

MINNESOTA VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Regular Board Meeting
October 22, 2008 – 4:30 p.m.
Eagan Bus Garage

Board Members Present:

Elizabeth Kautz, Burnsville
William Droste, Rosemount
Tom Lovelace, Apple Valley
Margaret Schreiner, At Large
Will Branning, Dakota County
Meg Tilley, Eagan
Jon Ulrich, Scott County

Others Present:

Beverley Miller, Executive Director
Michael Abegg, Planning Manager
Troy Beam, Scott County
Barb Ross, Best & Flanagan
Lois Spear, Finance Officer
Steve Mielke, Lakeville Administrator
Robin Selvig, Customer Relations Manager
Shaun Morrell, Planner
Tom Pepper, Eagan TWG
Samantha Porter, Operations Manager
Glenn Boden, Fleet Maintenance Manager
Tom Bright, Facilities Manager
John Strachota, BWBR
Doug Wild, BWBR
Connie Massengale, Schmitt & Sons

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chair Elizabeth Kautz.

II. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Margaret Schreiner and seconded by Meg Tilley Branning to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

IV. Consent Agenda

Item IV. C (snowplow agreements) was pulled from the Consent Agenda. Motion by Margaret Schreiner and seconded by Tom Lovelace to approve the balance of the Consent Agenda. Motion carried. Meg Tilley asked a question about snowplowing at Highway 13 and Silver Bell Road, where bus riders have to cross Highway 13 to get to businesses and there are no sidewalks in Eagan. Staff will review again and develop a recommendation for the Board. Motion by Meg Tilley and seconded by Margaret Schreiner to approve the snowplow agreements. Motion carried. Resolutions adopted as part of the Consent Agenda are attached to these minutes.

V. Old Business

BBG Garage Study - Doug Wild and John Strachota of BWBR reviewed the Garage Study commissioned in August. An analysis of fleet growth indicates a shortage of bus storage capacity that grows through year 2018. BWBR reviewed the Brady Building to determine if it were a feasible site for bus storage and maintenance, and it was determined that it was. Then,

estimated projects costs were reviewed for the Brady Building, for an addition/upgrade to the Burnsville Bus Garage and an addition to the Eagan Bus Garage. Of the three, it was determined EBG expansion is the most cost effective. The Finance Committee will be convened to determine how best to proceed (COP, finance part of the cost of a building, use of 5309 or fund balance dollars). All Board members will be invited to participate in this Finance Committee Meeting.

VI. New Business

Lane Guidance system simulator - Michael Abegg reported on the bid opening for the driver training simulator and explained the process for reviewing information. At this time, due to the difference in bid amounts, there is insufficient information to offer an award recommendation, so staff will be before the Board at a later time with a recommendation.

VII. Committee Reports

A. STA

Margaret Schreiner gave the STA Report, noting that following the process for professional services vendor, STA decided to go out to the market to consider other consultants for the STA provider's needs. Interviews were conducted with four firms. The group felt they were unable to make a decision, so additional interviews will be conducted on Friday, Oct. 31 following the STA Board meeting. Will Branning indicated that he could attend, should it be necessary.

Ms. Schreiner also reported on the meeting with Peter Bell that took place at Burnsville City Hall on Oct. 14. The MVTA Board was well represented, and several area legislators were also in attendance.

Jon Ulrich reported on the Met Council rumors that CMAQ applications may be removed from TAB approval to Met Council approval. Beverley Miller will share this information with the other Executive Directors. Mr. Ulrich requested an analysis of the impact of such a change, and he will share that with the MVTA Board when it is received. Commissioner Ulrich also noted that Scott County is developing a legislative strategy for dealing with the Met Council in addition to state and federal governments. Will Branning noted that Dakota County does not have a separate legislative strategy for the Met Council.

It was suggested that the Strategic Planning committee meet to begin to flush out legislative priorities to be forwarded to STA. The committee will be convened.

Will Branning also reported that Dakota County had its quarterly meeting with the Met Council and one of Chair Bell's thoughts was to turn over paratransit services (i.e., DARTS, Metro Mobility) in the region over to the Counties. This is just for initial discussion. Commissioner Branning and Executive Director Beverley Miller spoke of the Dakota County Regional Rail Authority Cedar Avenue BRT workshop held on Oct. 21. Branning indicated he was especially appreciative for Beverley Miller bringing the need for IT components for the Cedar Avenue BRT to the table for discussion. Funding will be sought to address this need.

VIII. Staff Reports

Steve Mielke reported on the status of activities in Lakeville. Conceptual designs for the park & ride in Lakeville on the I-35W side have been reviewed. Site selection continues on the Cedar Avenue side, with the County taking the lead in this effort. Neither of the two property owners has expressed a willingness to sell at this time.

Beverley Miller reviewed the UPA project milestones document. She noted that environmental reviews are continuing for Eagan, and distributed the latest design drawings for the Apple Valley Transit Station. Motion by Margaret Schreiner and seconded by Meg Tilley to support the UPA projects. Motion carried.

IX. Adjournment

Motion by Meg Tilley and seconded by William Droste to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Minutes Prepared By: Robin L. Selvig

Next Meeting Scheduled: (Worksession) November 19, 2008, 4:30 p.m. Eagan Bus Garage

Next Regular Board Meeting: December 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the 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: _____