

**KALAMAZOO TRANSIT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Minutes of August 27, 2007**

Members Present: Chairperson Carol Fricke, Vice Chair Donna Treloar, Garrylee McCormick, Elizabeth Forest, Michael Gregor, and Andy Havice

Members Absent: Reuben Richardson

City Commission Liaison: Bobby Hopewell, Vice Mayor (Absent)

Technical Support Members Present: William Schomisch, Transportation Director (Absent)
Carmine Lewis, Assistant Transportation Director

City Administration Member Present: Beth A. Sowles, Administrative Office Specialist

Guests: Richard Atwell, KCTA Chair, Paul Ecklund, Jack McKempson, Linda Teeter, Diane Kempen, Terry Kuseske, Greg Rosine, and Char Sumney, KCTA Board
Dale Hein, KCTA Project Manager
Michelle McGowen, LAC Chair
Patricia and Ralph Brigance
Bob Schellenberg

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Fricke called the regular meeting of the Transit Authority Board of Directors to order at 5:35 pm.

ROLL CALL

Chairperson Fricke requested a motion to excuse the absences of Mr. Reuben Richardson.

Mr. Havice made a motion to excuse the absences of Mr. Richardson and was supported by Ms. Forest. Motion carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTIONS

The Board members introduced themselves to the guests in attendance.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGNEDA ITEMS

None

ISSUES/ITEMS FOR CITY MANAGER/CITY COMMISSION

The Assistant Transportation Director identified the items that had been to the City Commission, as identified on the Agenda.

Ms. Lewis gave an update on the Care-A-Van service. Mr. Havice asked if the drivers being hired would become members of the Union. Ms. Lewis stated that Pride Care drivers are members of the Teamsters.

Ms. Lewis stated that the Kalamazoo City Commission approved the 2008 Millage Ballot Question Request and it will be on the ballot in the fall.

ACTION ITEMS

Meeting Minutes of July 23, 2007

The minutes were accepted with no changes.

Ms. Treloar made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of July 23, 2007, as presented and was supported by Mr. McCormick. Motion carried unanimously.

Income and Expense Statement – July 2007

Ms. Lewis presented the July Income and Expense Report. Revenues have increased due to commissions from KTC and the fare increase from last year.

Mr. McCormick made a motion to approve the July 2007 Income and Expense Statement and was supported by Ms. Treloar. Motion carried unanimously.

Revised Ridership Analysis Report – July 2007

Ms. Lewis presented the ridership report in total stating that ridership has increased over last year even with less service on the street.

Ms. Forest made a motion to approve the Revised July Ridership Analysis Report and was supported by Mr. Gregor. Motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation of a Child Care-A-Van Fare

Ms. Lewis stated that the LAC has recommended a Care-A-Van child fare. No child fare program has existed in the past. The children who ride with their parents are getting older and the parents requested a lower rate for their children. The LAC is recommending children 6-17, pay a \$3.35 fare, when accompanied with their parent. When riding unaccompanied the fare would be \$10. This does not apply to disabled students. Chair Fricke stated that the LAC is recommending this for Transit Authority Board approval.

Ms. Forest inquired if disabled parents could have their children ride with them and drop them off at the babysitters and then have the parents continue on. Ms. Lewis explained that the two trips would be considered separately.

Mr. Gregor asked what ridership is like for individuals under the age of 17. Ms. Lewis explained that she did not know the statistics for that, but would attempt to locate that information. Ms. Lewis stated that the child fare issue affects one individual currently. Mr. Gregor asked if the individual is disabled and between ages 6-17, would they receive the disabled fare. Ms. Lewis stated that was true.

Mr. Gregor made a motion to approve the Child Care-A-Van Fare and was supported by Mr. McCormick. Motion carried unanimously.

Appointment of Ms. Virginia Jo Carpenter to LAC

Ms. Lewis stated that the LAC has requested the Transit Authority Board to appoint Ms. Carpenter to the LAC. Ms. Treloar asked if the fact that Ms. Carpenter is blind doesn't also make her disabled. Ms. Lewis stated that the spot Ms. Carpenter is filling is that of Senior Representative.

Chair Fricke announced that the LAC was holding a special meeting on Wednesday, August 29th at 2:30 pm in the Metro Transit Conference Room.

Ms. Treloar made a motion to approve the Appointment of Ms. Virginia Jo Carpenter to the LAC and was supported by Mr. McCormick. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Care-A-Van Update

Mr. Gregor asked when the contract ends with Pride Care. Ms. Lewis stated that the contract terminates on June 30, 2009.

Federal/State Funding Update

Ms. Lewis stated that there is nothing new to report on federal funding. State funding will decrease slightly by 3% over 2007 projections.

Diesel Fuel Update

Ms. Lewis presented the diesel fuel purchase information. Mr. Gregor asked if the information for bio-diesel could be added for future meetings.

Drug and Alcohol Program Update

Ms. Lewis stated that Metro Transit is awaiting federal approval to be in compliance. Mr. Gregor asked about a final report. Ms. Lewis assured him that it would be forthcoming.

Proposed Marketing Campaign for New Routes

Ms. Lewis stated that KCTA was given revised campaign.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Routing Changes on September 4th

Ms. Forest asked if the new schedules were out. Ms. Lewis stated that all new schedules were now available.

Wheelchair/Lift Ramp Incident Report – July 2007

Mr. Havice asked if this was for fixed route service only or if Care-A-Van was included also. Ms. Lewis reported that it was only fixed route.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Robert Schellenberg stated that he was a former Care-A-Van driver. He worked for TMI and worked for Pride Care when they first took over the contract. Mr. Schellenberg is now working for Kalamazoo Schools. He states that his belief is that TMI was a better company to work for as far as how employees were treated. States that the Teamsters Union will rebut the report given by Mr. Schomisch.

Patricia Brigance stated that she was a Care-A-Van driver and on strike. Ms. Brigance drove for TMI for 5 years and Pride Care for 2 years. She has enjoyed work and misses the clients. States she was told that five new drivers have been trained and are ready to drive. Ms. Brigance asks if they have a CDL or if they are van drivers.

Ralph Brigance stated that he does not work for Pride Care, but possesses a CDL. Mr. Brigance stated that individuals are driving without a passenger endorsement on their CDL. He states that Pride Care placed an individual driving a bus that had failed the passenger endorsement.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business presented before the Transit Authority Board of Directors at their formal meeting dated Monday, August 27, 2007, Chairperson Fricke adjourned the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Mr. McCormick made a motion to approve the proposed route modifications and was supported by Mr. Gregor.

Beth A. Sowles, Recording Secretary

Date: August 27, 2007