



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

MINUTES – Approved as Distributed

DATE: Wednesday, October 27, 2021
 TIME: 3:00 p.m.
 PLACE: Illinois Terminal, 45 East University Avenue, Champaign, IL

The video of this meeting can be found at:
<https://www.youtube.com/CUMTD>

Trustees:

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

Advisory Board:

Present	Absent
	Marty Paulins

MTD Staff: Karl Gnadt (Managing Director), Amy Snyder (Chief of Staff), Michelle Wright (Finance Director), Jane Sullivan (Grants & Governmental Affairs Director), Jay Rank (Operations Director), Josh Berbaum (Maintenance Director), Evan Alvarez (Special Services Manager), Nancy Rabel (Legal Counsel), Beth Brunk (Clerk)

Others Present:

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**
 Chair Diel called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**
 Present (6) –Barnes, Chaplan, Delgado, Diel, Fiscella, Hannon

 A quorum was declared present.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

 MOTION by Ms. Chaplan to approve the agenda as distributed; seconded by Mr. Fiscella. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

4. **Audience Participation**
 None

5. **Approval of Minutes**

A. **Board Meeting Open Session – September 29, 2021**

MOTION by Ms. Chaplan to approve the open session minutes of the September 29, 2021 MTD Board meeting as distributed; seconded by Mr. Hannon. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

B. **Board Meeting Closed Session – September 29, 2021**

MOTION by Ms. Chaplan to approve the closed session minutes of the September 29, 2021 MTD Board meeting as distributed; seconded by Mr. Barnes. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

6. **Communications**

None

7. **Reports**

A. **Managing Director**

Mr. Gnadt reviewed September statistics. Ridership was up 186% from last year primarily due to the return of in-person instruction at the University. Revenue has significantly increased due to the return to fare collection and full contract payments from the University. Mr. Gnadt thanked all the Trustees who attended the unveiling of our new hydrogen buses event on October 14th and showed a brief highlight video clip of the celebration. MTD has instituted on-site COVID testing through the OSF Shield system for employees.

8. **Action Items**

A. **Resolution No. 2021-5 – Determining the Amount of Money Necessary to be Raised by the Tax Levy**

Annually, MTD complies with taxation laws by Board approval of an estimated tax levy. Mr. Gnadt noted that the proposed amount of money to be raised by the tax levy is a 17.38% increase from last year. With this amount, the District will be able to capture newly assessed value from properties coming on the tax rolls including Carle and OSF properties if they become non-tax exempt. This court case for hospital real estate tax exemption status is still being decided, as the latest ruling has been appealed. If the court case is not resolved, the rate that will be used is the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which was 1.4% last year. Mr. Gnadt noted that several local agencies are using the same methodology until the court case has been decided.

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to approve the proposed amount of money to be raised by the tax levy to be the same amount as last year; motion not seconded.
The MOTION FAILED.

MOTION by Mr. Hannon to adopt Resolution No. 2021-5 determining \$11,315,223 to be the amount of money necessary to be raised by the tax levy for revenue year 2021 payable in 2022; seconded by Ms. Chaplan.

Roll Call:

Aye (5) – Barnes, Chaplan, Delgado, Diel, Hannon

Nay (1) – Fiscella

The MOTION CARRIED.

B. **Village of Rantoul Eagle Express Transportation Service (C-CARTS) Intergovernmental Agreement**

Evan Alvarez explained that this renewal will continue the Eagle Express bus service within the

Village of Rantoul to October 31, 2022. The service has been in place for 5 years and primarily transports workers in the factory district during peak hours from Monday through Friday. The one-year agreement is primarily the same as the last contract with a 3% rate increase. The Village of Rantoul Board approved this agreement at their October 12, 2021 meeting.

MOTION by Mr. Barnes to authorize the Managing Director to execute the Rantoul Transportation Service Program (C-CARTS) Intergovernmental Agreement between MTD, Rural Transit Advisory Group, Champaign County Regional Planning Commission, and Village of Rantoul from November 1, 2021 to October 31, 2022; seconded by Mr. Fiscella. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

C. Smoke and Tobacco Free Policy

MTD provides public services that must be safe, healthy, and equitable for all passengers, employees, and community members. With the approval of this policy, smoking and the use of tobacco products, cannabis, electronic cigarettes, and vaporizers on MTD properties will be prohibited as of January 1, 2022. Ms. Snyder presented this policy at the September Board meeting at which time opened a 30-day period of public comment. Public input, that will close tomorrow, has overwhelmingly affirmed this policy. If the Board approves this policy, staff will begin a 2-month period educating employees and the public.

MOTION by Ms. Chaplan to approve the MTD Smoke and Tobacco Free Policy which would prohibit smoking and the use of tobacco products, cannabis, electronic cigarettes, and vaporizers on all District properties beginning on January 1, 2022; seconded by Mr. Hannon. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

D. Urbana School District 116 Transportation Agreement for 2021-2022

This annual Agreement between MTD and the Urbana School District #116 provides transportation for Urbana Middle School and High School students. The partnership with MTD and the Urbana School District has been in place since 1987.

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to authorize the Managing Director to execute the Transportation Agreement between MTD and the Urbana School District #116 for the 2021-2022 school year; seconded by Ms. Chaplan. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

E. Bus Procurement Purchase Order

The District has a standing 5-year bus procurement contract with New Flyer of America. MTD is requesting approval to purchase four 60' diesel electric hybrid buses to replace the remaining standard diesel buses in the fleet that are 21 years old. When replaced, MTD's entire fleet will be 100% low- or no-emission.

Additionally, MTD is also requesting approval to purchase four hybrid buses that will be used to expand the fleet. At peak service times, MTD is pressed to have enough buses on the street to provide service. The District needs to expand the fleet to allow for the new 24 Link route, preventative and unscheduled maintenance downtime, and increased road training classes.

The total of both New Flyer contracts for 8 new buses is \$6,630,939.48 that will be 100% funded from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP).

MOTION by Mr. Barnes to authorize the Managing Director to issue a \$6,630,939.48 purchase order for four 60' and four 40' diesel electric hybrid buses to New Flyer of America; seconded by Mr. Fiscella.

Roll Call:

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

Nay (0)

The MOTION CARRIED.

F. INIT MOBILE-ECO² Vehicle Pilot Project

Jay Rank, Operations Director, proposed the purchase of an INIT software package, MOBILE-ECO² that will assist Operations and Maintenance. In Operations, the software will monitor operator driving behavior such as excessive revving and braking, harsh turns, and extensive idling, through sensors. This will provide an opportunity for coaching the operators to improve their driving skills and thereby enhance passenger experience and fuel economy. Maintenance will benefit from cellular real time data on vehicle readings and alerts. Technicians can be proactive in knowing what equipment to bring to a road call.

The initial request for the pilot program is to install the software on 16 buses for \$79,932. Depending on the success of the project, Maintenance can expand to other cellular buses for \$2,496 per vehicle. The funding will come from 65% state money through the Illinois Downstate Operating Assistance Program (DOAP) and 35% through local funds.

MOTION by Mr. Hannon to authorize the Managing Director to proceed with the 16 vehicle MOBILE-ECO² pilot project in the amount of \$79,932 pending IDOT concurrence; seconded by Ms. Chaplan.

Roll Call:

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

Nay (0)

The MOTION CARRIED.

9. Next Meeting

- A. Public Hearing for Tax Levy and Regular Board of Trustees Meeting – Wednesday, December 8, 2021 – 3:00 p.m. at Illinois Terminal – 45 East University Avenue, Champaign

10. Adjournment

MOTION by Mr. Hannon to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ms. Chaplan. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Diel adjourned the meeting at 4:19 p.m.

Submitted by:


Clerk

Approved 12/8/2021:


Board of Trustees Chair