

Jefferson Transit Authority Board

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 17, 2009, 1:30 p.m.

Port Townsend Fire Station

Port Townsend, WA

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

The Meeting was called to order by Jefferson Transit Authority Board Chair David Sullivan at 1:33 p.m. Other members present were John Austin, George Randels, and Catharine Robinson. Phil Johnson was absent, attending a WASAC conference.

STAFF PRESENT

Dave Turissini, Leigh Kennel, Van Church, Carla Meyer, Mike Pollack, Rachel Katz, Tammi Rubert

CAC PRESENT

Linda Pfafman

OTHERS PRESENT

Margaret Lee

Brenda McMillan

Anthony Lane and family

Olivia Leighann Rogers

Olivia's Mother

Bailey Lewison

Jeff Chew, Peninsula Daily News

Kristin Manwaring, KMI Inc.

John Wallin

Ann Monroe

Catherine Sty

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The meeting was opened to public comments at 1:34 p.m.

- Margaret Lee would like to see the board discuss the possibility of sharing use of the park and ride lots with other entities. The Port has decided in favor of the Make Waves project. Ms Lee would like the Authority Board make an informed decision regarding whether or not they think Make Waves' use of the park and ride furthers the mission of Jefferson Transit

and is an appropriate use of the park and ride.

- Brenda McMillan has reviewed costs for current service levels and proposed service. She thinks the \$1000 difference per week is small compared to the upheaval it would cost the riders and suggested the Fort Worden and North Beach could be combined

Public comments ended at 1:37 p.m.

Linda Pfafman arrived at 1:38 p.m.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE/AUTHORITY BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Pfafman reported that the committee talked about the role of the CAC and the proposed service changes, including:

- Some targeted timetables to illustrate how to use the proposed new Port Townsend routes effectively.
- Expanded Dial a Ride service.
- New member applicants
- Dick Kint term expiration

Sullivan suggested a recognition event for Mr. Kint.

NEW AGENDA ITEMS

Switch items 6 b. and c.

CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of Minutes, October 20, 2009

b. Approval of Expenses, October 2009

- Operating checks 86561 - 86693: \$370,296.86 (includes payroll of \$212,129.29)
- Capital checks 242 – 244: \$6,369.86
- Electronic Fund Transfer checks 101-102: \$13,854.22
- Advance Travel fund checks 223 -228: \$576.00
- **Total Expenditures: \$391,096.94**

c. Resolution 09-28: Authorize the Board Chair to Execute Joint Purchasing Agreement with eCityGov Alliance Partners and Subscribers (Small Works Roster)

Motion by Randels, second by Robinson to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Resolution 09-29: Commending Employees and Samaritans for Meritorious Service to Jefferson Transit

Motion by Austin, second by Randels to adopt 09-29. The motion passed unanimously.

Two of the six people honored, Anthony Lane and Olivia Leighann Rogers were present and received plaques with the thanks of the Authority Board and Staff.

b. 2010 Budget Discussion

Church presented Operating and Capital budgets for 2010. The operating budget is based on the current service model. What is not included is the Community Van Program. If that program is reinstated, there will have to be a capital investment in it. The one capital item that really needs to be discussed in detail is the \$900,000 for a new facility at Four Corners. There is \$720,000 available in grant funds that need to be used.

There was a discussion regarding a potential sales tax increase initiative. An initiative of this sort would be best placed on the November 2010 ballot. The help of a volunteer group, including Citizens Advisory Committee members, would be needed to campaign for the initiative.

There will be a public hearing before final adoption of the budgets on December 15.

c. Health Insurance Update: Kristin Manwaring and John Wallin

Mr. Wallin spoke about health care trends nationally, which have increased on average 12% since 2004:

- Since 2007 the slope has flattened
- Even with moderate trends, health care costs double every seven years.
- Aging population has begun to add pressure to the system
- Technology advances increase costs while they increase quality care to patients
- Accelerated governmental cost shift to employers and end users
- Decreased mortality and increased morbidity add costs
- Plan designs are changing with higher deductibles, higher out of pocket levels, advent of HRAs
- Increased employer interest in self-funding
- Employer contributions are being re-evaluated
- Some employers are even dropping sponsored plans

Discussion: Union shops in the community are still 100% covered for the employee cost. In the private/non-profit sector there is a higher level of employee contribution to the premium. In a wider area, there is some movement to an employee contribution in Union shops.

Manwaring reported that Jefferson Transit moved away from KPS in 2005 to a trust plan called WAHIT. In 2007, Jefferson Transit changed to WCIF, which serves government agencies and was a better fit for Jefferson Transit. The latest move has stabilized costs over time.

Both stated that Jefferson Transit has provided high levels of service and low cost to employees as compared to the national trends.

Due to variable conditions, Church recommends a budget amendment in July or August of every year.

Robinson commented that it would be good to know what other government entities are doing in regard to health care administration for employees. Manwaring stated she could return at a future date with more information.

d. Resolution 09-30 Authorizing the Board Chair to Sign and Execute Capital Grant Agreement GCA 6175 for Purchase of Vehicles

This agreement combines a few different grants in order to purchase two 30-foot vehicles and two cutaways.

Motion by Robinson, second by Randels to approve Resolution 09-30. The motion carried unanimously.

e. Resolution 09-31: Authorizing the Expansion of the Dial a Ride Service Area

Turissini explained the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandates that require complimentary paratransit service corridors for fixed routes. If the client's origin or destination is within the $\frac{3}{4}$ miles of a fixed route, paratransit services must be provided. The easiest way to handle complaints from people who live outside but close to the service area and see vehicles going right by their residences is to expand the service area.

Motion by Austin, second by Randels approve Resolution 09-31. Discussion: These requests indicate there is a greater need in the proposed expanded service area at a neutral cost. **There was a call for the question. The motion passed unanimously.**

STAFF REPORT

a. Operations Report

Turissini drew the board members' attention to the schedule handouts. He reviewed the changes to the proposed routes. He also displayed a proposed point to point schedule that would give a rider who wants a specific destination an idea of the different options that can be used to get there.

Ridership showed a decrease of 1.25% overall from the same time last year.

Turissini reported that Mike Pollack has resigned his job as Service and Training Supervisor and will be returning to bus driving. The board members congratulated him and wished him well in his new position.

b. Financial Report

There was a net loss of \$39,000 in October due to sales tax revenues coming in lower than expected.

MISCELLANEOUS/CORRESPONDENCE

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m. The next Regular Meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m., December 15, 2009.

Rachel Katz
Rachel Katz, Clerk of the Board

12/15/2009
Date