

MINNESOTA VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Regular Board Meeting
April 25, 2018 – 4:30 p.m.
Burnsville Bus Garage

Board Members Present:

William Droste, Rosemount
Bob Coughlen, Savage
Gary Hansen, Eagan
Chris Gerlach, Dakota County
Clint Hooppaw, Apple Valley
Jay Whiting, Shakopee
Kevin Burkart, Prior Lake
Dan Kealey, Burnsville

Others Present:

Luther Wynder, MVTA Executive Director
Jim Strommen, Kennedy and Graven
Bob Crawford, Elko New Market
Joe Morneau, Dakota County
Tom Lovelace, Apple Valley
Casey McCabe, Prior Lake
Troy Beam, Scott County
Josh Feldman, Eagan
Jen Lehmann, MVTA
Aaron Bartling, MVTA
Steve LaFrance, MVTA
Tania Wink, MVTA
Heidi Scholl, MVTA
Nene Israel, MVTA
Kyle Adahl, MVTA
Patricia Timmons, Elko New Market
Bill Forbord, Schmitt & Sons
Connie Massengale, Schmitt & Sons

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m. by Chair William Droste. A quorum was present.

II. Public Comments

MVTA Public Information Manager Richard Crawford noted that copies of MVTA's new Strategic Plan had been distributed to board members for them to distribute to representatives of member agencies.

Kyle Adahl, new MVTA IT Specialist, was introduced to the board by MVTA Public Information Manager Richard Crawford.

Nene Israel, new MVTA Grants Management Analyst, was introduced to the board by MVTA Finance Manager Tania Wink.

III. Approval of Agenda

MVTA Board Chair William Droste noted that there were no changes to the agenda.

IV. Consent Agenda

A Motion by Jay Whiting and seconded by Dan Kealey to approve the Consent Agenda. A roll call vote was taken.

Droste – Aye

Hooppaw – Aye

Burkart – Aye

Kealey – Aye

Coughlen – Aye

Whiting – Aye

Hansen - Aye

V. Old Business
None

VI. New Business

A. Eagan Transit Station – Parking Structure 2018 Repairs

Heidi Scholl, MVTA Procurement and Contract Manager, and Steve LaFrance, MVTA Facilities Manager, presented information regarding repairs needed for Eagan Transit Station. An assessment of the parking structure at Eagan Transit Station was completed in mid-2017 by Walker Restoration Consultants. A variety of repairs was recommended to be completed in 2018 for regular upkeep of the parking structure.

MVTA requested bids for the repairs and received eight bid responses and deemed three non-responsive.

Cy-Con, Inc. was the low responsive and responsible bidder with an amount for 2018 parking structure repairs at \$154,490.

Motion by Hansen and seconded by Hooppaw to approve. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Droste – Aye		Gerlach - Aye
Hooppaw – Aye	Kealey – Aye	Whiting – Aye
Burkart – Aye	Coughlen – Aye	Hansen - Aye

VII. Committee Reports

A. STA Report

Luther Wynder, MVTA Executive Director, provided an update on the status of legislation pertaining to Route 495 – Suburb-to-Suburb Demonstration Project. Wynder said a House bill includes \$3.5 million to support the service -- \$2.5 million in capital funding for buses and \$1 million in operational costs. Wynder said he is continuing to provide information to legislators regarding Route 495 in support of moving the legislation forward. Wynder noted that ridership on the route has seen good growth in a short period of time. Commissioner Jay Whiting asked whether the public-private partnerships the route has generated have influenced legislative support. Wynder said the partnerships have influenced some legislators but not all of them.

B. Remix Software

Jen Lehmann, MVTA Planning Manager, provided information on the Remix Scheduling software. In January 2017, MVTA contracted with Remix to use its planning product. Using the Remix software, MVTA staff were able to reduce the amount of time and use new features when planning routes. The tool allowed planners to quickly develop service scenario cost estimates.

Remix Scheduling offers a variety of benefits to MVTA, including:

- User-friendly interface minimizes training time and learning curves.
- The system is web-based, which reduces intensive upgrade and installation efforts.
- Service efficiencies can be found in quickly blocking trips and testing scenarios.
- Future development potential exceeds that of MVTA’s legacy system.

Remix representatives are confident they can expand development of Remix Scheduling for use by MVTA. The contract proposal calls for MVTA to use operating funds to cover a 2018 payment of \$37,500. The ongoing pay structure calls for additional payments of \$37,500 in January 2019, \$90,000 in August 2019, and \$110,000 in August 2020. MVTA has placed safeguards in the contract language that would withhold future payments until Remix has provided and executed system to MVTA and MVTA has tested the data and is satisfied with product outcome.

Motion by Whiting and seconded by Burkart to approve a contract with Remix. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Droste – Aye		Gerlach - Aye
Hooppaw – Aye	Kealey – Aye	Whiting – Aye
Burkart – Aye	Coughlen – Aye	Hansen - Aye

VIII. Board and Staff Reports

A. 35W Service additions and 35W Marketing Update

Jen Lehmann, MVTA Planning Manager, gave an update regarding MVTA service changes that will take place in conjunction with 35W construction this summer.

MVTA’s priorities include maintaining existing service and trip times and will add vehicles to help ensure trip times start on schedule.

MVTA also will be adding parking capacity in Burnsville by extending select Route 460 trips to the Heart of the City Park and Ride and new Route 416 will begin July 2 at Eagan Transit Station that will avoid 35W construction and connect commuters to Blue Line Light Rail.

MVTA Public Information Manager Richard Crawford said MVTA has produced 35W construction flyers and is partnering on a 35W construction brochure with Metro Transit. The brochure will be displayed at high-visibility locations in the Minneapolis skyway as well at other Metro Transit outreach events.

MVTA also will be advertising on 35W billboards in June and July encouraging commuters to use public transit.

MVTA is sharing 35W construction messaging with member cities and at outreach events. A high priority will be to market the new Eagan route and additional parking capacity in Burnsville.

B. DCTC Possible Extension Update

MVTA Executive Director Luther Wynder notified the board that MVTA staff had a meeting scheduled for April 27 to examine details of a possible extension of Route 420 to serve Dakota County Technical College.

C. First Quarter Ridership Report

MVTA Planner Aaron Bartling updated the board on first quarter ridership.

Total ridership for the quarter was 687,179, a decrease of 2.8 percent from the same quarter in 2017. Possible reasons for the decline include:

1) Several snow storms that resulted in school closures/downtown congestion and nearly a quarter ridership loss on multiple days;

2) Super Bowl VII - MVTA ran reduced schedules and experienced slightly lower ridership in the days leading up to the Big Game.

Average daily weekday ridership during quarter: 10,153

Average daily weekend ridership during the quarter: 1,445

IX. Adjournment

A Motion was made by Jay Whiting and seconded by Dan Kealey to adjourn the meeting at 5:26 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes Prepared by: Richard Crawford

Next Regular Meeting Scheduled Wednesday, May 30, 4:30 p.m., at Burnsville Bus Garage, 11550 Rupp Drive, Burnsville.

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: May 30, 2018