

MINUTES - FOX CITIES TRANSIT COMMISSION
May 25, 2016

Commissioners Present

Chairperson Chuck Rundquist
Vice Chairperson Kyle Lobner
Bob Buckingham
Carol Kasimor
George Dearborn
Jeff McCabe
Joel Gregozeski
Larry Carey
Linda Stoll
Aldersperson Matthew Reed
Rick Detienne
Sonia Barham
Travis Parish

Commissioners Excused

Carolyn Mewhorter
Trish Nau

Valley Transit Staff

Daniel Sandmeier, Interim General Manager
Debra Ebben, Administrative Services
Manager
Nikki Voelzke, Community Relations
Specialist
Amy Erickson, Paratransit Coordinator
Lisa Laughlin, Communications Technician
Morgan VanDeurzen, Marketing Intern

Others Present

Emily Truman, Assistant City Attorney

Chairperson Chuck Rundquist called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

There was a brief introduction of the new commission member, Larry Carey.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no question or corrections to the minutes of the April 27, 2016 meeting, Commissioner Bob Buckingham moved that the minutes be approved which was seconded by Commissioner Linda Stoll. The minutes were approved (12/0).

Commissioner Joel Gregozeski arrived at 3:01 p.m.

APPEARANCES

Public Participation on Agenda Items

Mr. Ed Miller of Grand Chute made a public appearance with suggestions to improve ridership and information supplied to riders through Valley Transit's Riders Guide and advertising.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Payments

Administrative Services Manager, Deb Ebben presented the check register for the period 04/17/16 through 05/18/16. There being no questions or discussion of the items on the check register, a motion was made by Commissioner Joel Gregozeski and seconded by Commissioner Kyle Lobner to accept the payments 04/17/16 through 05/18/16. The motion carried (13/0).

Authorization to Award a Contract to Lamers Bus Lines for the Provision of Downtown Trolley Service

Interim General Manager, Daniel Sandmeier reported that the 2016 Downtown Trolley Service contract with Lamers Bus Lines would remain at the 2015 rate of \$72.29 per hour. A motion was made by Commissioner Rick Detienne and seconded by Commissioner Kyle Lobner to award a contract to Lamers Bus Lines for the provision of Downtown Trolley Service. The motion carried (13/0).

Octoberfest Fares

At the April 2016 Fox Cities Transit Commission meeting the commission requested that Valley Transit staff review a variety of options for the level of fare collection associated with Octoberfest. After reviewing all the options Valley Transit recommended continuation of the Octoberfest fares at \$0.25. A motion was made by Commissioner Rick Detienne and seconded by Commissioner Linda Stoll continue Octoberfest fares at \$0.25. The motion carried (13/0).

INFORMATION ITEMS

Approval to Exercise Option Year Two for New Hope Contract for the Provision of Ancillary Paratransit Service

Mr. Sandmeier reported that Valley Transit and New Hope Center have agreed to exercise the second option year at the current price of \$2.11/mile.

April Ridership and Revenue

Mr. Sandmeier reported that April ridership was following national trends. At the end of April ridership was down 6.6% year-to-date. Mr. Sandmeier believes that the lower gas prices and increased employment are contributing factors for lower ridership. The year-to-date revenue is up 1.1% over 2015.

April Financials

Ms. Ebben reported that Valley Transit remains under budget in both revenue and expenses.

Valley Transit Summer Programs

Community Relations Specialist, Nikki Voelzke gave a brief summary of the events Valley Transit will be sponsoring for the summer of 2016. Ride and Read begins in June and runs every Wednesday June through August. The lunchtime concert series will continue again this year. Local bands will be performing at the Transit Center every Wednesday June through August. The Trolley will also be returning this year. The Trolley will operate Thursday and Friday evenings and all day Saturday June through Octoberfest Saturday. Mile of Music, Mile 4 will be held August 4 – 7 with the “band bus” running Thursday through Saturday, 1:00 – 11:00 p.m. Valley Transit will also have a bus and a historical display at the Appleton Juneteenth Celebration held Sunday, June 19th at City Park.

Manager’s Report

Mr. Sandmeier reported that management is working on some route redesign & detour issues. The detour on route 16 going to North High School seems to be working well. With the Thompson Center closing many of the programs have moved to St. Bernadette’s. A detour on route 11 similar to the route 16 detour may need to be implemented to accommodate the relocation of these programs.

Mr. Sandmeier addressed the question of expanding route 12 to Grand Chute Town Hall. At present it would mean 3 additional service miles, 8 minutes per loop with no convenient place to turn around and substantial route restructuring. Valley Transit will monitor the growth in the area.

Mr. Sandmeier shared that Valley Transit has come from 3rd place to win the Most Improved Safety Record Award in our division with Transit Mutual Insurance.

Pending Items

There are no new pending items.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 22, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mr. Daniel Sandmeier, Interim General Manager