

**CONNECT TRANSIT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
PROCEEDINGS OF MAY 30, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Connect Transit was held at the Connect Transit Board Room #135, 351 Wylie Drive, Normal, Illinois 61761 on May 30, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT:           Mike McCurdy, Vice-Chairman  
                                  Ryan Whitehouse, Secretary  
                                  Judy Buchanan  
                                  Lauren Lacey

TRUSTEES ABSENT:           John Bowman  
                                  Jennifer McDade  
                                  John Thomas

CITY MANAGERS:             Steve Rasmussen, City of Bloomington Assistant City Manager

STAFF PRESENT:             Isaac Thorne, Interim General Manager  
                                  Julie Beer, Executive Assistant

The meeting was called to order by the Vice Chairman at 4:30 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Motion by Trustee Lauren Lacey, seconded by Trustee Judy Buchanan to allow City of Bloomington Assistant City Manager, Steve Rasmussen to participate in the Board meeting.

AYE: All

NAY: None

Motion carried.

Trustee Jennifer McDade arrived at 4:31 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: April 8, 2017 Work Session, April 18, 2017 Work Session and Regular Meeting of April 25, 2017
2. Disbursements for Month of April, 2017
3. Financial Report for Month of April, 2017
4. Capital and Self Insurance Reserve Fund Balances for month of April, 2017

5. Monthly Statistical Report for month of April, 2017

Motion by Trustee Lauren Lacy., seconded by Trustee Judy Buchanan that the Consent Agenda be approved.

AYE: All

NAY: None

Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Recommendation for FY 18 Property/Casualty Insurance Renewal

Isaac Thorne, Interim General Manager introduced this item. He stated with this renewal, Connect Transit would save \$14,087. The Workman's Compensation premium is reduced by a total of \$17,901. He recommended that the Board approve this renewal.

Trustee Judy Buchanan questioned the rate reduction in the Workman's Compensation premium. Mr. Thorne responded the reduction is due to Connect Transit's loss ratio. The safety and training measures implemented by Dave White, Safety and Training Director have had a positive impact.

Motion by Trustee Judy Buchanan, seconded by Trustee Jennifer McDade that the Interim General Manager be authorized to renew property and casualty insurance effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

AYE: All

NAY: None

Motion carried.

Town of Normal Manager, Mark Peterson arrived at 4:34 p.m.

Recommendation for the FY 18 Budget

Isaac Thorne, Interim General Manager introduced this item. Staff recommends a budget of \$13.5 million, and an increase to service hours. Route changes are recommended, however, prior to the Board approving any changes, staff would conduct a series of public listening sessions and a public hearing. If approved, route changes would take effect in August. The proposed budget reflects the proposed route changes. One item that is not discussed in the staff report is the

possible elimination of the YWCA's Medivan program. Staff is unsure if that program will be eliminated.

Trustee Judy Buchanan questioned an additional decrease in service hours if the YWCA Medivan service is eliminated. Mr. Thorne responded if the Medivan service is eliminated, the Connect Mobility service may see an additional ridership cost if it begins to provide service to those clients. Funds may need to be pulled from the Fixed Route service in order to cover the additional cost to the Mobility service.

Mr. Thorne reminded the Board that on average, Connect Mobility usage increases 11 to 13% every year.

Secretary Ryan Whitehouse noted that the Tripper Routes were a good faith effort to provide service to those areas. It is now known that the Tripper Service is cost prohibitive.

Trustee John Thomas arrived at 4:41 p.m.

Vice Chairman Mike McCurdy questioned other area service providers that could help provide transportation services if the YWCA Medivan service is cancelled. Isaac Thorne, Interim General Manager responded that there were a few. He would be reaching out to them.

Vice Chairman McCurdy questioned the impact of the proposed budget on the FY 2020 budget. Mr. Thorne responded that it is expected that Connect Transit would run out of 5307 FAST Act funding by FY 2019. By making small cuts to service now allows for some relief and frees up a little capital to purchase new buses. The system is in need of replacing 23 buses. Staff is looking to replace 6 to 8 buses in FY 2018.

Vice Chairman Mike McCurdy noted that the proposed budget includes an increase in fare revenue in the amount of 3%.

Motion by Trustee Jennifer McDade, seconded by Trustee Judy Buchanan that the Proposed FY18 Budget be approved.

AYE: All

NAY: None

Motion carried.

(Proposed FY18 Budget attached)

#### Creation of a Labor Relations Ad Hoc Committee – Vice Chairman Mike McCurdy

Vice Chairman Mike McCurdy introduced this item. This committee would increase efficiency and ensure confidentiality. Secretary Ryan Whitehouse has agreed to chair the Ad Hoc Committee, Trustee Lauren Lacy has agreed to act as Secretary, and Trustee John Thomas as agreed to participate as well.

Secretary Ryan Whitehouse stated the Ad Hoc Committee would bring the final tentative agreement back to the Board for a vote.

Motion by Trustee Judy Buchanan, seconded by Trustee Jennifer McDade that the Labor Relations Ad Hoc Committee be created.

AYE: All

NAY: None

Motion carried.

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

Interim General Manager Isaac Thorne stated the Illinois Senate has passed Bill 5443 and it is waiting for the Governor's signature. This law would ensure that sales tax designed to fund public transportation would go into a dedicated account as opposed to the General Fund. He believed that the Governor would sign it. If passed, it would go into effect in 2019.

Mr. Thorne informed the Board that the 2004 and 2005 buses are in very bad shape. Many are requiring replacement engines and transmissions. Staff is looking at purchasing replacement buses.

### **TRUSTEE'S COMMENTS**

Secretary Ryan Whitehouse questioned if staff was updating the new Lobbying firm about its needs. Isaac Thorne, Interim General Manager stated he had met with them at the most recent American Public Transportation Association (APTA) conference. The firm is very supportive and is aware that Connect Transit's big needs include infrastructure in Downtown Bloomington, bus shelters, and buses.

Motion by Trustee Judy Buchanan, Seconded by Trustee Jennifer McDade to adjourn to Executive Session.

AYE: All

NAY: None

Motion carried.

Time: 4:57 p.m.

The Regular Board meeting was called back to order by the Vice Chairman at 5:41 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Recommendation for FY 18 Health Insurance Renewal

Motion by Trustee Jennifer McDade, seconded by Trustee Lauren Lacy that the contract with Connect Transit's current provider, Health Alliance not be renewed and a contract with Blue Cross and Blue Shield be approved. Employees will be given the choice of three (3) plans: Blue Cross MPP83436, MPET1V07, or MPPP9383c.

AYE: All

NAY: None

Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Trustee Judy Buchanan, seconded by Trustee Jennifer McDade to adjourn.

AYE: All

NAY: None

Motion carried.

Time: 5:42 p.m.

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Julie Beer, Executive Assistant





# Proposed Route System Map

FY2018 Budget

