

**MINUTES— FOX CITIES TRANSIT COMMISSION**  
May 14, 2014

**Commissioners Present**

Chairperson Chuck Rundquist  
Vice Chairperson Carolyn Mewhorter  
Aldersperson Kyle Lobner  
Aldersperson Christine Williams  
Bob Buckingham  
Carol Kasimor  
Lynn Erickson

**Valley Transit Staff**

Deborah Wetter, General Manager  
Sal LaPuma, Assistant General Manager  
Nikki Voelzke, Community Relations Specialist  
Amy Erickson, Paratransit Coordinator  
Lisa Laughlin, Communications Technician

**Commissioners Excused**

Rick Detienne

**Others Present**

Chris Behrens, Assistant City Attorney

Chairperson Chuck Rundquist called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

There being no questions or corrections to the minutes of the April 23, 2014 meeting, Commissioner Carolyn Mewhorter moved that the minutes be approved which was seconded by Aldersperson Kyle Lobner. The minutes were approved (7/0).

**APPEARANCES**

**Public Participation of Agenda Items**

There were no public appearances.

**Public Hearing – Connector Fare Increase to \$4.00 for Extended Service Area and \$6.00 for Extended Service Hours**

There was no public participation on this agenda item.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Approval of Payments**

General Manager, Deborah Wetter presented the check register covering 04/10/14 through 05/06/14 for questions and comments. A motion was made by Aldersperson Kyle Lobner and seconded by Commissioner Carol Kasimor to accept the payments 04/10/14 through 05/06/14. The motion carried (7/0).

**Expansion of Transit Commission Membership**

Deborah Wetter presented the recommendation to approve the expansion of the Transit Commission to 15 permanent seats. This expansion would take effect 45 days after approval by the Appleton Common Council. Alderspersons Kyle Lobner and Christine Williams expressed concern that there needs to be some education for the new members regarding Valley Transit. Commissioner Chuck Rundquist reiterated that the new members should have a genuine concern about public transportation in the Fox Valley. Ms. Wetter explained that a number of the municipalities already have people lined up to take a seat on the Transit Commission and that they are aware of many of the issues facing Valley Transit. A motion was made by Commissioner Carol Kasimor and seconded by Commissioner Carolyn Mewhorter to accept the

expansion of Transit Commission membership. The motion carried (6/1 Lobner).

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **Strategic Planning – Technical Memo #1**

Ms. Wetter presented the Strategic Plan – Technical Memo #1 which is an analysis of the existing service. The memo contained demographics of our community, an overview of Valley Transit, peer system assessment, transit funding and recommendations from previous plans.

#### **Discussion – “What is the biggest issue for Valley Transit today?”**

Commissioner Chuck Rundquist posed the question and wanted to know if we have a common and obtainable goal(s) and what must we do to reach them.

The RTA remains a goal for this commission and education of the funding necessary to maintain the public transportation system in the Fox Valley that binds our communities together. We need to raise the sensitivity of this issue to our elected state and local representatives.

There was discussion on the need to make the community leaders and public officials more aware and knowledgeable of the complexity and value of public transit. Communication about our product and education about what our product can do is still vitally important.

Ridership remains essential to the sustainability of public transit and how to get people to make the choice to use public transportation.

#### **Legislative Update**

Ms. Wetter reported that there are no legislative updates at this time.

#### **Pending Items**

Ms. Wetter reported that there are no new pending items.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 28, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, .....



Mrs. Deborah Wetter  
General Manager