

River Valley Metro February 25, 2025
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, MPD Tobe Fulford

Others Present: We Drive U G.M. Lashanda Brown Smith, We Drive U G.M. Rodriques Kimbrough

Pledge of Allegiance led by: Ron Jackson

Public with Business to Come Before the Board: None

Consent Agenda: Jerry Pearce made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Ron Jackson 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
The DBE Policy is in the board packet. It was reformatted to match the FTA format. Procedures were removed, leaving only Policy content.

New vehicles are badly needed. We are currently waiting for IDOT signatures on the grant agreement. We have been told that the 3 ADA buses are built and the 6 super-medium buses are in production.

Operations Report: Rod Kimbrough

We have 55 operators. 52 are available for service. 48 are full-time. We are still hiring new operators.

Ken Munjoy reported that January ridership this year was 46,669, compared to 44,701 last year. Year-to-date, ridership is up 5.8% from last year. We expect that February ridership will be down from last year due to Leap Year last year and the extended streak of extremely cold weather that we have experienced this year.

Complaints/Comments: Michelle Brutlag

There were 8 complaints, 4 of which were valid, in the last month. CCS and Transit Officers provided only 41 rides.

Board Report:

David Hinderliter reminded board members of the requirement to file a Statement of Economic Interest.

New Business**Board Officers**

Chairman Argyelan opened the floor for officer nominations. After some discussion, David Hinderliter nominated a slate of Mark Argyelan for Chairman, Jerry Pearce for Vice-Chair, Nick Allen for Secretary, and Ron Jackson for Treasurer. Jerry Pearce seconded the nomination. No other nominations were submitted. The slate was unanimously approved in a roll call vote.

Mystery Riders

The only serious issue was failure of the operators to make ADA stop call-outs. Mr. Kimbrough is already working to improve this. The Mystery Rider day was cold and snowy. They reported climate control on the buses was good, as was driver attitudes and driver uniforms. We plan to get back to using Mystery Riders two times each year.

Front Lobby Project

Flooring is deteriorating and has become a safety issue. 3 bids were obtained. The low bid is \$12,720. Jerry Pearce made a motion to accept the bid and proceed. Motion was seconded by Kenny Blake and approved unanimously in a roll call vote.

Old Business

Maintenance Facility

Interior painting has begun. We are using Rebuild 3 money to purchase lifts and equipment. IDOT wants the lifts to be purchased first.

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 8:34 AM. Motion was seconded by Nick Allen and passed unanimously in a voice vote.