

**CONNECT TRANSIT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PROCEEDINGS OF NOVEMBER 24, 2015**

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 November 24, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Bill Wilson, Chairman
 Mike McCurdy, Vice-Chairman
 Ryan Whitehouse, Secretary
 Jennifer McDade
 John Bowman
 John Thomas

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Judy Buchanan

CITY MANAGERS:

STAFF PRESENT: Andrew Johnson, General Manager
 Julie Beer, Executive Assistant

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Marilyn Evans addressed the Board. She had recently attended the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Certification listening session on November 7th. She was saddened that more people did not attend. She wished that those who use Connect Mobility had more of an interest in what is working and what is not working. She had been informed of the meeting ahead of time and was able to attend. She was very appreciative of the information that was provided at the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting of October 27, 2015 and September 22, 2015 Executive Session
2. Disbursements for Month of October, 2015
3. Financial Report for Month of October, 2015
4. Capital and Self Insurance Reserve Fund Balances for month of October, 2015
5. Monthly Statistical Report for month of October, 2015

Motion by Vice Chairman Mike McCurdy, Seconded by Trustee John Thomas that the Consent Agenda be approved.

AYE: All

NAY: None

Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Universal Access Agreement – YouthBuild McLean County

Andrew Johnson, General Manager introduced this item. This Universal Access Agreement allows students who attend YouthBuild McLean County to ride Connect Transit buses with their student identification card. The total contract amount is just under \$13,000. The fare total per ride is \$.90.

This renewal Access Agreement is a 42% increase over the previous year. The previous year was the first agreement with YouthBuild, and usage was greater than initially anticipated. This is a positive agreement which provides the students with an additional layer of independence.

Motion by Vice Chairman Mike McCurdy, Seconded by Trustee John Thomas that the Consent Agenda be approved.

AYE: All

NAY: None

Motion carried.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Andrew Johnson, General Manager addressed the Board. He reminded them that the "Stuff the Bus" fundraiser for Children's Home and Aid would be next week, starting on Monday, November 30, 2015 at HyVee. This event is a very worthy cause. There is a huge amount of support by Connect Transit's employees. He welcomed them to visit and show their support.

Mr. Johnson stated Congress is still working on a transportation bill, and an agreement has not been reached. He believed that a funding bill would be passed by the end of the year and anticipated that it would include another TIGER program.

Trustee Judy Buchanan arrived at 4:44 p.m.

Mr. Johnson introduced and welcomed Ms. Thalia Klunick; she is a Connect Transit Bus Operator and the newly elected Amalgamated Transit Union's (ATU) Vice President.

Mr. Johnson stated there have been scheduling issues with the Farebox vendors. Three (3) vendors submitted proposals, and all three (3) were being scheduled to conduct presentations of their product. He expected that a recommendation would be prepared for a December Board meeting. Once approved, it would take approximately four to six (4-6) months before the

equipment would be completely online. Chairman Bill Wilson inquired if the new fareboxes could be utilized immediately. Mr. Johnson responded that they would be able to take cash fares immediately, but it would take time for the computer software to be installed and programmed on all of the buses.

Vice Chairman Mike McCurdy questioned if the new fareboxes would coincide with a new route system. Mr. Johnson responded that the Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) would be taken into account. There may be a Work Session scheduled in January for Board discussion.

Secretary Ryan Whitehouse stated any fare structure and route changes should be made at the same time. Mr. Johnson noted dedicated local funding would have an impact on any fare structure changes. Trustee Judy Buchanan agreed, stating Connect Transit would need to be strategic. Mr. Johnson agreed, the key would be public input. The more that is heard from the public the better the system.

TRUSTEE'S COMMENTS

Secretary Ryan Whitehouse stated he appreciated the General Manager's report that was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. It was very informative.

Secretary Whitehouse questioned if the Community Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) should send a letter to Connect Transit's Congressional leaders in support of mass transit. Mr. Johnson responded that a letter could be drafted for CTAC to sign and send. Vice Chairman Mike McCurdy stated the Citizens to Ensure Fair Transit (CEFT) could also send a letter.

Vice Chairman Mike McCurdy questioned how the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Certification listening sessions went. Mr. Johnson responded that they were not well attended. He anticipated more feedback once the process of eligibility certification begins. Vice Chairman McCurdy questioned the difference in cost between a fixed route ride and a Connect Mobility ride. Mr. Johnson responded \$3.50 for a fixed route ride and \$30 to \$35 for a Connect Mobility ride.

Andrew Johnson, General Manager stated that the next scheduled Board meeting would be held in January. A special Board meeting would be called in December if there were items of business to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Judy Buchanan, seconded by Vice Chairman Mike McCurdy to adjourn.

Time: 5:11 p.m.

AYE: All

NAY: None

Motion carried.

Ryan Whitehouse, Secretary