

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION (BPTC) FEBRUARY 10, 2015, 5:30 P.M.

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

ROLL CALL

Board Members present: Vice Chairman McDaniel, Secretary Hasler, Board Member McLary, Board Member Obermeyer, and Board Member Cartwright. Also present were Lewis May, General Manager, Brenda Underwood, Human Resources/Marketing Administration, Christa Browning, Controller, Ian Patton, Operations Manager and Lillian Henegar a member of the public.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS

There were no Petitions and Communications.

MESSAGES FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Vice Chairman McDaniel noted that Senate Bill 379 passed second reading today and did not get amended which is good. He said Lew did a real fine job testifying before the Senate Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee and then he was called back to answer questions.

Vice Chairman McDaniel said the Ways and Means Committee is holding a hearing on the Governor's budget proposal tomorrow afternoon. He said it is a formality so they are going to give everyone an opportunity to get up there for two minutes and then when everyone is done they will enter their own amendments to the bill/ He said what it means is it is we are pretty certain we are not going to get a hearing for SB 1215. He said we thought we would last year we got some great Republican members that are co-authoring it and all four are on the Ways and Means Committee. He said that is not necessary a bad thing because if you have a hearing then you got a target and everybody is looking at you. He said the chairman and the members of the committee have been very positive about this they say we are going to either have a hearing or we are going to do something for you.

MESSAGES FROM THE MANAGER

Mr. May said Ray McConn is no longer a Board Member as he has resigned and been replaced by Jim McLary as appointed by the Mayor. He said Ray was the last charter member of the board appointed in 1982. He said Ray served 33 years on the Board and was Board Chair during a period of tremendous growth for the organization. He said we have seen a ridership increase 10 fold in the 33 years since Ray started on the Board. He said we are glad to have Jim with us here on the Board and that Jim brings a wealth of transit knowledge and experience from both the public and private sectors. Mr. May said under New Business today is for the Board to nominate and elect a new Chair and of course if the person who is elected is currently holding an office the Board will need to nominate and elect someone for that position. Jim McLary asked

who the current officers were. Mr. May responded Kent McDaniel is the Vice Chairman, Gloria Hasler is the Secretary, and Nancy Obermeyer is the Treasurer.

Mr. May said as Vice Chairman McDaniel mentioned we went to the Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee of the Senate last week and had the hearing on SB 379. He said the General Assembly in recent years has not been very sympathetic to public transportation needs. He said he really appreciates Mark Stoops and his efforts to sponsor this bill which is strictly for Monroe County to provide the local authority for the County Council to raise a County Economic Development Income Tax that would be dedicated to Bloomington Transit. He said that income tax would be somewhere between 0.1 percent to .25 percent. He said it would generate funding in a range of \$2.8 to \$6.9 million annually. He said even though we got through the Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee with a 10-0 unanimous vote, there are still many more hurdles to go. Vice Chairman McDaniel said assuming the bill gets through the Senate, the next step would be to go to the House where we are hopeful we have a sponsor for it. He said it has to be assigned to a Committee it has to be heard in the Committee and then it goes back for Second Reading. The bill can be amended on the floor during second reading and then would go to Third Reading for passage. If the bill passes both Houses in the identical form then it goes to the Governor for his signature. If it gets amended in the House after it has been through Senate, it has to go back to the Senate for concurrence and if they don't concur they have to go to Conference Committee. He said there a lot of hoops to go through still. Mr. May said there is a long way to go at the State level and even if it gets adopted by the State, then the County Council has to adopt it and that in its self would be a challenge. He said there is a long way to go but the first two steps have been accomplished.

Mr. May stated he want to talk to the Board about the substance of how we might potentially use any new funding if the bill is signed into law and approved by the County Council. He said these are things we have identified at the staff level relative to potential transit needs. Mr. May provided a map of the county to Board Members. He said one of Mark Stoops interests is improving service for commuters coming into Monroe County. He said Area 10 initially had some concerns that Bloomington Transit might be competing with Rural Transit for their riders and if that were to be the case that could potentially rob them of State funding which is tied to performance and productivity. He said in order to work constructively with Rural Transit, he proposed to them a pass-thru arrangement whereby Rural Transit service to/from Ivy Tech and Ellettsville rather than BT providing the service in competition with Rural Transit. He said there are three services that he proposes specifically for Area 10 to operate via a funding pass-thru arrangement include enhancing Ivy Tech service, enhancing Ellettsville to/from Bloomington service, and a park and ride service at the boundaries on Monroe County north and south on SR 37. BT could use new funding generated by the bill to add Sunday service on downtown routes, to improve weekday frequencies to every 30 minutes on Routes 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, and to provide service to new geographic areas such as Tapp Road, the S.Rogers/Fullerton Pike area, the N.Walnut corridor, and possible new service to a relocated Bloomington Hospital if such a decision is made to relocate the hospital.

Board Member Cartwright said just thinking ahead on this have you gotten any indications any matrix numbers of some kind about riders at those destinations the extreme northern or southern part of the county that might be interested that has expressed an interest in having this kind of express service. Mr. May said we have not done any in-depth market analysis especially with regard to the Park and Ride service. He said one of the things we have been asked to do is to try

to project ridership on some of these new services. He noted that we will make some general projections in the next few days. Mr. May added that we have a number of unfunded capital needs including \$9.6 million in bus replacement over the next five years. In addition, he noted that we have been wanting to replace aging fare collection equipment so as to introduce swipe cards, 31 day rolling calendar passes, transfer printing on board, and student/faculty pass recognition technology. The cost of replacing fare collection equipment is about \$1.5 million. He said the sum total of all this is roughly about \$6 million dollars in annual recurring operating costs and about \$24 million in capital cost. He said the funding bill if it gets through all the hurdles would generate between \$2.8 to \$6.9 million dollars a year. He said we can provide a lot more service and a lot more accessibility and mobility in this community if this bill comes to fruition.

Vice Chairman McDaniel said the offer to Rural Transit to pass-thru funding is extremely generous and he is optimistic that they will be supportive. Board Member McLary asked if the capital costs included bus replacement and expansion. Mr. May said it is for expansion and replacement. Board Member McLary said the New Tapp Road project has \$600,000 capital cost so that is obviously for one new bus. Mr. May said it is one new bus plus technology as well as shelters, bus stop signs, and benches. Board Member McLary asked if he was proposing to buy hybrid buses. Mr. May said where you see \$600,000 as a capital cost, it represents a single diesel bus which is around \$440,000 with the remainder for technology, shelters, signage, and benches. The Board expressed support for expanding BT and Rural Transit service with any new funding that may be generated if the bill becomes a reality both at the State and County level.

Mr. May said at the last Board Meeting we discussed the potential for having Miller Transportation with their Hoosier Ride Program come into our downtown transit center. He said they have an intercity bus service that operates between Indianapolis and Evansville with daily stops in 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 Miller is very interested in moving their bus stop to the new downtown transit center. He said we have finally reached agreement on the basic terms of an agreement. He said a copy of the agreement is in the Board packet. He said it is revenue generating mechanism for us it would generate a minimum of \$30,000 a year in commissions on ticket sales and freight sales. He said any tickets sold by us we would receive 16 ½ percent commission as well as a 16 ½ percent commission on freight sales. He said we have a minimum commission of \$30,000 if the ticket sales commission doesn't amount to \$30,000 annually. He said Miller has agreed to the terms and conditions of the draft contract that you have before you so tonight. Mr. May asked for the Board's preliminary approval of the draft contract so that we can proceed to forward the contract to FTA for their review and approval. He said the intent is not to use this revenue to hire an additional part-time attendant who would work at the downtown transit center to help with the responsibilities for selling tickets and handling freight sales. Board Member Cartwright asked if Miller currently involved in any freight delivery. Mr. May said the average for Bloomington is about three parcels a day according to information provided by Miller. Board Member Cartwright said so this could open up more. Mr. May responded that Miller had been running the service for a long time and doubt that it would increase significantly. He said they get a little U.S. mail, a little freight and even get some newspaper bundles occasionally. He said people can bring their freight to our Downtown Transit Center if they are shipping a package up to the Greyhound station in Indianapolis or Evansville. We would put the freight on the next Miller bus and whatever the freight charges are we get 16.5 percent as commission. Board Member

McLary asked if they don't go through BT, can they go to Miller directly. Mr. May said for example if you are in Evansville and sending a package to Indianapolis it would be sold in Evansville and we don't get any commission off of that. Board Member McLary said what about here in Bloomington could they go to Miller directly. Mr. May responded that Miller does not have an office in Bloomington so we would be the only source to come to. He said Miller's administrative office is based in Louisville and that is where their main bus garage is. Vice Chairman McDaniel noted that Miller does have an Indianapolis office. Secretary Hasler ask if their buses run 24 hours. Mr. May said no but they do go 365 days a year including service seven days a week and on every major holiday. He said their first bus is around 5:30 a.m. and they go to about 10:00 p.m. He said we told them our downtown transit center is not open 365 days a year and not open on major holidays or Sundays. On such days, they could continue to board passengers there but we are not going to be able to do ticket sales on major holidays or Sundays as people can buy their tickets online. He said most of their ticket sales occur online. He said we do not have anyone staffing our facility on major holidays or Sundays so we would not allow them use to the indoor facility but those passengers could come to our facility and wait outside for the bus. Board Member McLary asked if there was a commission for tickets that are bought online. Mr. May said we have will call tickets and student advantage cards where we get a fixed dollar amount. He said he is not sure what the answer is regarding online sales commissions. Board Member Hasler noted the agreement states that we get 40 percent of regular commission for online sales. Board Member Cartwright asked what kind of ridership volume does Miller run on this run from Evansville. Mr. May said there are about nine buses a day obviously they are not filling up a bus every time they come into Bloomington he is guessing they have 5-10 passengers either boarding or deboarding. Board Member McLary said he had been watching them and he is amazed that they can continue.

Mr. May said some of the other conditions that he wanted to mention was BPTC staff would assist the Miller driver as necessary when boarding or deboarding persons with disabilities where it requires more than one person to provide such assistance. He said Miller would be allowed to install a lighted sign on the exterior of the building at their own expense subject to specifications and in accordance with City sign ordinance. He said Miller would install a phone line at their expense for our ticket sales attendant to answer any questions or inquiries about Miller's service. Board Member Cartwright asked if we would need any change modifications or signage with DoubleMap. Mr. May said nothing major we would probably put the Hoosier Ride display on the overhead DoubleMap sign. Board Member Cartwright said well looking at that southeast corner that is not used now to park and load/unload Miller buses. Mr. May said the electronic signs are already there of course Miller is not on DoubleMap system so you are not going to have the bus tracking feature. Mr. May said under New Business he has a motion to preliminary approve this draft contract and submit it to FTA for their review and approval. Assuming FTA approves, we would bring the final agreement with any changes that FTA might require for your final approval and execution with Miller. He said Miller has told us once the Board approves the final contract that they could be ready to go in 2-4 weeks which should be plenty of time to train our staff on how to do ticketing and freight sales. Board Member McLary asked if Miller is getting Federal 5311 funds. Mr. May said yes as this is a subsidized service by INDOT using the 5311 intercity bus service funding program. He said FTA is subsidizing similar intercity bus services throughout the county.

Mr. May said we have negotiated an agreement with Area 10 in return for letting Rural Transit use our downtown transit center. The agreement features a reciprocal transfer arrangement

whereby each system will honor the others transfers. He said we have had that agreement in place for a number of years now. He said in exchange for that reciprocal transfer agreement we allow Rural Transit to use our downtown transit center. He said Rural Transit was using the old downtown transit center before but we wanted to formally get FTA's blessing on the incidental use arrangement. He said FTA asked to review the agreement and they did make one change to the agreement from what the Board saw previously and that change is in Section 1C. He said this is what FTA calls satisfactory continuing control language that they want to be included. As such we drafted this new section to say that BPTC shall maintain full control over the Downtown Transit Center including all interior and exterior areas owned by BPTC that are used by Rural Transit. He said this new section satisfied FTA's concerns and as you can see Kerry Conway at AREA 10 has already signed the agreement. With the Board's approval tonight we will get the agreement signed by our new Chairman and have it officially finished.

MESSAGES FROM THE CONTROLLER

Controller Browning gave an overview of Resolution 15-01; a resolution authorizing the encumbrance of appropriations from the Calendar year 2014 budget. Ms. Browning explained that the resolution would formally approve the encumbrance of funds that were awarded in 2014 and previous years so that the projects could be paid for in 2015.

PUBLIC COMMENT – ACTION ITEMS

There were no comments from the public.

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

Under New Business, Vice Chairman McDaniel moved to nominate Nancy Obermeyer as Chair of the BPTC Board of Directors to replace Ray McConn. The Board unanimously approved to elect Nancy Obermeyer as Chair of the BPTC Board of Directors.

Also, under New Business, Secretary Hasler moved to nominate Vice Chairman McDaniel as the BTPC representative to the Policy Committee to the MPO. The motion was seconded by Board Member McLary. The Board unanimously approved to appoint Vice Chairman McDaniel as the BPTC representative to the Policy Committee to the MPO.

Under New Business, Board Member McLary moved to nominate Alex Cartwright as Treasurer of the BPTC Board of Directors to replace Nancy Obermeyer. The motion was seconded by Secretary Hasler. The Board unanimously approved to elect Alex Cartwright as Treasurer of the BPTC Board of Directors.

Also under New Business, Board Member Hasler moved to preliminarily approve draft Miller Transportation Agreement and submit to FTA for review and approval. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman McDaniel. The motion was approved unanimously by all Board Members.

Under New Business, Board Member Cartwright moved to approve Resolution 15-01; a resolution authorizing the encumbrance of appropriations from the Calendar Year 2014 Budget.

The motion was seconded by Secretary Hasler. Resolution 15-01 was approved unanimously by all Board Members.

Under New Business, Vice Chairman McDaniel moved to approve Resolution 15-02; a resolution approving the final and revised Interlocal Agreement between the BPTC and the Area 10 Agency on Aging for the use of the Downtown Transit Center. The motion was seconded by Board Member Cartwright. Resolution 15-02 was approved unanimously by all Board Members with the exception of Board Member McLary who abstained.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

MINUTES

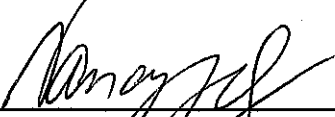
The minutes for January 27, 2015 were presented for approval by Board Member Cartwright and seconded by Secretary Hasler. The minutes were approved unanimously.

CLAIMS

The claims for February 10, 2015 were presented for approval by Board Member Cartwright and seconded by Secretary Hasler. The claims were approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT


APPROVE:



Nancy Obermeyer, Chairman
Board of Directors BPTC

2-24-15

ATTEST:



Gloria Hasler, Secretary
Board of Directors BPTC