



MINNESOTA PUBLIC TRANSIT ASSOCIATION

**MPTA EXECUTIVE BOARD
MEETING
February 25, 2021**

BOARD AGENDA

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

- I. Call to Order – 8:31 a.m. Ryan Daniel
- II. Roll Call
 - Margaret Donahoe
 - Katie Leibel
 - LuAnn Bleiler
 - Mike Klauda
 - Ted Nelson
 - Ryan Daniel
 - Daryn Toso
 - Joanne Brackey
 - Nick Lemmer
 - Tiffany Collins
 - Alan Hermann
 - Luther Wynder
 - Cathleen Amick
 - Sherry Munyon
 - Matt Fyten
- III. Additions or Changes to the Agenda/Approval of Agenda
 - Motion to approve: Alan Hermann Second: LuAnn Bleiler
 - Motion passed.

Old Business

- IV. Approval of December 17, 2020 Minutes (Attachment)
 - Motion to approve: Ted Nelson Second: Joanne Brackey
 - Motion passed.

New Business

- V. Legislative Update – **Sherry Munyon**
 - OTAT MPTA Board Members monthly board meeting was yesterday. MPTA continues to request additional information on the use of existing funds and the unmet needs that exist among the transit systems for both operations and capital. Sherry reviewed the role of OTAT in addressing unmet needs and demand for transit service in Greater Minnesota.

- The MN State requires MnDOT calculate service required to meet needs; analyze cost and revenue options for the capitol costs and bus service to meet up to 90% of the need by 2035.
- The Greater Minnesota Transit Investment Plan states that the financial outlook considers more than just increases to costs. There are also notable lines on Pages 10 and 11 that point out that MnDOT is supposed to be looking into the future with this information.
- Nick Lemmer asked Sherry to describe what we would like to see. What would the process look like? What exactly are we asking them to do? Sherry said it could be done internally with five-year plans. MPTA could help with some of these things. We want to convince MnDOT that they do have a role in estimating unmet needs.
- Margaret Donahoe noted that the first Greater MN Transit Investment Plan was done in 2011. It was updated in 2017. It seems like time for a 2021 update.
- Bills of Potential Interest Include:
 - Volunteer Driver Bill policy language establishing definition. HF586 Murphy and SF748 Jasinski. MPTA and MnDOT have crafted an amendment to be offered, which adjusts the bill to just be about the definition
 - HF0524 Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency seeking additional funding for Arrowhead Transit.
 - SF0075- a mandate that transit systems need to apply a flat fare of 25 cents.

VI. Advocacy Update – Margaret Donahoe

- On the advocacy front, MPTA has participated in a number of transportation summits. Margaret thanked everyone who has been involved with that. We also are working to target the month of March for some media outreach. Katie compiled local news media out with links to some of the videos we are working on to highlight what transit systems have been doing amid the pandemic, why they are important and maybe get more coverage and buzz about it. We hope to have the board help contact their local news media. We will be contacting some MPTA board members individually about contacting news networks and whatnot.
- Margaret talked about starting to plan for the transit conference. It would be helpful to get a list of folks from MN to be on the planning committee. We also want to know how we're going to deal with the revenue split. Let Margaret know if you want to be on the planning committee. Ryan Daniel volunteered and so did LuAnn Bleiler, Matt Fyten, Luther Wynder and Mike Klauda

VII. Program Coordinator Position – Katie Leibel

- Katie talked about the videos, the InTransit which comes out in the beginning of March and gave a few small updates on Roadeo planning. (Committees have been chosen and it will be at Lot K in St. Cloud State University.)

VIII. President's Update – Ryan Daniel

- During the meeting with MnDOT yesterday they also talked about CDL testing with long wait times for appointments. We gave MnDOT the green light to say we would like to start the process (1-2 years) to get third party testing. MnDOT is saying changing rules takes a long time so we are going to work on that.

- In the interim, Luther Wynder, is serving as the Vice President of MPTA. Ryan Daniel has not received any letters of interest regarding the vice president position. Ryan asked for a motion to appoint Luther the vice president of the board. Motion: LuAnn Bleiler. Second: Alan Herrmann
Motion passed.
- Ryan reminded everyone to keep an eye out for the survey Margaret plans to send out about PPE and more.
- There was discussion on different systems getting vaccinations for drivers and employees.
- Ryan talked about the \$5 million that MnDOT received in administrative funds from the CARES Act and how it can be distributed to the systems.

IX. Financial Report – LuAnn Bleiler

- A few operators have still not paid dues and many vendors have not either.
- A second letter will be sent out soon.
- MnDOT will not pay operator dues.
- ROADEO budget is pretty well set.

X. MCOTA Update – Tiffany Collins

The next meeting is next month.

XI. Events 2021

- Roadeo – St. Cloud
- Transit Conference – Duluth

xii. Next Meeting

March 25th at 8:30

xiii. Other Business

None.

XIV. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10:11 am