

River Valley Metro October 22, 2024
Metro Centre, 1137 E 5000 North Road, Bourbonnais IL 60914
Board of Director Meeting Minutes

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

Attending Board Members: Chairman Mark Argyelan, Vice-Chairman Jerry Pearce, Treasurer Nick Allen, Board Members: Ron Jackson, David Hinderliter, Kenny Blake. Absent: Secretary Kelly St. Aubin.

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

Others Present: National Express G.M. Lashanda Brown Smith

Pledge of Allegiance led by: Mark Argyelan

Public with Business to Come Before the Board: None

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

Communications:

Chairman's Report: Mark Argyelan
None

Managing Director's Report: Siron Sims

As reported in the Daily Journal and other publications in Illinois, IPTA asked downstate transit agencies to testify regarding their future funding needs. We are concerned that elected officials who are not completely aware of how public transit funding works in Illinois may assume that downstate and the RTA are in the same situation. RTA funding is in a dire situation, but it is completely separate from funding for downstate public transit.

At this time, Kankakee County has decided not to manage rural public transit for other counties.

We will repost our RFP for a study to determine the feasibility of River Valley Metro taking over rural transportation for Kankakee County.

Operations Report: Lashanda Brown Smith

We have 63 operators. We will continue to have one class per month.

Ken Munjoy reported that September ridership this year was 53,905, compared to 50,786 last year. Year-to-date ridership is up 7.2% from last year.

Complaints/Comments: Michelle Brutlag

There were 10 complaints in the last month, 4 of which were valid. CCS and Transit Officers provided 78 rides. We received 1 compliment.

Board Report:

David Hinderliter complimented Bus Operator Dan Kroll.

Mark Argyelan asked Siron Sims about APTA. Cybersecurity was a hot topic, with several agencies having been attacked. Our systems do not rely on software as much as some larger agencies. In the event of a successful cyber-attack, we would be able to continue to operate. We need a contingency plan now to make sure that we would be able to complete payroll accurately and on time.

New Business

DBE Policy Update

David Hinderliter complimented Siron Sims and Mandy Taylor on completing the detailed work required to update our policy. David Hinderliter made a motion to approve the DBE Policy. Motion was seconded by Ron Jackson and approved unanimously in a roll call vote.

Bus Lifts for the New Shop

3 of the 4 frames are here.

Installation cost for the lifts is included in the contract. The contractor issued a Purchase Order so that the lifts could get ordered while we were waiting for final approval from IDOT. Now that we have that approval, we can directly pay for the lifts. Total cost for the lifts is \$771,022. Kenny Blake made a motion to approve the purchase. Motion was seconded by Ron Jackson and passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

Old Business

Maintenance Facility

Interior brickwork for smaller rooms is pretty much done. Contractor is working to get the building closed up so that interior work can continue through the winter.

Work on the parking lot has begun.

Questions from the news media: None

Other Business to come Before the Board: None

Executive Session:

None

Adjournment

Jerry Pearce made a motion to adjourn at 8:42 AM. Motion was seconded by Kenny Blake and passed unanimously in a voice vote.