

**DES MOINES AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**620 Cherry Street – Des Moines, Iowa 50309
March 4, 2014**

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Skip Conkling, Angela Connolly, Tom Gayman, Christine Hensley, Gaye Johnson, Joann Muldoon (Arrived at 12:19pm), Steve Peterson and Steve Van Oort

Commissioner Absent: Bob Mahaffey

Alternates Present:

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Steve Van Oort at 12:01pm. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Notice of the meeting was duly published.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Van Oort called for approval of the March 4, 2014 meeting agenda.

It was moved by Ms. Hensley and seconded by Mr. Peterson to approve the March 4, 2014 Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments

Public Hearing on FY2015 Budget and Tax Levy Rates

Chair, Steve Van Oort announced that a public hearing to discuss the DART FY2015 budget and tax levy rates was convened and asked for comments from the floor.

The following appeared regarding the FY2015 budget and tax levy rates:

Gary Lorenz, Mayor of Ankeny. 118 NW Countrywood Lane

Receive and File: Letter from City of Ankeny, 410 West 1st Street, Ankeny

Commissioner Muldoon arrived at 12:19pm

A motion by Ms. Hensley and second by Mr. Conkling that the Commission close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

**DES MOINES AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

MARCH 4, 2014

ACTION ITEM

6A: Approve FY 2015 Budget and Tax Levy Rates

Ms. Connolly made note that we've had more discussion on this budget than we've had in the past and commended staff on all their hard work. She believes it would be appropriate to have a mid-term check to see where we are at.

Mr. Conkling voiced concerns with the budget regarding service level enhancements and cannot support a 6.5 cent tax levy increase.

Ms. Connolly thanked staff for reducing the levy. She went on to say that we will likely have to look at alternative ways to fund DART in the future. Ms. Connolly also agrees with Ms. Hensley to have a mid-point evaluation to see where we are at budget wise.

Mr. Van Oort acknowledged Elizabeth, Jamie and staff on their hard work on this year's budget. Mr. Van Oort proposed continuing to look at other revenue streams and to look at other communities and transit systems like DART to see how they operate.

Ms. Hensley recommended that we continue to look at possible collaborations between city and county to gain efficiencies as there may be some overlap.

A motion by Mr. Conkling to revise the proposed budget by decreasing the proposed 6.5 cent tax levy rate increase to 6 cents was lost without a second.

It was moved by Ms. Hensley and seconded by Mr. Peterson that the Commission approve the FY2015 budget and tax levy rates as presented.

Roll Call: Peterson – Yea, Conkling – Nay, Connolly – Yea, Gayman – Yea, Hensley – Yea, Johnson – Yea, Muldoon – Yea, Van Oort – Yea.

CONSENT ITEMS

7A – February 4, 2014 Minutes

It was moved by Ms. Hensley and seconded by Mr. Peterson that the consent item be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

8A – Replacement RideShare Passenger Vans Purchase

Mr. Tiedens provided an update to the Commission on the RideShare van purchase. Mr. Tiedens asked for approval to purchase 15 passenger vans with Bob Brown Chevrolet for a total of \$513,125, and 8 minivans with Stew Hansen Dodge for a total of \$192,672 at a cost not to exceed \$725,000.

Mr. Gayman inquired whether or not we do any advertising on the vans.

It was moved by Mr. Peterson and seconded by Ms. Johnson that the Commission approve the Replacement Rideshare Passenger Vans Purchase. The motion carried unanimously.

8B – Teamsters Union Update

Mr. Lafata provided background on the Paratransit contract negotiations with Teamsters. The Affordable Care Act made a last minute change that affected the contract. The Teamsters are still considering the change in the language as it relates to health insurance.

**DES MOINES AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

MARCH 4, 2014

It was moved by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Peterson that the Commission approve the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Agreement subject to resolution of the health insurance language. The motion carried unanimously.

8C – January 2014 Financials

Ms. Dakan provided a presentation on the January 2014 financials to the Commission.

It was moved by Ms. Connolly and seconded by Ms. Muldoon that the Commission approve the January 2014 Financials. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEM

9A – DART Forward 2035 Plan

Ms. Presutti provided a presentation to the Commission on the DART Forward 2035 Plan. Ms. Presutti made note of the editorial that published Monday, and that she had received a number of commendations from colleagues across the nation given its national exposure.

Ms. Presutti also provided a copy of the FY2013 Annual Report to the Commission. An electronic version will be created and emailed out. Commissioners were asked to let staff know if there are any individuals or lists they would like it sent to.

Ms. Hensley asked that it be sent to Kandi Reindl.

Commissioner Gayman departed the meeting at 1:07pm.

Ms. Connolly and Ms. Hensley requested a one-page break down of this information.

9A – DART Legislative Update

Mr. Olson provided an update to the Commission on current legislative priorities:

- Operator Assault – We received more traction than in the past; however due to a language error we are at the same point for next year.
- Data Privacy – We want to make sure rider data is protected from disclosure under records requests.
- State funding for Bus Rapid Transit – Our response will be to revise the language for next year.

9C – January 2014 Performance Report

Ms. Presutti updated that Ridership is up over 1% for the month of January. Year to date ridership is up over 6% for Fixed Route. February ridership is trending up as well.

MONTHLY REPORTS

10A – Operations Report

No update

10B – Marketing Report

No update

10C – Planning Report

No update

10D – Procurement

No update

**DES MOINES AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

MARCH 4, 2014

10E - General Manager

Ms. Presutti updated the Commission that we have hired a new Human Resources Director. Steve Hansen will start on March 17th.

We will be traveling to Washington next week to meet with our congressional delegation.

Peg Hadley, DART Customer Service Specialist was a finalist in the APTA Call Center Challenge in New Orleans for Customer Service Rep of the Year. Peg represented DART very well at the conference.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Van Oort updated that we will be recognizing Steve Brody at the April meeting for his service on the DART Commission.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

11A - Nominating Committee Appointments

Mr. Van Oort has asked Ms. Connolly, Ms. Hensley and Mr. Conkling to act as the Nominating Committee.

OTHER - Communications

NEXT MEETING

April 1, 2014 at 12:00pm

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Mr. Peterson and second by Ms. Connolly to adjourn the regular Commission Meeting was made at 1:25pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Future 2014 Meeting Dates

Apr 1, May 6, Jun 3, Jul 1, Aug 5,
Sep 2, Oct 7, Nov 4, Dec 2

Chair

Clerk

Date