

TransitMaster/Regional AVL Meeting

Burnsville Transit Station

April 7, 2010

11:00am

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Name	Organization	Phone
Will Branning	MVTA	612-790-5840
Bill Droste	MVTA	651-280-5630
Wally Lyslo	MVTA	952-894-1583
Beverley Miller	MVTA	952-882-7500
Glenn Boden	MVTA	952-746-5635
Samantha Porter	MVTA	952-882-7536
Tom Lovelace	City of Apple Valley	952-953-2572
Pat Jones	Metro Transit	612-349-7606
Lindsay Sheppard	Metro Transit	612-349-7679
Terry Hinman	Trapeze	319-743-4518
Dan Clark	Trapeze	319-389-6576
Rick Paulson	Trapeze	612-889-0726
Kevin Corkery	Trapeze	319-329-8467
Jerrid Jungling	Trapeze	319-743-4567

I. Opening Comments

Beverley Miller thanked everyone for attending. She stated it was important to hold this meeting to discuss outstanding AVL issues for MVTA and learn about data partition options in light of comments made at the last Regional AVL Deployment Meeting that an upgrade to the system, which would allow providers to control their own data, was “too much power” for regional providers to have.

II. Trapeze Schedule Update

Rick Paulson provided a schedule for AVL installation on the MVTA Fleet. Notice to proceed was granted by Metro Transit on February 12, 2010. Site evaluations and drawings are complete. Drawings will be submitted to Glenn Boden for final approval. Installation will begin the week of May 17, 2010, with completion by July 16. Trapeze will conduct Train-the-Trainer Training during the end of June or beginning of July. The Go-Live date is planned for the first week of August (before State Fair begins). Rick stated that Trapeze “feels confident” it can meet this schedule.

Pat Jones stated that there is advanced preparation required by MVTA to make this schedule work, most importantly internal operator and dispatcher training.

III. Regional AVL Operating Agreement

Pat Jones noted that there are two main issues being reviewed by Metro Transit and the Metropolitan Council in the operating agreement: transparency and data ownership. Comments to the operating agreement were submitted by MVTA and SouthWest Transit and will be provided to URS for compilation. Pat commented that he agreed with Beverley Miller's statement that the tone set in the operating agreement was a bit "heavy-handed," and the Council will change existing language from "Council owns the data" to "Council hosts the data."

Will Branning requested a revised draft of the Regional AVL Operating Agreement be submitted to MVTA by May 15.

IV. Data Partition/Replication

Beverley Miller and Samantha Porter discussed existing issues with the TransitMaster system that warrant a data partition for the MVTA. They include data ownership, data overload, emergencies cleared by other providers, and access for contractors. Jerrid Jungling stated that Trapeze has a number of options available to partition data and presented a slide show. Samantha Porter requested partition cost information and stated that MVTA has waited two years for this information. Terry Hinman stated that Trapeze is unable to provide cost information until he understands what MVTA wants separated. Beverley Miller expressed frustration at how long MVTA has waited for answers to data partition questions and requested that these answers be provided to MVTA as soon as possible. Bill Droste agreed and stated that this meeting should have happened over a year ago.

Bill Droste indicated that there are efficiencies that exist for the region when AVL infrastructure is already in place. Beverley Miller agreed and noted that MVTA has existing infrastructure, such as a separate Hastus server for scheduling, but needs to understand how these components work with the TransitMaster system. Will Branning requested that Trapeze schedule a meeting with MVTA Staff to review data partition options and associated costs, if any. This meeting will be held within three weeks between Trapeze and MVTA. Kevin Corkery will contact Samantha Porter with available dates.

V. Schmitt & Sons' Role

Dan Clark stated that Schmitt & Sons was not selected to install the AVL system on the MVTA fleet because their bid was twice as much as other vendors. North American was selected to complete the installation. Dan noted that North American has a good record and a staff expert from Trapeze will be on location to oversee installation/inspect vehicles. Pat Jones added that URS will continue to provide oversight as well. Dan will forward a company profile and resume information to MVTA.

Will Branning requested an installation report be sent to MVTA. Additionally, MVTA requests copies of all bids submitted for AVL installation on the MVTA fleet.

Samantha Porter asked what role Schmitt & Sons would play in installation oversight. Pat Jones responded that the Metropolitan Council could provide some reimbursement costs for Schmitt & Sons oversight.

VI. Additional Comments

Will Branning inquired about how upgrades to the system are handled. Pat Jones responded that upgrades are addressed in the Regional AVL Operations Meetings and if the committee does not agree to a particular upgrade, then Beverley Miller can contact Arlene McCarthy.

Samantha Porter asked Pat Jones if Metro Transit's LRT was included in the Regional AVL Project. Pat stated that LRT already has AVL (not through Trapeze) and is not included in the project.

Wally Lyslo asked if the equipment failure rates or repair time had improved. Glenn Boden said that it has not. Samantha Porter commented that Metro Transit Staff informed MVTA Staff that Metro Transit has a 7% failure rate per year for AVL components and the average repair cost is \$2,500. Samantha added that a 7% failure rate is 8 buses for MVTA and at \$2,500 per bus, equals \$20,000 per year. Samantha also noted that the average repair time is two months. Pat Jones stated that \$2,500 is an average repair for a unit that is damaged by an operator, but the Maintenance Agreement covers most other repairs. Will Branning asked for a detailed list of what is included in the annual Regional AVL Maintenance Agreement, since MVTA has yet to receive this.

VII. Next Steps

Kevin Corkery will contact Samantha Porter with meeting availability for the next three weeks. MVTA Staff will report back to MVTA's AVL Committee with the results of that meeting.

Pat Jones will submit a revised draft of the Regional AVL Operating Agreement to MVTA by May 15. Pat will also submit an installation report, a detailed list of costs in the annual Regional AVL Maintenance Agreement, and current repair costs and repair time for AVL components to MVTA as soon as possible.

Dan Clark will submit a company profile and resume information for North American and a copy of all bids submitted for AVL installation on the MVTA fleet to MVTA as soon as possible.