

MINNESOTA VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Regular Board Meeting
January 27, 2010 – 4:30 p.m.
Eagan Bus Garage

Board Members Present:

Elizabeth Kautz, Burnsville
Gary Hansen, Eagan
Sharon LaComb, Apple Valley
Will Branning, Dakota County
Jane Victorey, Savage
Jon Ulrich, Scott County
William Droste
Wally Lyslo

Others Present:

Beverley Miller, Executive Director
Tom Pepper, Eagan TWG
Tom Lovelace, Apple Valley TWG
Lois Spear, Finance Officer
Robin Selvig, Customer Relations Manager
Michael Abegg, Planning Manager
Tom Bright, Facilities Manager
Glenn Boden, Fleet Maintenance Manager
Samantha Porter, Operations Manager
Connie Massengale, Schmitt & Sons
Sam O'Connell, Dakota County
Dan Schmitt, Schmitt & Sons
Bill Forboard, Schmitt & Sons
James Strommen, Kennedy & Graven

I. Call to Order

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

The Oath of Office was administered to new Board member from Apple Valley, Sharon LaComb.

II. Election of Officers

Jon Ulrich nominated Will Branning as chair. There were no further nominations. Motion by Jon Ulrich and seconded by William Droste to elect Will Branning as Chair of the MVTA Board for 2010. Motion carried.

Will Branning nominated Gary Hansen as vice chair. There were no further nominations. Motion by Will Branning and seconded by Jon Ulrich to elect Gary Hansen as Vice Chair of the MVTA Board for 2010. Motion carried.

Gary Hansen nominated Jane Victory as treasurer. There were no further nominations. Motion by Gary Hansen and seconded by William Droste to elect Jane Victorey as Treasurer of the MVTA Board for 2010. Motion carried.

Gary Hansen reported on behalf of the Cities of Apple Valley, Burnsville and Eagan announcing that Wally Lyslo would serve as the At-Large Board member for 2010. He also indicated that he heard from Margaret Schreiner that she is no longer able to serve on the Board, the Cities of Apple Valley, Burnsville and Eagan suggested that the Cities of Rosemount and Savage consider someone from their communities who could be appointed

the At-Large Alternate Commissioner. Until that review is completed, the At-Large Alternate Commissioner position will remain open.

Gary Hansen nominated Wally Lyslo as secretary. There were no further nominations. Motion by Gary Hansen and seconded by William Droste to elect Wally Lyslo as Secretary of the MVTA Board for 2010. Motion carried.

The sign-up sheet for committee assignments was passed around the room. It was noted that the Board will focus on two committees in 2010 – Finance and STA. Other committees will be convened on an ad-hoc basis, as needed.

The Board recessed at 4:37 p.m. to take a ride on the Double Decker bus that the MVTA has for demonstration purposes. The Group toured to the Cedar Grove Transit Station and then up to the 28th Avenue Park & Ride. The Board reconvened at 5:18 under the leadership of new Chair Will Branning.

III. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Elizabeth Kautz and seconded by Gary Hansen to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

V. Consent Agenda

Item H – Apple Valley Layover Study – was pulled from the Consent Agenda. Motion by Elizabeth Kautz and seconded by Jane Victorey to approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda. A roll-call vote followed:

Elizabeth Kautz – Aye	Wally Lyslo – Aye	Jon Ulrich – Aye
William Droste – Aye	Gary Hansen – Aye	Chair Will Branning – Aye
Jane Victorey – Aye	Sharon LaComb – Aye	

Motion carried. Resolutions adopted as part of the Consent Agenda are attached to these minutes.

Bill Droste raised questions about the need for the Apple Valley Layover study, given that there is extra property on the former Watson’s site and at the old transit station. Beverley Miller indicated that the MVTA owns neither of those sites (Watson’s parcel is owned by Met Council; old AVTS is owned by City of Apple Valley). Both are looking at development opportunities on these sites and the MVTA wants to have this study done (to be funded as part of the Cedar Corridor study) before these sites are repurposed. Motion by Elizabeth Kautz and seconded by Jon Ulrich to approve the study. A roll-call vote followed:

Elizabeth Kautz – Aye	Wally Lyslo – Aye	Jon Ulrich – Aye
William Droste – Aye	Gary Hansen – Aye	Chair Will Branning – Aye
Jane Victorey – Aye	Sharon LaComb – Aye	

Motion carried.

VI. Old Business

A. Motion by William Droste and seconded by Wally Lyslo to adopt the Board's 2010 meeting calendar, with meeting locations determined through March 2010. At the March meeting, the Board will determine if it wishes to continue to meet at the Eagan Bus Garage or if it would like to rotate meetings between Burnsville and Eagan Bus Garages. These meetings locations would be noticed, posted at the sites and on the MVTA web-site.

Motion carried.

B. Mike Abegg explained the need to purchase buses for the pending express service from the new Cedar Grove Transit Station, slated to begin in September. The MVTA is exercising options for buses contained in the Gillig procurement and that are slated to be funded by CMAQ dollars. Motion by Elizabeth Kautz and seconded by Gary Hansen to authorize a purchase order for two buses. A roll-call vote followed:

Elizabeth Kautz – Aye	Wally Lyslo – Aye	Jon Ulrich – Aye
William Droste – Aye	Gary Hansen – Aye	Chair Will Branning – Aye
Jane Victorey – Aye	Sharon LaComb – Aye	

Motion carried.

C. Michael Abegg also reported that the Service Investment Strategy “Context Review” will be delayed until the February meeting, but he does not believe that will significantly impact the schedule and no additional information has been received from the Met Council regarding their needs.

D. Jim Strommen reported on his review of the Lakeville Cedar Contract. He has spoken with an attorney at Met Council and is expecting a response to the MVTA issues/questions by the end of the week. He understands that it is important to resolve this agreement so the MVTA can begin billing for the service that has been operating since September.

E. Operations Manager Samantha Porter and Fleet Maintenance Manager Glenn Boden distributed some information about the status of the Regional AVL implementation. They discussed some of the ongoing issues and struggles with the implementation, including unknowns regarding ongoing costs, installation issues, high failure rates and concerns about how to deal with buses being down due to AVL issues. It was determined that the 2009 Ad-Hoc Committee will be reconvened to review meeting Regional AVL Meeting Minutes as well as to conduct a fact-finding meeting and a future plan of action will be determined.

VII. New Business

Beverly Miller alerted the Board of a grant submittal the MVTA is preparing regarding an expansion of the Eagan Bus Garage, which is needed to accommodate the expansion buses that the MVTA has secured funding to procure in the next few years. Also, it was

noted that this grant submittal needs to be included in the MVTA CIP. Funds would be awarded directly to the MVTA rather than through the Met Council. Conversations are continuing regarding acquisition of property. The Board approved the grant submittal and the update of the CIP.

VIII. Committee Reports

Beverley Miller reported that STA is working on the final version of the legislative agenda. Also, meeting with legislators have started – Sen. Doll has held an information session regarding governance issues and Sen. Doll and Rep. Hornstein have continued that discussion with plans to introduce legislation in 2011.

IX. Staff Reports / Update

There were no questions regarding the UPA Change orders.

Michael Abegg addressed the Board on three update items: working with partners at the University of Minnesota and Harris County, TX, it has been determined that one of the Bus 2.0 vehicles containing the new technology will be on display at the Annual ITS conference in Houston in May. Additionally, work is proceeding on the restructuring of local service in conjunction with the opening of the Cedar Grove Transit Station. He commented that the MVTA received significant input on proposed changes. Finally, he commented on the Cedar Avenue Transitway Implementation Plan Update and noted that in reviewing the service plans it appears that there is a lot of detail on local feeder bus service and he has concerns about the level of detail, given that it will fall to the MVTA to implement. Further, he indicated that some of the findings are not being driven by the ridership modeling, but only by the initial ridership information. MVTA staff will continue to work with other staff regarding these issues, but he wanted the Board apprised of these concerns.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Minutes Prepared By:

Robin L. Selvig

Next Regular Meeting Scheduled: Feb. 24, 2010, 4:30 p.m. Mediterranean Cruise Café in Burnsville, 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: _____