center so the idea would be to basically rent them one of those berths that would be assigned as their location so that people would know where their bus would be coming in at. He said we would sell tickets we would take freight and then they pay us commission. He said the extra revenue is not a great windfall and we would use it to hire another part-time person to work down at the facility to help with ticketing and freight responsibilities. Mr. May said he anticipates it will be a revenue neutral mechanism. Board Member Cartwright asked how many buses are we talking about from Miller. Mr. May said about 9 buses per day with buses from early morning through the evening, 365 days a year. He said of course we are not open on Sunday and on the 5 major holidays. He said the terms that we spelled out in the agreement for Sundays and major holidays are that Miller can use our facility but their passengers and employees won't have access to the indoor building. Miller has indicated they are fine with that. Board Member Cartwright asked how do you coordinate our fixed route schedules. Mr. May said if their buses need to leave before our buses, they would simply pass our buses and pull out onto Walnut Street. Board Member Cartwright said does this agreement cover any clean-up because of an especially dirty bus. Mr. May said their buses are on a very tight schedule but there is no accommodation for cleaning, fueling, or maintaining Miller buses and none of that is anticipated by them. He said there is one accommodation that we do have written into the agreement if they get a disabled passenger and the driver needs the assistance of another person to help them board or deboard that passenger, there is language in the contract that our attendant

would provide that assistance on and off the Miller bus. He said that Miller has an obligation to do that under the ADA. He said Miller is currently reviewing the draft contract. Once an agreement in principle has been reached with Miller, the agreement would come to the Board for a general review before we send it on to FTA for their final approval. Once we get the FTA approval we would come back to the Board for your final approval. Chairman McConn asked if I.U. Campus Bus or Rural Transit have any space in our facility. Mr. May said Rural Transit does currently serve the facility as they bring buses in hourly. Chairman McConn asked if they were on the inside or outside the site. Mr. May said they are on the inside of the site and their spot is behind the Fleener Building and the 3rd and Washington building. He said we got the official approval from FTA on Rural Transit's incidental use of the facility. He said we have made an offer to one other company, Bloomington Shuttle, which operates airport express service that goes to the IU Memorial Union and several dorms, residence halls, and hotels in the area. He said they are currently serving the Convention Center hotel and he met with Chris Gurley late last year and he was interested in the possibility of bringing his bus in there. We made an offer to Bloomington Shuttle of \$400 per month subject to Board and FTA approval which equate to about \$13 per day. He said this was offer was reasonable but he has not heard back from Bloomington Shuttle.

Mr. May noted we finished 2014 with a 1.61 percent increase in fixed route ridership over 2013 which was an all-time record high. He said BT carried a total of 3,510,469 passenger trips in 2014. He said we have had ~~ten~~ (10) consecutive years of ridership increases; sixteen (16) of the past seventeen (17) years we have seen a ridership increase; and twenty-seven (27) out of the past thirty-one (31) years our ridership has increased. He noted BT Access ridership was down 3.52 percent in 2014 compared to 2013. He said BT Access carried 29,112 passenger trips in 2014. He said the total system ridership was 3,539,581 passenger trips which was an all-time record for total ridership in a single year.

Mr. May said as discussed at our last Board Meeting operating statistics of note include a significant decline in preventable fixed route accidents of 30 percent. He said BT Access preventable accidents declined 133 percent in 2014.

Mr. May said vehicle roadcalls for fixed route declined significantly going from 283 in 2013 to 229 in 2014 a decline of 19.1 percent. He said BT Access roadcalls also declined going from 5 in 2013 to 2 in 2014 for a decline of 60 percent.

MESSAGES FROM THE CONTROLLER

Controller Browning gave an overview of the December Financial Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT – ACTION ITEMS

There were no comments from the public.

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

There was no New Business.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

MINUTES

The minutes for January 13, 2015 were presented for approval by Board Member Obermeyer and seconded by Secretary Hasler. The minutes were approved unanimously.

CLAIMS

The claims for January 27, 2015 were presented for approval by Board Member Obermeyer and seconded by Secretary Hasler. The claims were approved unanimously.

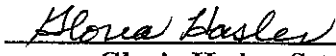
ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:



Nancy Obermeyer, Chairman
Board of Directors BPTC 2-10-15

ATTEST:



Gloria Hasler, Secretary
Board of Directors BPTC 2-10-15