

River Valley Metro Mass Transit District
January 26, 2010
Minutes

Chairman Hinderliter called the regularly scheduled River Valley Metro Board of Directors meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

Attending Board Members: Chairman David Hinderliter, Treasurer Mark Regel, Secretary Jerry Pearce, and Board Members Norman Grimsley, Carole Franke and Kelly St. Aubin, absent: Vice Chairman Jaclyn Dugan-Roof.

Staff Members Present: Managing Director; Robert Hoffmann, Recording Secretary and Director of Marketing; Michelle Brutlag, Director of Maintenance Ron Johnson and Director of Finance and Grants; Lois Bentley.

Others Present: Mike Lammey (Kankakee County Planning Department), Ginger Doll (First Transit)

Pledge of Allegiance: David Hinderliter led the Metro Board and others in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public with Business to Come Before the Board: None

Consent Agenda: Carole Franke made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Jerry Pearce seconded the motion. A voice roll call was taken with all in favor. Motion carried. Consent agenda approved.

Communications:

Chairman's Report:

Today the Secretary of Transportation deemed it inappropriate to text while driving a bus or train. This is a policy that River Valley Metro has had in effect for some time now.

The Kankakee Regional Chamber of Commerce is organizing a group to visit Washington on March 17 – March 19 to meet with legislators on the infrastructure needs in our area. Metro will also present a package of their needs to the legislators and an opportunity to discuss the reauthorization SAFETEA-LU. Let us know if anyone is interested in attending. Currently Jerry and Mark are going and anyone else is welcome. Deadline to sign up is 2/10.

Managing Director's Report:

December ridership was 56,674 a 23.17% increase over last December. Annual ridership is 382,979, a 21.36% increase over the same time last year.

The reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU is very important to Metro. It is the discretionary funds for capitol that currently IDOT determines how money is dispersed with no guidelines. As an industry we would like this to be formula based to the under 200,000 population systems. Encourage anyone to attend, it would be of benefit to all. Trying to get as big of a presence as possible.

Rob is a Board Member on the Illinois Public Transportation Association on the legislative committee. Last week met with comptroller – Governor has place public transportation on a high priority for payments. That looks good, but rest of news is pretty scary. Between March and May the State has to pay \$2.25 billion payment (moneys they borrowed to pay debt last year). If do not pay they will not be able to borrow anymore funds. This is on top of the \$5.5 billion in limbo now.

Have requested moneys from second stimulus and state is looking at a stimulus looking package as well. We have applied for vehicles for University Park service, two transfer stations (Kankakee and Bradley) and \$900,000 to improve accessibility at 200 bus stops.

New Business:

NONE

Old Business:**UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS:**

- Generator in final stages - then will need Village of Bourbonnais and Cat review and approval.
- Roof – Next step is sheeting
- Fencing – Need a few modifications that were not in the contract, but up and running and some minor issues with software and tracking
- Cameras – correcting a few minor issues.

ROUTE CHANGES

Changes discussed last month (minor revisions, UP changes to Metro Centre, addition to service area) will take effect on February 1st. All but about 15 signs are in place. The remaining signs will be in place by the end of the month.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION OFFICER

Need to appoint a Freedom of Information Officer for River Valley Metro to take training for any requests for information. Our recommendation is Amanda Taylor be selected, because it would be very unlikely that there would be any request that she had any personal input on, so she is a neutral party on staff. Mark Regel made motion to appoint Amanda Taylor to be the Freedom of Information Officer for River Valley Metro. Jerry Pearce seconded the motion. A voice roll call was taken with all in favor. Motion carried. Amanda Taylor has been appointed the River Valley Metro Freedom of Information Officer.

Questions from the news media: None

Other Business to Come Before the Board: Motion made to move into executive session to discuss contract negotiations and potential litigation. Motion made by Carole Franke and seconded by Kelly St. Aubin. A voice roll call was taken with all in favor. Motion carried.

Adjourned to Executive Session at 3:21 pm

Returned to regular session at 4:15 pm

Mark Regel made a motion to approve the proposal from Transit Resource Center for up to \$13,000.00 for technical assistance regarding the 2007 and 2008 International Bus fleet. Motion seconded by Jerry Pearce. A voice roll call was taken with all in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn by Mark Regel, seconded by Jerry Pearce, and a unanimous yes vote of members, meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.