

DATE: August 25, 2011
TO: Board Members unable to attend Aug. 24 Regular MVTA Board meeting/TWGs
FROM: MVTA
RE: Meeting Summary

Here is a meeting summary of the MVTA August 25, 2011 regular meeting of the MVTA Board of Directors.

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m. by Chair Will Branning. Roll-call was taken and a quorum was present. Later, Joe Morneau of Dakota County Transit staff was introduced as the new Technical Work Group member from Dakota County.
2. Connie Massengale of Schmitt & Sons announced that corn was being distributed to riders at the Apple Valley Transit Station, and will be at various other transit facilities in each of the MVTA cities within the next few days. One item was pulled from the Consent Agenda (Item E) and one item was added to the Agenda under "New Business" – Meetings with the Met Council. The revised agenda and Consent Agenda were then approved. A new background was distributed regarding the hiring of a consultant to update Cafeteria Plan documents and provide other consulting services. There was some discussion about how the consultant was chosen (informal review of firms), if the MVTA were able to team up with one of the Cities for its benefits (in past discussions this has not been an option) and how SouthWest Transit handles benefits (is part of the City of Eden Prairie's plan going back to the formation of the agency). The item was approved on a unanimous roll-call vote.
3. Jim Strommen presented information regarding the Fiber Lease Agreement with the City of Eagan and how several items had been revised after discussion with Eagan's attorney. Several other non-material changes were made to the agreement. Strommen said he would review the item with the Eagan attorney, but we were seeking approval so the item could be before the Eagan City Council at their meeting on Sept. 6. Agreement was approved on a unanimous roll-call vote.
4. Tom Bright presented information about the need for concrete repairs at both the Burnsville Transit Station and the Burnsville Bus Garage. Graham Construction proposed a stronger solution (thicker concrete with rebar) and was very competitive when looking at both projects. The Board discussed the need to issue specifications or standards when obtaining quotes. The repaired concrete is expected to have a life of 20-25 years. Agreements with Graham Construction were approved on a unanimous roll-call vote.
5. Beverley Miller presented the issue of additional meetings with the Metropolitan Council, how often they should be held and if they should be in conjunction with a Board meeting or a separate meeting. The Board agreed it would be useful to have Met Council representatives at Board meetings, and that the MVTA Board would consider changing its meeting date for 2012. The third Wednesday of the month was proposed and additional research will be conducted prior to preparing the draft 2012 meeting calendar. This will also be discussed at a scheduled meeting between the MVTA and the Met Council on Aug. 25.
6. Jane Victorey provided information about the draft budget. She indicated that the proposed budget maintains service levels and there is no fare increase. Reserves are lowered to 2.5 months of operating expenditures, but the Met Council has agreed to pre-pay estimated CTIB/MVST-funded expenditures in advance, which will help cash-flow issues. It was noted that at this time, BRT is not part of the preliminary budget, but could be in the final budget to be approved in December. Motion by Bill Droste and seconded by Jane Victorey to approve the preliminary budget. Motion approved on a unanimous roll-call vote.

7. Samantha Porter provided an update on the construction at Apple Valley Transit Station, indicating that so far, everything is progressing smoothly and cars are parking in an orderly manner at the old and new stations. Construction on the roadway is expected to take 1-1/2 to 2 months, then the MVTA canopy and platform expansion work will occur.
8. Jim Strommen gave a brief update on his work to make updates to the Joint Powers Agreement. He said many of the proposed comments offered by the Strategic Working Group triggered other changes that would need to be made. He and his team are doing research and will meet with the Strategic Working Group in September. He will also be talking to the County Attorneys about the possible inclusion of the counties as parties.
9. Beverley Miller noted that she made a presentation to the Dakota County Board regarding the Cedar BRT service plan. She also noted that the "FONSI" or "Finding of No Significant Impact" by the FTA regarding the Station-to-station service Environmental Assessment has been received, which means that process is winding down and other work can begin to proceed related to the Cedar BRT.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 5:31 p.m.
11. Dustin Koch and Laura Vernon of RouteMatch then offered a short presentation on the Computer Aided Dispatch/Automatic Vehicle Locator (CAD/AVL) software that the MVTA is beginning to implement to interested Board members.

Next Regular Meeting Scheduled for Sept. 28, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. at the Burnsville Bus Garage.