



PTBA MEETING MINUTES
January 17, 2019, 6:00PM

Held at: Grant Transit Authority, 116 W 5th Ave, Moses Lake, WA 98837

Board Members Present

*Chair, Mayor Bruce Reim, Ephrata
Vice Chair, Steve Wellein, Soap Lake
Mayor, Kevin Newland, Wilson Creek
Councilman, Richard McGuire, Electric City
Councilman, Don Myers, Moses Lake
Councilman, David Durfee, Quincy
Councilman, Byron Starkey, Warden
Commissioner, Tom Taylor Grant County
ATU Representative, Tracy Stephens*

Board Members Absent

Councilwoman Bailee Grindy, Coulee City

Staff Present

*Michael Wagner, General Manager
Saira Martinez, Administrative & ACCESS Coordinator/Board Clerk
Brandy Heston, Administrative Services Manager
Kendra Moos, Human Resources Manager
Stephanie Guettinger, Para-Transit Manager
Greg Lange, Facility & Maintenance Manager*

Board Members Vacancies

None

Executive Session, Contract Negotiations

The Board of Directors went into executive session at 6:00pm for Performance Review of a Public Employee. At 6:30pm, Board Clerk, Saira Martinez, announced that 20 more minutes were needed.

The meeting of the Grant Transit Authority Board of Directors was called to order by Board Chair, Mayor Reim, at 6:50pm. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken by Saira Martinez, GTA Board Clerk, 9 Board Members present and 1 Board Member absent.

Board Chair, Mayor Reim, requested that an item be added to the agenda under the managers' report called Evaluations. Mayor Newland made a motion to add the item, Evaluations, to the agenda. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, motion unanimously carried.

Consent Agenda

Councilman Starkey made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman McGuire, seconded the motion, motion unanimously carried.

Treasurers Report, review and approval of vouchers

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to accept the Treasurers Report and to approve vouchers 14593 to 14666, in the amount of \$582,699.97. Vice Chair, Wellein, seconded the motion, motion unanimously carried. The board has requested that GTA's new finance officer, Amanda Walker, attend the next couple of board meetings.

Public Comments

None.

Unfinished Business

a. 2019 Budget

At last months board meeting, the Board of Directors directed staff to work together to create a balanced budget and attempt to put a significant amount into reserves. Administrative Services Manager, Brandy Heston, explained that although they have prepared a budget, they think it would be best if the board chair appoints a committee so that the board is involved in every step of creating the budget. Board Chair, Mayor Reim, appointed the following board members on to the committee. Councilman Don Myers, Mayor Kevin Newland, Vice Chair Steve Wellein and Councilman Richard McGuire. The committee will meet next week.

New Business

a. Resolution No. 19-01, ATU/GTA Collective Bargaining Agreement

Human Resources Manager, Kendra Moos, explained that after negotiating with the ATU, we have come to an agreement. Commissioner Taylor made a motion to approve Resolution No. 19-01, ATU/GTA Collective Bargaining Agreement. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, motion unanimously carried.

b. Resolution No. 19-02, USBank Signatures

GTA's new accountant needs to be added to the USBank account. Councilman Myers made a motion to approve Resolution No. 19-02, USBank Signatures. Councilman Starkey seconded the motion, motion unanimously carried.

Managers' Report/Board Interaction

Ridership Targets, Projections and Operations

October 2018 numbers for ridership were the highest in GTA history with over 23,000 riders for the month. The adjustment of routes and the removal of some service does impact future numbers and we anticipate that the following months numbers will reflect this change. We continue to refine our driver hours and the elimination of large splits to improve driver safety and work load. We anticipate a 6-month bid in the near future.

State Audit Report

The State Auditor's Office has completed its audit of our finance and operations reporting and had their exit interview with 3 Board members and 2 staff members on Tuesday the 15th of January. There were no significant findings or recommendations. This was the audit for the two-year period of 2016 and 2017. Our next audit will be in 2020. A copy of the report is on file and available to the Board.

Public Meeting for Rate & Service Changes

As a part of the budget adjustment, staff looked at some different ways to better offset costs for the large distances covered by routes to the far North and South of our County. Two recommendations were made: 1) to move these routes to a demand response structure eliminating the requirements of running a bus empty, 2) proposing an increased fare for these areas. These changes require that we give public notice of our intentions and these meetings were set and announced in the media as well as on our buses and website.

Our first meeting was held Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 5pm at the Ephrata Transportation Center. We had a notable attendance of between 12-15 riders. The discussion was very helpful to them and we had great feedback both as to the impact of the cost and the value of the service we provide. A second meeting was held at the Multimodal Transit Center in Moses Lake the following day, Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 5:30pm. We had a former rider attend and share his view of why he no longer rides. It was again a profitable conversation.

At the February Board Meeting, we will bring our recommendations and observations for consideration and approval.

Contract Negotiations

Negotiations for our next three-year labor agreement were completed in December. The final proposal was presented to the membership and was approved. The contract runs retroactively from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021

Evaluations

As previously announced, Evaluations was added to the agenda. Board Chair, Mayor Reim, explained that the board spent some time talking about the General Manager evaluations. Councilman Starkey made a motion of a no confidence vote. Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, motion unanimously carried. Board Chair, Mayor Reim, explained that this was not an easy thing to do.

Other:

Admin will work on setting up a date for a Special Meeting to amend the 2019 budget.

The next regular GTA Board of Directors Meeting will be held at the Multimodal Transit Center on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 6:30pm.

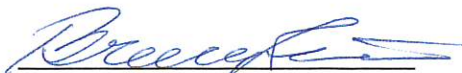
Commissioner Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman McGuire, seconded the motion, motion unanimously carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:08pm.

Attested:



Saira Martinez
Administrative & ACCESS Coordinator
Board Clerk

I certify that this is a true copy of the accepted GTA meeting minutes.



Board Member