



MINNESOTA PUBLIC TRANSIT ASSOCIATION

MPTA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
May 26, 2022

BOARD AGENDA

8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

I. Call to Order – 8:32 a.m. Ryan Daniel

II. Roll Call

Mike Klauda
Ryan Daniel
Sherry Munyon
Brenda Brittin
Daryn Toso
Alan Herrmann
Nick Lemmer
Jim Wolter
Joanne Brackey

III. Additions or Changes to the Agenda/Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve- Jim Wolter; Second: Alan Herrmann
Motion passed.

Old Business

IV. Approval of April 29, 2022 Minutes (Attachment)

Motion to approve- Alan Herrmann Second: Jim Wolter
Motion passed.

New Business

V. Legislative Update – Sherry Munyon

- Sherry reported that the legislative session ended with little accomplished in the area of transportation. The legislature worked on a supplemental budget bill that included additional funding for transit, but the legislation stalled and very few budget bills in any area were passed. The legislature also did not pass a tax bill or capital bonding bill.
- The governor has indicated that he is willing to call the legislature back for a special session. The House would like to come back into session to finish the bills that were worked on but the Senate is not interested in a special session.
- Many legislators are retiring this year and not running for re-election. That means that many new legislators will be joining the legislature next year. Sherry encouraged Board members to watch for local meetings and opportunities to hear from local legislators and candidates.

- Sherry updated the Board on the work being done at the federal level regarding the reimbursement rate for volunteer drivers. Reps Pete Stauber and Angie Craig have signed onto a bill to tie the reimbursement rate to the IRS business mileage rate. More national advocacy groups are endorsing the legislation. Outreach efforts to other state transit associations are ongoing.

VI. Advocacy Update – **Margaret Donahoe**

- Margaret asked Board members to contact legislators and urge them to finish the work of the 2022 session in a special session. She said that an Action Alert will be sent out to all transit systems asking them to contact legislators.
- The Transportation Alliance will be hosting regional transportation meetings with candidates for the legislature this fall. Margaret urged Board members to participate in these meetings and help educate candidates about the need for transit funding.
- Additional information is available regarding frontline worker pay. All employers are required to notify employees regarding the process for applying for frontline worker pay.

VII. Program Coordinator – **Heidi Buss**

- Heidi reported that registrations are coming in for the Roadeo and sponsorship is strong. Board members were encouraged to help spread the word and recruit more drivers for the Roadeo.
- The next planning meeting for the Transit Conference will be held on Thursday, June 2nd.

VIII. President's Update – **Ryan Daniel**

- Ryan reviewed the agenda for the upcoming meeting with OTAT staff. The meeting is scheduled for the afternoon of May 26th. The meeting will include a discussion of communications, the upcoming solicitations, RTAP scholarships, and discretionary grants.

IX. Financial Report – **Nick Lemmer**

- The Board reviewed the financial report through April 30, 2022. Nick noted that some systems have not yet paid dues and he will reach out to those systems.

Motion to approve Financial Report: Jim Wolter. Second by: Alan Herrmann. Motion approved.

- Nick reminded Board members that there had been interest expressed at the Board retreat in having an ad hoc committee on Finances for MPTA. The committee will consist of: Jim Wolter, Luther Wynder, Mike Klauda and Nick.

X. MCOTA Update – **Sherry Munyon**

- Sherry reported on work being done by MCOTA. There are work groups that have been meeting that focus on removing barriers, dealing with waiver and reimbursement issues and volunteer driver issues. The Volunteer Driver group has finished a fact sheet that is now available and is working on updating the brochure on volunteer drivers.

XI. Events 2022

- Rodeo – Austin, MN - July 14,15, 2022
- Transit Conference – St. Cloud, MN - October 23-25, 2022
- Transportation Day at the Capitol - March 31, 2022 at Capitol Ridge Hotel
- Fly-In – Washington D.C. – September 20-22, 2022

XII. Next Meeting

June 30, 2022 - 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

XIII. Other Business

XIV. Meeting adjourned at 9:44 am.