



**Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD)
Board of Trustees Meeting**

MINUTES – Approved as Distributed

DATE: Wednesday, July 29, 2020
TIME: 3:00 p.m.
PLACE: This meeting was held electronically in accordance with the Governor’s Executive Orders and social distancing requirements.

The video of this meeting can be found at:
www.mtd.org/inside/board/meetings/

Trustees:

Present	Absent
	Dick Barnes
Linda Bauer	
Margaret Chaplan (Vice-Chair)	
Tomas Delgado	
Bradley Diel (Chair)	
Phil Fiscella	
Bruce Hannon	

Advisory Board:

Present	Absent
Marty Paulins	

MTD Staff: Karl Gnadt (Managing Director), Amy Snyder (Chief of Staff), Jane Sullivan (Grants & Governmental Affairs Director), Michelle Wright (Finance Director), Jay Rank (Operations Director), Evan Alvarez (Special Services Manager), Kirk Kirkland (Facilities Director), Fred Stavins (Counsel), Beth Brunk (Clerk)

Others Present: Bumsoo Lee, Associate Professor & Lowa Mwilambwe, Associate Vice Chancellor (UIUC)

MINUTES

- 1. Call to Order**
Chair Diel called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
- 2. Roll Call**
A verbal roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared present.
- 3. Approval of Agenda**
MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to approve the agenda as distributed; seconded by Ms. Chaplan.

Roll Call:
 Aye (6) –Bauer, Chaplan, Delgado, Diel, Fiscella, Hannon
 Nay (0)
 MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

4. Audience Participation

Since the Board meeting was not open to the public due to Governor Pritzker's social distancing requirements, comments can be emailed to public@mtd.org.

No comments were received.

5. Approval of Minutes

A. *Board Meeting (Closed Session) – January 29, 2020*

MOTION by Mr. Hannon to approve the closed session minutes of the January 29, 2020 MTD Board meeting as distributed; seconded by Ms. Chaplan.

Roll Call:

Aye (6) –Bauer, Chaplan, Delgado, Diel, Fiscella, Hannon

Nay (0)

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

B. *Board Meeting (Open Session) – June 24, 2020*

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to approve the open session minutes of the June 24, 2020 MTD Board meeting as distributed; seconded by Ms. Chaplan.

Roll Call:

Aye (6) –Bauer, Chaplan, Delgado, Diel, Fiscella, Hannon

Nay (0)

MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

6. Communications

None

7. UIUC Ridership Study Presentation

Bumsoo Lee, Associate Professor, Department of Urban & Regional Planning, presented the University of Illinois Transit Ridership Study findings. Nearly all the ridership decline since 2005 occurred at off-campus stops. To improve ridership, Professor Lee suggested simplifying the bus system with straighter routes and focusing on high demand areas. More faculty and staff may be influenced to use transit by raising parking rates on campus.

8. Reports

A. Managing Director

Mr. Gnadt reviewed June statistics. Ridership was down 51.5% as compared to June 2019 due to the pandemic. The final stretch of MCore should wrap up in 2021. At this final phase, all federal money has been spent, and local money is being used. Year-end expenses and revenues will change as annual adjustments have not yet been made to close out the fiscal year. Mr. Gnadt commented that the state may not be able to meet its financial obligations for transit funding but hopefully the federal CARES Act funding will fill in any gaps.

Jay Rank was introduced to the Board as the recently promoted Operations Director. He talked about his career path at MTD and his excitement with the new position.

9. Action Item

A. Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes

MOTION by Mr. Hannon that the minutes, or portions thereof, of the closed session meetings of the Board listed on "Attachment 1" marked "Release" no longer require confidential treatment and are ordered released; and that the need for confidentiality still exists as to the minutes, or portion thereof, of the closed session meetings of the Board listed on "Attachment 2" marked "Remain Confidential"; and the verbatim recordings of the following listed closed session minutes on "Attachment 3", all of which are not less than 18 months old and the written minutes of which have been approved are authorized to be destroyed; seconded by Mr. Fiscella.

Roll Call:

Aye (6) – Bauer, Chaplan, Delgado, Diel, Fiscella, Hannon

Nay (0)

The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

B. Champaign County Area Rural Transit System (C-CARTS) Intergovernmental Agreement Update

This agreement continues the relationship between MTD and C-CARTS that has been in place since 2014. Changes to the agreement from the last approval include a new paragraph (Page 9, Item B) listing specific Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requirements, such as civil rights, environmental regulations, and other administrative functions. Since MTD is already required to do them as an FTA grantee, the change does not represent enhanced scrutiny or obligation for the District. Additionally, the Maintenance rates have increased to reflect projected fully allocated rates through June 30, 2022. Mr. Gnadt noted an error in Exhibit A – FY2021 Fully allocated cost per hour should be \$126.06 – not \$26.06.

This agreement was approved by the Champaign County Board at their April 2020 meeting.

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to authorize the Managing Director to execute the Champaign County Area Rural Transit System Intergovernmental Agreement expiring 6/30/2022 with the change in the FY2021 fully allocated cost per hour in Exhibit A to \$126.06; seconded by Ms. Chaplan.

Roll Call:

Aye (6) – Bauer, Chaplan, Delgado, Diel, Fiscella, Hannon

Nay (0)

The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

C. Power Feed Options to the Hydrogen Production Station

MTD's hydrogen station requires an electrical connection from the Ameren's power pole in the right-of-way on University Avenue to the hydrogen station. If the power line is run overhead, six trees will have to be removed. If the power line is bored underground, it is likely that the trees will survive. Ameren would pay for the overhead power line extension. MTD would be responsible for the underground line cost (estimated at \$50,000) by using 100% federal funding. Staff would like direction from the Board on which option they would prefer.

Mr. Gnadt noted that if the solar array project moves forward, it will also need to have power run through the same area between University Avenue and the hydrogen power station. If underground boring is the decided option, it would be economical to bore the additional conduits for the solar project at the same time as the conduits for the hydrogen

station. Mr. Diel remarked that once the power line goes overhead, MTD will not be able to plant any trees in that area again. From the street, those trees would offer some beneficial screening of the hydrogen plant. Staff would ask for an additional of \$10,000 for adding the solar array conduits in the boring cost.

Bruce Hannon left the meeting.

MOTION by Ms. Chaplan to authorize the Managing Director to pay up to \$60,000 to have the power line bored underground in an effort to save the trees that would otherwise have to be removed with an overhead power line; seconded by Mr. Fiscella.

Roll Call:

Aye (5) –Bauer, Chaplan, Delgado, Diel, Fiscella

Nay (0)

The MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

10. Next Meeting

- A. Regular Board of Trustees Meeting – Wednesday, August 26, 2020 – 3:00 p.m. – Location and format to be determined

11. Adjournment

Mr. Diel adjourned the meeting at 4:23 p.m.

Submitted by:


Clerk

Approved 8-26-2020:


Board of Trustees Chair