

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION (BPTC) February 15, 2022 5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Chair McLary 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/83193668081?pwd=WU9sNmVuMWVwTEZlNWktSIF0Y0ljdz09>

Meeting ID: 831 9366 8081

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ROLL CALL

Board Members and staff present: Secretary Nancy Obermeyer, Board Member Marilyn Hartman, Board Member Doug Horn. Also present were General Manager, John Connell, Controller, Christa Browning, Planning and Special Projects Manager, Zac Huneck, Human Resource Administrator/Marketing Director, Brenda Underwood.

Members of the Public: Dave Askins, B Square Beacon,

The following additional persons were also present via Zoom. Chair, Jim McLary, Vice Chair, Kent McDaniel, Customer Service Manager/BT Access Manager, Eli McCormick and Andrew Coomer

OLD BUSINESS

Chair McLary stated the first order of business is Resolution 21-30; a resolution approving an Inter-local Cooperation Agreement between BPTC and Indiana University.

Mr. Connell stated that he has revised and updated the current agreement to reflect the new dates and new rates for a January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022, agreement with IU Campus Bus. The monthly maximum fee increases from \$88,597 to \$90,812, retroactive January 1, 2022. He noted this represents a 2.5% increase from the previous agreement. Credit will continue to be issued for scheduled service not provided. The cleaning, fueling & bus fees increases by 2.5% from \$45,825.46 to \$46,971.09, consistent with the increase in wages for service attendants. Mr. Connell said exhibit 1 of the contract details the hours of service BT will provide as part of the agreement. Snow removal service fee increases 10% from \$250 per occurrence to \$275 per occurrence, not to exceed \$2750. BT will provide limited weekend dispatch services as part of the agreement. The agreement has been reviewed and approved by City Legal.

Chair McLary questioned the dispatch rate. He stated there is no rate and asked if it was included the fixed fee. Mr. Connell noted it is included in the fixed fee.

Vice Chair McDaniel made a motion to approve Resolution 21-30; a resolution approving an Inter-local cooperation Agreement between BPTC and Indiana University. Boardmember Hartman seconded it. The Board approved unanimously.

General Manager John Connell stated, included in the board packet is a draft of the scope of work that will be included in the RFP for assistance with the development of the Strategic Plan. Mr. Connell noted he would like for the board to review the draft so any concerns, additions or modifications they have can be discussed before the final RFP is released. Vice Chair McDaniel asked for clarification on what the difference is between the Transportation Development Plan and the Strategic Plan and how soon we have to do another TDP, would it be possible to combine the efforts? He asked instead of hiring two consultants and doing two jobs can we do both at once? Chair McLary stated that his understanding is that there are two different documents. He said the TDP is more of an operations plan like we did with the route optimization study. Chair McLary said he feels the strategic plan is a longer range plan. Mr. Connell stated he will look into and see if there is a possibility of combining the two and discuss it in the future. Chair McLary stated he would not be in favor of doing them both at the same time because they are two different documents.

MINUTES

The minutes for the January 18, 2022 meeting were presented for approval by Board Member Horn and seconded by Board Member Hartman. The minutes were approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS-ACTION ITEMS

Board Member Hartman made a motion to approve Resolution 22-04, a resolution changing the authorized signatory on the BPTC's accounts. Board Member Horn seconded it. The board approved unanimously.

MANAGER AND STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Connell gave an update on the electric Buses. He stated the good news is, bus 2190 has been in service a significant time longer than it's been out of service. Bus 2189 is still struggling, but has gotten a little better, we have had two good weeks with the buses without any major disruptions. He said we are still continuing to work with Gillig every week to discuss performance issues. They have committed to get us into a stabilization period.

Mr. Connell briefed the board on the snow and severe weather we encountered in February. He stated BT services were reduced on Thursday, February 3rd and again on Friday, February 4th, due to severe weather conditions, particularly ice and snow. He said it is always a difficult decision whether to cancel, delay or suspend service due to weather. Mr. Connell noted with the addition of the SMS technology (texting service) it was a big help communicating with BT employees and keeping them updated on service changes. He said he and the staff held a debriefing session on the events of the two snow days in order to fine tune our approach to similar events in the future. Planning and Special Projects Manager, Zac Huneck analyzed the ridership data from the two snow days as part of our debriefing exercise. The results are listed below.

BT Cost Per Trip

	Rev Hours	Cost Per Hour	Daily Cost	Passenger Trips	Cost Per Trip
Wed	342.2	\$73.92	\$25,295.42	1100	\$3.12
Thu	265.5	\$73.92	\$19,625.76	1132	\$17.34
Fri	142.0	\$73.92	\$10,496.64	1195	\$4.78

Passengers Per Hour

	Wed	Thu	Fri
Route 1	8.2	4.0	9.9
Route 2	11.1	6.3	16.9
Route 3	17.9	7.5	21.3
Route 4	9.4	3.9	7.0
Route 5	12.3	3.3	4.8
Route 6	43.8	2.4	29.2
Route 7	17.2	3.3	
Route 8	7.3	1.1	7.9

Route 9	44.6	3.0	58.2
Route 10	12.8	2.8	5.5

Mr. Connell stated that operating on a modified Saturday schedule on Friday seemed a success. It allowed for additional time for BT employees to get to work and allowed time for the road crews to plow and prep the roads. He said this approach balanced cost of service with reduced ridership demand.

Mr. Connell stated that he wanted to discuss a few of the projects of the subcommittees. The IT Innovations, planning and development subcommittees, Board Member Horn and Chair McLary are assigned to this committee. RATP Dev will be starting the technology assessment on Thursday morning. They're using their experts that they are contracted with and they will be doing an assessment of what our existing infrastructure consists of. Mr. Connell said he will talk with them about what our wishes are for future projects. Mr. Connell noted that there will also be a representative from the City participating in the meeting.

Mr. Connell noted the next committees are the Alternative Fuel and Infrastructure subcommittee, Secretary Obermeyer and Board Member Hartman are assigned to this committee. The WSP study are looking into the benefits of battery electric versus CNG and hydrogen fuel cell. He said that is being done as we speak. Mr. Connell said in the next 30-45 days they plan on coming here to do a site visit to assess our existing facility. Mr. Connell said he has made arrangements for himself, Planning and Special Projects Manager, Zac Huneck and Fleet Maintenance Manager, Alan Jackson to take a tour of a hydrogen fuel cell station in Champagne-Urbana Illinois on Monday, to check out their technology.

Mr. Connell stated the next subcommittees are the Personnel, Finance Administration, Vice Chair McDaniels and Board Member Hartman are assigned to this committee. Mr. Connell said we just approved the contract with IU. He noted this is the first one that was negotiated in the context of cost per hour. He said in the contract it also stated that we agreed to do the next negotiations process by the end of the month. Mr. Connell gave an overview of future subjects that need to be discussed.

Planning and Special Projects Manager Zac Huneck stated as of January of this year we provided 152,000 trips, which is 182% over from January last year. BT Access provided 1739 trips last month. BT Access is up 50% from last year.

Controller Browning gave an overview of the January financial report as included in the Board packets.

Human Resource Administrator/Marketing Director Brenda Underwood gave an overview of the January Personnel Report. Brenda stated we had an employee from the downtown location resign. She said the two girls at the downtown location rearranged their hours to cover his position. It is working out very well. She said we lost a fixed route driver. We hired a BT Access driver, he decided the job was not for him, he resigned. Brenda noted she did interview a good candidate for the mechanic position, we are waiting on his background screening to come back. She also interviewed for a service attendant position for the garage and are waiting for his background screening. Brenda said we are implementing a portion of our recruiting program at the end of the week or by the first of next week, which includes radio recruiting. Mr. Connell noted there will be three different radio spots that will air.

Board Member Horn gave a brief overview of the MPO policy committee meeting which met on February 11th. On the agenda was the election of new officers. The new Chair is Steve Volan, and Vice Chair is Lisa Ridge. He said from our MPO staff we received a report that the transportation improvement programming request for fiscal year 2026 from our MPO have been approved by the state. Included in its corresponding statement, transportation improvement program budget. That is still waiting approval.

CLAIMS

The claims for January 18, 2022 were presented for approval by Board member Horn and seconded by Board Member Hartman. The claims were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Andrew Coomer questioned if the City was going to fix a traffic light between 3rd street and Eastland Plaza? Mr. Coomer said the timing of it is causing traffic to back up. Chair McLary noted that Bloomington Public Transit does not have control of traffic signals. Board Member Horn suggested he talk to the Department Of Public Works.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member Hartman commented that she thought the operation under the weather related reductions were excellent. She suggested the Board have Mr. Connell relate that to all the drivers and employees. Chair McLary thought the communication and getting the word out to everyone was excellent.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

James J. McLary 3-15-22
James J. McLary, Chair
Board of Directors BPTC

Nancy Obermeyer 3-15-22
Nancy Obermeyer, Secretary
Board of Directors BPTC