

MINNESOTA VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
Regular Board Meeting  
October 25, 2006 – 4:30 p.m.  
Eagan Bus Garage

**Board Members Present:**

William Droste, Rosemount  
Tom Egan, Dakota County  
Margaret Schreiner, At Large  
Meg Tilley, Eagan  
Jane Victorey, Savage  
Ruth Grendahl, Apple Valley  
Jon Ulrich, Scott County

**Others Present:**

Beverley Miller, Executive Director  
Dan Krom, Dakota County TWG  
Wally Lyslo, At Large Alternate  
Troy Beam, Scott County TWG  
Barb Ross, Best & Flanagan  
Lois Spear, Finance Officer  
Michael Abegg, Planner  
Robin Selvig, Customer Service Manager  
Tom Bright, Facilities Manager  
Glenn Boden, Fleet Maintenance Manager  
Tom Knier, Laidlaw Transit  
Connie Massengale, Schmitt & Sons  
Jon Hohenstein, City of Eagan  
Theresa Olson, TKDA  
Larry Morgan, TKDA  
Max Donath, U of M ITS  
Craig Shankowitz, U of M ITS  
Tom Lovelace, Apple Valley TWG  
Pam Snopl, U of M Photographer

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 p.m. by Chair William Droste.

**II. Public Comments**

There were no comments from the public.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

Item VII. D (New Business, Introduction of new MVTA Fleet Maintenance Manager) was added to the agenda. Motion by Margaret Schreiner and seconded by Ruth Grendahl to approve the agenda as revised. Motion carried.

**IV. Consent Agenda**

Motion by Margaret Schreiner and seconded by Jane Victorey to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried. Resolutions adopted as part of the Consent Agenda are attached to these minutes.

**V. Old Business**

*A. Cedar Grove*

Beverley Miller introduced Terry Olsen of TKDA, who was on hand to review the status of the Cedar Grove project. She reviewed the timeline that has been established, and she talked about phasing the project in as needs change. First would be acquisition of property, then a surface lot, with a second and/or third level to follow as needed. Last step would be the on-line BRT Station. Financial constraints

were of concern, as there is funding through the Cedar Avenue project for capital, but there are no operating costs for the project, yet. Terry stated that they were looking for information from the Board that this is an appropriate direction to be taking. Most Board members were in agreement. There were a few questions and then the Board took action. Further, the Board requested that a similar presentation be made to the Eagan City Council and that the Council issue a resolution of support for the project. Motion by Meg Tilley and seconded by Ruth Grendahl approving the concept presentation on the Cedar Grove project, requesting that a letter be sent to the City of Eagan to conduct a presentation on the project to the Eagan City Council, and requesting that the City of Eagan adopt a resolution of support for the project. Motion carried. Meg Tilley will work to schedule the item on the Eagan Council agenda, upon receipt of a specific request from the MVTA.

*B. Bus Disposal*

Michael Abegg reviewed a memo that was distributed to Board members regarding disposal of scrap buses. He said these buses were previously retained for parts, but is now merely carcasses and need to be scrapped. A request for bids was issued, but there were no respondents. At this point, the MVTA believes the best option is for the providers to negotiate the disposal and get the best price. Any profits would be given to the MVTA. Any costs, would be paid by the MVTA. It is anticipated that it may cost up to \$2,000 to scrap the buses. Motion by Margaret Schreiner and seconded by Ruth Grendahl to approve scrap buses # 6040, 6050, 4060 and 4080. Motion carried. The Board also suggested MVTA come back with a policy that would allow staff to conduct this type of transaction without having to come before the Board. Staff will proceed with this direction.

**VI. Staff Reports / Update**

There were no staff reports or updates.

**VII. New Business**

*A. Purchasing Policy*

Beverley Miller briefly reviewed the request that the Board adopt a Purchasing Policy, with redundant language to be omitted from the version included in the packet. Motion by Margaret Schreiner and seconded by Tom Egan to adopt the Purchasing Policy. Motion carried.

*B. Bus Procurement*

Michael Abegg provided background information to the Board regarding a pending procurement of buses from Gillis Corp via the procurement under way by the Duluth Transit Authority. The procurement involves the purchase of nine buses at a total cost of \$3.1 million, with funding to come from the Met Council. Margaret Schreiner was concerned about the titling of the buses, but MVTA staff believes that the benefit of having the Council hold the titles outweighs the costs. Motion by Margaret Schreiner and seconded by Ruth Grendahl approving the purchase of the nine buses, adopting an intergovernmental agreement with Duluth Transit Authority (DTA) and an agreement with Gillig Corporation, and requesting an agreement from the Met Council to cover the cost of the new buses. Motion carried.

*C. Introduction of New Staff Member*

Beverley Miller introduced Glenn Boden, MVTA's new Fleet Maintenance Manager, providing some information about his background and asking the Board to welcome him to the staff. She also expressed appreciation to Michael Abegg for performing many of the tasks that will be reassigned to Glenn in the past few years.

*D. Technology Demonstration*

Michael Abegg talked briefly about the "techno bus" and then introduced Max Donath of the U of M Intelligent Vehicles Laboratory to discuss the project a bit more. Some of the underlying GPS technology was discussed (including the degree of accuracy to 10 centimeters). Mr. Donath then introduced Craig Stankowitz, who covered a brief power point presentation and short video segment showing the technology in use on the bus. He reviewed what riders would see when we ride the bus, traveling on the bus-only shoulders between Highway 13/Cedar and Old Shakopee Road, then south to Palomino Dr. Funds committed to the project include \$100,000 from the U of M Intelligent Vehicles Lab, \$100,000 from Hennepin County (Cedar runs through the County) and a third \$100,000 from a yet-to-be determined source. The MVTA would be the first operational test of this technology, which has the interest of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Metro Transit previously operated the "techno" bus, but their priorities have shifted to light rail and other projects. The MVTA jumped in to keep the project moving.

**VIII. Adjournment**

Motion by William Droste and seconded by Meg Tilley to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m. Motion carried. Attendees adjourned to take a ride on the "techno" bus

**Minutes Prepared By: Robin L. Selvig**

**Next Regular Meeting Scheduled: Dec. 13, 2006, 4:30 p.m. Eagan Bus Garage**

All regularly Scheduled Board Meetings will be held on the **FOURTH** Wednesday of the month at the posted time and location unless otherwise notified.

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_