

DATE: March 29, 2012  
TO: Board Members unable to attend March 28 Regular MVTA Board meeting/TWGs  
FROM: MVTA  
RE: Meeting Summary

Here is a meeting summary of the MVTA March 28, 2012 regular meeting of the MVTA Board of Directors. Supplemental materials and meeting hand-outs are posted at [http://www.mvta.com/MVTA\\_Board.html](http://www.mvta.com/MVTA_Board.html).

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m. by Chair Gary Hansen. A quorum was present.
2. There were no public comments. One item was added to the agenda: Staff Reports / Updates Item c. regarding the BRT Station Stops on Cedar Avenue. The agenda and the Consent Agenda were then approved.
3. Former State Senator John Doll and Michael Zukowski of Ameresco were introduced and provided some background on performance-based contracting. Sen. Doll indicated that performance-based contracting is a tool to save money. A company such as Ameresco conducts an audit of facilities and develops a detailed plan with a guaranteed savings. If the savings don't come to fruition, it is Ameresco's responsibility to make up the difference. If the savings are in excess of the guarantee, the MVTA would benefit. The "savings" are comprised from grants, rebates and efficiencies gained from capital improvements. Examples include lighting retrofits and heating, ventilating and cooling efficiencies.
4. Gov. Mark Dayton issued an executive order in April 2011 to help job creation through energy efficiency and established a goal of a 20 percent reduction in energy costs in public buildings using performance contracting. Federal programs are also in place, and most recently, Sen. Al Franken has been suggesting a reduction in energy costs by retrofitting public and private buildings in Minnesota as a job creation tool.
5. Ameresco has worked with several transit agencies on a national level. A sample "letter of authorization" was provided to MVTA attorney James Strommen. MVTA staff will review this information and report back at the next Board meeting. MVTA Board member Jon Ulrich said Scott County conducted this type of analysis and Burnsville TWG Steve Albrecht said the City did, as well. He said the city did not implement all of the proposed savings plans, but are doing so as funding opportunities are available. Several Board members (Droste, Branning, and Hansen) indicated this sounded like a good program as long as it did not require too much time from MVTA staff.
6. Lois Spear presented information about the MVTA's purchase of four low-floor Arboc buses. This is a new style bus for the MVTA and is a 16-passenger, 2-wheelchair vehicle based on a GMC chassis on a cutaway-style bus. It is low-floor and kneels and is expected to save a lot of time by not having to deploy the lift for mobility riders. This will be a demonstration project and MVTA will collect data to share with the region as it considers these vehicles for the Metro Mobility fleet.



7. Motion by Will Branning and seconded by Bill Droste to purchase the four Arboc low-floor buses off the State Contract at a cost not to exceed \$526,000. Motion carried on a unanimous roll-call vote.

8. Michael Abegg presented information regarding the change order to the Nova Bus BRT Station-to-Station service procurement. He indicated that there are frequently items to finalize after the initial purchase for buses is placed. This was more significant than some due to the number of issues that were outstanding when the purchase order was placed, including seating styles and the external paint scheme. These are all items that are not part of the state contract and there are funds available in the budget for these items. Motion by Bill Droste and seconded by Steve Albrecht to approve the change order. Motion carried on a unanimous roll-call vote.
9. Beverley reminded Board members of the STA Legislative Committee meeting at 9 a.m. on Monday, April 2. She indicated that there is a lot of activity at the Legislature. Rep. Beard had a hearing on his bill to change the governance of the Met Council, the distance-based fare increase was not approved (but it is likely that the Met Council will study fare increase opportunities this year) and the Met Council has asked the STAs to consider helping with support for the bonding bill.
10. Expenses approved by the Executive Director were included in the Board packet, and Beverley provided a brief update on the status of the Rosemount Transit Station to be completed later this year. There will be a ground-breaking event during Leprechaun Days the last full week of July.
11. Jon Ulrich asked about when he could notify MVTA of his staff alternate (to be Troy Beam). Jim Strommen indicated that the revised JPA has not yet been adopted while waiting for a final decision from Dakota County. Will Branning noted he asked that membership in the MVTA be placed on the agenda in April.
12. Bruce Nordquist, Community Development Director for the City of Apple Valley addressed the Board and provided a letter that was sent to Will Branning as Chair of the Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority (DCRRA). This letter concerned the BRT station-stops along Cedar Avenue at 140<sup>th</sup> and 147<sup>th</sup> after a meeting with Met Council, Dakota County and City of Apple Valley staff last week. He noted that Apple Valley (with business support) is in favor of the complete build-out of the stop at 147<sup>th</sup> St., including the pedestrian overpass, in order to meet ridership expectations and safety concerns. He said the City of Apple Valley will continue to work with its partners to achieve the best possible station design along the corridor.
13. Robin Selvig distributed a flyer reminding Board members of the Strategic Plan Workshop from **8:45-1:15 on Thursday, April 5** at the Holiday Inn in Eagan (2700 Pilot Knob Road – at the intersection of Corporate Center Drive).
14. Motion by Tom Lovelace and seconded by Bill Droste to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 25 at 4:30 p.m. at the Burnsville Bus Garage.