

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING - BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC  
TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION (BPTC) JULY 20, 2021, 5:30 P.M.  
MINUTES**

Chair Obermeyer convened the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bloomington Public Transportation Corporation. The meeting was held with some members attending in-person and some via a virtual electronic means.

Join Zoom Meeting at the following link:

<http://us02web.zoom.us/j/83769106684?pwd=K3dIRXFQTVmQmEzVnloOHFyZVo2UT09>

Meeting ID: 837 6910 6684

Passcode: 387124

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**ROLL CALL**

Board Members and staff present: Chair Nancy Obermeyer, Vice Chair Kent McDaniel, Board Member Marilyn Hartman, Secretary James McLary and Board Member Doug Horn. Also present were Lewis May, General Manager, Christa Browning, Controller, Brenda Underwood, Director of Human Resources and Marketing, Zac Huneck, Planning and Special Projects Manager and Eli McCormick, Customer Service Manager/BT Access Manager, Mike Clark, Operations Manager, Allen Jackson, Maintenance Manager.

Members of the Public: Dave Askins, B Square Beacon, Jarrod Varner - First Transit, Korbin Figg - First Transit, Steve Sherrer - RATP Dev, John Connell - RATP Dev.

## PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS

There were no petitions and communication on non-action items.

### MESSAGES FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Secretary McLary stated the he would like to discuss the management contract as the first item. We have representatives of both companies here and we would like to move that up on the agenda if that's acceptable with the rest of the Board. The Board concurred with Secretary McLary's request. He noted the evaluation committee to select our new contract management company and our general manager has met. We received three proposals. One proposal we ruled basically after the first level of evaluation that they were really non-responsive. So it came down to two different companies, RATP Dev and First Transit. We had a meet and greet with the staff, the input was extremely valuable to us. We took that into consideration as we deliberated, we appreciate all the input from staff. We had further discussions with the companies and managers today, to try to come to a decision. The evaluation committee's recommendation is to continue with RATP Dev for the next management contract.

Secretary McLary asked if the Board wanted to open it up to discussion, or if Board Member Hartman wanted to make a motion. Board Member Hartman made a motion to enter into negotiations with RATP Dev. She said we do believe we should have some modifications to some of the initial terms that we were discussing. We hope at the next board meeting to introduce an ordinance that would be approving a contract. Board Member Hartman noted that she felt either of the candidates would have served the Board well. Board Member Horn proposed the committee continue their work and negotiate the contract. The proposal was accepted by informal consensus. The Committee members agreed to work to bring forward a contract for Board consideration. The motion was seconded by Board Member Hartman. The motion was approved unanimously.

### MESSAGES FROM THE MANAGER

Mr. May noted the ridership in June was about 2,500. That is up 31% compared to what we carried in June 2020. That is about 50% of typical ridership for this month in non- pandemic times. He noted it is also typical of what you're seeing at other transit systems around the state.

Average weekday ridership per month since the pandemic began is shown in the table below:

<b>MONTH</b>	<b>2020/2021 Average Weekday Ridership</b>	<b>2019 Average Weekday Ridership</b>
January	12,487	12,183
February	16,922	14,740
March (thru spring break)	10,736	9,618

March (post spring break)	1,503	14,746
April	1,266	14,081
May	1,399	5,651
June	1,913	5,051
July	1,990	4,779
August	2,630	8,213
September	3,627	17,028
October	3,562	16,672
November	3,039	14,494
December	2,147	11,656
January 2021	2,298	12,487
February 2021	3,330	16,922
March 2021	3,543	7,798
April 2021	3436	1266
May 2021	2667	1399
June 2021	2506	1913

In Monroe County in the past two weeks there has been a small uptick in positive cases, which has to do with the variant that's starting to predominate here and in other communities around the country. Mr. May noted we resumed fare collection for the first time in more than a year, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>. We also opened the downtown transit center and the Grimes Lane facility to the public as well. We resumed front door boarding on our fixed route buses. He added that the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) requires passengers must continue wearing masks on the buses. As of now the mask mandate for mask is through September.

Mr. May stated the next item on the agenda are the service concepts for serving the new IU Health Hospital when it opens in mid-November. He said our proposal is to create a temporary new route that would originate from the Downtown Transit Center using 10<sup>th</sup> Street as its primary east/west means of travel to the new hospital. The route would be temporary. He anticipates implementing the route optimization study service changes sometime in 2022 and service changes would provide a long term route to serve the new hospital.

Zac Huneck, Planning and Special Projects Manager gave an over view of the new concepts and all the detail's for serving the new IU Health Hospital and he also gave an overview on the new On Demand Service as well. Mr. Huneck described a proposed plan to replace Route 8 Eastside Local with On Demand Service that could potentially be operated using Uber, Lyft, and possibly other service providers. Mr. Huneck summarized details associated with the On Demand Service including a \$1.00 passenger, a maximum subsidy of \$14.00 per trip with the customer paying any amount in excess of \$15.00 per trip, Monday through Saturday service, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. service hours, and a service area of 2.8 square miles which includes areas within ¼ mile of the existing Route 8. Trip origins and destinations would both have to be located in the defined service area. Mr. May noted there will be a public hearing to receive public comment on the proposal to replace the east side local with On Demand Service on July 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the downtown transit center.

Mr. May stated next on the agenda is the budget. He noted some of the highlights are starting on the personnel side. We've included a full year implementation of the route optimization study recommendations. He noted there have been additional service hours built into the proposed 2022 budget to cover the additional service hours associated with the proposed service changes. Mr. May noted that we have budgeted for a new road supervisor position as part of the 2022 budget. Mr. May noted that supply and services portion of the budget consists of diesel fuel, which will increase by 17% since fuel is running significantly higher than it was a year ago. He said we have included additional funding to continue the proposed pilot program for the new On Demand Pilot Service. Mr. May noted that insurance and risk management cost are estimated to increase about 21 percent. He also noted an increased budget for electricity because of new charging stations for electric buses. He added outside legal services has been added to the budget for 2022 under the services section of the budget. Mr. May summarized the capital elements in the proposed 2022 budget including \$4.3 million for four (4) battery electric buses and charging stations, \$150,000 for 2 BT Access vehicles, \$100,000 for bus stop improvements, \$80,000 for support vehicle replacements, \$80,000 for replacement of oil/water separators, \$50,000 for building security enhancements at Grimes Lane, \$40,000 for replacement of diesel fueling pumps, \$30,000 for automation replacement at Grimes Lane, and \$30,000 for bus camera additions in the rear of fixed route buses. Mr. May gave an overview of all the grants we received for some of the capital items in the budget. Controller Browning gave an overview of revenue line items in the proposed 2022 budget. Mr. May noted that a final budget would be presented to the Board at the August meeting which upon Board approval would go to the City Council for review and approval.

Mr. May stated next on the agenda is a Procurement update. He noted our advertising contract expires at the end of the year. Our current contract is a company known as Mesmerize. An advertising RFP has been issued and proposals are due in about 10 days. Mr. May asked if anyone on the board would like to serve on the evaluation committee with staff. Board member Horn agreed to serve on this committee with staff. Secondly, Mr. May noted we have an RFP that's been issued to conduct an alternative fuels and infrastructure assessment study. Proposals are due on July 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. May asked if there were any Board members interested in serving on this evaluation committee and Secretary McLary agreed to serve on the committee.

Mr. May stated we will do a soft launch of the two new electric buses in the next week or so. He said the maintenance staff and drivers have been trained. There will be a formal launch event where we will have some public fanfare, cutting the ribbon on these two buses. We will have a date and time for that in the near future.

Brenda Underwood, Human Resource Administrator/Marketing Director noted we currently have 17 job vacancies, 12 of those are for fixed route driver positions, 5 are maintenance positions, 2 mechanics, 1 service position which is for preventative maintenance and 2 service attendants. The month of June we hired 1 fixed route driver, our job fair on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> did not produce any candidates. Hiring signs are being installed on 38 buses. We will continue advertising on all platforms.

Zac Huneck, Planning and Special Projects Manager presented the June Operating Statistics. Fixed route ridership was up 29 percent in June 2021 compared to June 2020. The gradual recovery from the pandemic is the primary reason for the increase. Year-to-date fixed route ridership is down 56 percent compared to the same period last year. BT Access ridership was up 67 percent in June 2021 compared to the same period last year. Copies of the June operating statistics are included in your packet.

### **MESSAGES FROM THE CONTROLLER**

Controller Browning gave an overview of the June Financial Report as included in the Board packet. Ms. Browning also presented BPTC's proposed DBE program and goal of 2 percent for the three-year period of 2022 to 2024.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT-ACTION ITEMS**

No messages from the public.

### **NEW BUSINESS-ACTION ITEMS**

Vice Chair McDaniel made a motion to approve Resolution 21-18 establishing the BPTC's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program, and setting the three-year goal for the DBE Program at two percent for the three-year period 2022 to 2024. The motion was seconded by Board Member Horn. The motion was approved unanimously.

Vice Chair McDaniel made a motion authorize staff to move forward with implementation of a temporary route 10 starting November 2021 to serve the new Regional Hospital. The motion was seconded by Secretary McLary. The Motion was approved unanimously.

Secretary McLary made a motion to authorize staff to solicit interest from service providers for On Demand Service motion was seconded by Vice Chair McDaniel. The motion was approved unanimously.

Board Member Hartman made a motion to enter into negotiations with RATP Dev for a management contract. The motion seconded by Secretary McLary. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**MINUTES**

The minutes for the June 15, 2021 meeting were presented for approval by Board Member Horn and seconded by Board Member Hartman. The minutes were approved by all Board members.

**CLAIMS**

The claims for July 20, 2021 were presented for approval by Board Member Horn and seconded by Vice Chair McDaniel. Claims were approved by all Board Members.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**APPROVE:**

  
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Nancy Obermeyer, Chair  
Board of Directors BPTC

08-17-2021

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James J. McLary, Secretary  
Board of Directors BPTC

08-17-2021