

MINNESOTA VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Regular Board Meeting
January 24, 2007 – 4:30 p.m.
Eagan Transit Station

Board Members Present:

Meg Tilley, Eagan
William Droste, Rosemount
Ruth Grendahl, Apple Valley
Margaret Schreiner, At Large
Bryan Tucker, Savage
Will Branning, Dakota County
Jon Ulrich, Scott County

Others Present:

Beverley Miller, Executive Director
Michael Abegg, Planner
Barb Ross, Best & Flanagan
Tom Knier, Laidlaw Transit
Robin Selvig, Customer Relations Manager
Lois Spear, Finance Officer
Wally Lyslo, At Large Alternate
Tom Bright, Facilities Manager
Samantha Porter, Operations Manager
Connie Massengale, Schmitt & Sons
Glenn Boden, Fleet Maint. Manager
Tom Pepper, Eagan TWG

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair William Droste.

II. Election of Officers

Motion by Meg Tilley and seconded by Will Branning to elect Jon Ulrich as Chair. Motion carried. There being no further nominations, motion by Will Branning and seconded by Ruth Grendahl to cast a unanimous ballot for Jon Ulrich as Chair. Motion carried.

Motion by Jon Ulrich to elect Meg Tilley as Vice Chair. Motion by William Droste to elect Elizabeth Kautz as Vice Chair. There being no further nominations, Motion by Will Branning and seconded by Margaret Schreiner to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Meg Tilley as Vice Chair. Motion carried.

Motion by Meg Tilley to elect Elizabeth Kautz as Secretary. There being no further nominations, Motion by Meg Tilley and seconded by Ruth Grendahl to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Elizabeth Kautz as secretary. Motion carried.

Motion by Margaret Schreiner and seconded by Meg Tilley to elect Ruth Grendahl as Treasurer. There being no further nominations, Motion by Margaret Schreiner and seconded by Meg Tilley to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Ruth Grendahl as treasurer. Motion carried.

Meg Tilley announced that Margaret Schreiner would continue as the At-Large commissioner and Wally Lyslo as the At-Large alternate commissioner.

The sign-up sheet for committee assignments was passed around the room. It was noted that there should be at least three Board members per committee. It was noted that Elizabeth Kautz would like to serve on the same committees in 2007 as she served on in 2006.

III. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Two changes were made to the agenda: the STA Legislative Agenda was changed from a “decision” item to an “Informational” item. Also a third item was added regarding a hearing in Burnsville on Feb. 7. Motion by William Droste and seconded by Meg Tilley` to approve the agenda as revised. Motion carried.

V. Consent Agenda

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

VI. Old Business

A. Approve Agreement for 157th St. Station

Beverly Miller commented that she added a couple of items to the resolution accepting the property for the 157th St. Station. The agreement indicates that the property will revert to Dakota County if the MVTA no longer uses it for transit purposes. Ms. Miller indicated that the MVTA intends to operate service from the site unless there is no operational funding or access is limited/eliminated to the site. According to Barb Ross, the agreement is written broadly enough to cover these situations. Motion by Margaret Schreiner and seconded by Ruth Grendahl to accept the property from Dakota County per the resolution. Motion carried.

B. Accessibility Policy

The accessibility policy was brought back before the Board because no action has taken place by the Metropolitan Council. It was suggested that language be changed that the providers establish a policy regarding non-conforming devices, to remove liability by the MVTA. Motion by Margaret Schreiner and seconded by Meg Tilley to adopt this policy. Motion carried. It was asked that the provider policies be brought back to the Board for informational purposes, at a future meeting.

VII. New Business

A. Approve Quit Claim Deed with Shelter Corp.

Barb Ross discussed the Quit Claim Deed for the Savage Park & Ride, indicating that Shelter Corp was to file for tax exempt status, but did not. The property was re-assessed, and the taxes are now \$25,000. They have since filed for tax-exempt status, but would like to turn the property over to MVTA for the \$25,000 figure. Motion by Margaret Schreiner and seconded by Meg Tilley to accept the property. Motion carried.

B. Approve Agreement with BRKW for Appraisals

Motion by Will Branning and seconded by Meg Tilley approving agreements with BKRW and Gergen Associates for appraisals and a review appraisal of property at 140th & Cedar and the Watson’s property at 155th & Cedar. Motion carried.

C. Approve Engine Contract

Michael Abegg reviewed the need for engine replacements for six buses acquired in 1999. The MVTA received bids for the replacements and installation of the engines, and recommends authorizing purchase orders for purchase of engines from Boyer Ford Minneapolis and installation of same by Boyer Ford of Savage. Motion by Ruth Grendahl and seconded by Meg Tilley to approve this purchase. Motion carried. The purchase will be covered by the master lease agreement between the MVTA and the Met Council.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. STA

The Board discussed the STA Legislative Agenda, but did not adopt it as it will become part of the discussion at the Board’s Strategic Planning Session on Jan. 31. Margaret Schreiner noted that there is one key item for Suburban Transit Association Providers this year, and that is to get the funding formula into state statute, rather than have the funds disbursed by the Metropolitan Council.

B. Strategic Planning Committee

Beverley Miller distributed information regarding the Strategic Planning Session scheduled for 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 31. It will be facilitated by Teresa Daly of the Prouty Group in Eden Prairie. Instructions on how to reach The Prouty Group offices were also distributed. MVTA staff will be carpooling, or could arrange for a bus, so any Board members wishing to join this group should contact Beverley Miller or Robin Selvig as soon as possible. Motion by Margaret Schreiner and seconded by William Droste to approve the proposal from The Prouty Group to lead the MVTA Board in a Strategic Planning Session. Motion carried.

C. Upcoming Legislative Hearing

The Board discussed an upcoming legislative hearing in Burnsville on February 7. Beverley Miller will prepare comments for any elected official who wishes to testify. Beverley will also be prepared to testify.

IX. Staff Reports / Update

A. Driver of the Year

The 2006 Drivers-of-the-Year were announced, with the dinner after the February Board meeting at Casper's Cherokee Sirloin Room in Eagan. Winners are: Liban Hassan of Laidlaw Transit and Bob Gangloff of Schmitt & Sons. Damon Banks, Operations Manager of Laidlaw Transit will also receive a special recognition award for his service to the MVTA and the transit industry.

X. Adjournment

Motion by William Droste and seconded by Meg Tilley to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Minutes Prepared By: Robin L. Selvig

Next Regular Meeting Scheduled: Feb. 28, 2007, 4:30 p.m. Casper's Cherokee Sirloin Room, Eagan, followed by Driver of the Year awards dinner

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: _____