

**River Valley Metro Mass Transit District**  
**August 22, 2023**  
**Metro Centre, 1137 E 5000 North Road, Bourbonnais IL 60914**  
**Board of Director Meeting Minutes**

Vice-Chairman Pearce called the regular monthly River Valley Metro Board of Directors meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

**Attending Board Members:** Chairman Mark Argyelan (video), Vice-Chairman Jerry Pearce, Treasurer Nick Allen, Board Members: Norman Grimsley, Ron Jackson, and David Hinderliter (video). Absent: Secretary Kelly St. Aubin.

**Staff Members Present:** Managing Director Siron Sims, Project Manager Cortney Koning, Director of Administration Mandy Taylor, Director of Operations Michelle Brutlag, Facilities Director Tim Goodman, Transit Officer Tobe Fulford, COO Ken Munjoy

**Others Present:** Jermaine Davis, National Express, National Express G.M. Lashanda Brown Smith

**Pledge of Allegiance led by:** Norm Grimsley

**Public with Business to Come Before the Board:**

None

**Consent Agenda:** Nick Allen made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Norm Grimsley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken of those in attendance, with all in favor. Consent agenda approved

**Communications:**

**Chairman's Report:** None

**Managing Director's Report: Siron Sims**

Rep. Robin Kelly's husband passed away. We are sending a card.

Siron and Cortney went to an event at CUMTD to learn more about hydrogen fuel cell technology for mass transit. The tour was very detailed. We will be exploring opportunities to use hydrogen fuel cell buses here in the near future.

Danielle Blake connected us with the organizer of the Kankakee County Fair School Bus Demolition Derby. She offered to provide a bus and a driver if we wanted to decorate a bus for the event. We did, and our bus actually won. More than 5000 people attended the event. We plan to do it again next year.

Assembly of our New Flyer buses will begin in November.

**Operations Report:** LaShanda Brown Smith

There are 43 operators fully trained and in service. 8 more are in training, and interviews continue.

Ken Munjoy reported the June ridership for 2023 was 49,064, compared to 41,807 in 2022. July ridership for 2023 was 49,166, compared to 41,767 in 2022. Total FY 2023 ridership was 549,316, compared 452,267 in 2022, an increase of 21%.

**Complaints/Comments:** Michelle Brutlag

We had 13 complaints in the last two months. Eight were valid. We also had 3 compliments. CCS and transit officers provided 242 rides.

**Board Report:**

None

**New Business**

Kankakee Metro Centre Liquidated Damages

The amount should be \$197,000 but this amount will not be awarded because we cannot show revenue loss. APEX should pay for additional time billed by TRIA. The offer made was \$20,000. This was sent to IDOT, and we are waiting for IDOT's approval.

**Old Business**

Maintenance Facility

IDOT has everything they have requested and we are waiting for pre-award. PSI had planned to start by now.

Conference Room A/V

The admin conference room is done and the large conference room is 90% done.  
The board room is not yet finished.

**Questions from the news media:**

None

**Other Business to come Before the Board:**

Ken Munjoy saw Officer Fulford conducting positive, preventative community police work with two people alongside 5000N Rd. early this morning and recognized Officer Fulford for his positive contribution and professionalism.

**Executive Session**

None

**Adjournment**

Norman Grimsley made a motion to adjourn at 8:47 AM. Motion was seconded by Mark Argyle and passed unanimously in a voice vote.