



Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 7:30 a.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
101 Queen City Park Rd, Burlington, VT 05401

Present:

Commissioner Waninger
Commissioner Chittenden
Commissioner Kaynor
Commissioner Dimitruk
Commissioner Pouech
Commissioner Buermann
Commissioner Sharrow
Commissioner Bohne
Commissioner Spencer
Alt. Commissioner Polyte
Alt. Commissioner Moore
Alt. Commissioner Gallagher
Alt. Commissioner Brewer

Jon Moore, Interim General Manager
Trish Redalieu, Director of Human Resources
Nick Foss, Director of Finance
Jamie Smith, Director of Marketing and Planning
Deb Coppola, Senior Accountant
Jenn Wood, Public Affair Coordinator
Matt Kimball, Capital Projects Manager
Matthew Young, HR Coordinator
Karen Plante, Payroll Administrator
Pam McDonald, Accounting Coordinator
Chris Damiani, Transit Planner
Ross McDonald, VTrans
Spencer Smith, Public

1. Commissioner Chittenden opened the meeting at 7:32 a.m.
2. Adjustment of the Agenda – None.
3. Public Comment – Spencer Smith asked about the electric bus vendor in another state.

Mr. Moore stated that an RFP was issued for the electric bus procurement and no in state proposals were submitted.

4. Consent Agenda- **A motion was made to approve the consent agenda with changes to the minutes by Commissioner Spencer, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Dimitruk. All were in favor, however the motion was tabled until 4-23-20 due to the call in number for today's meeting not being posted to the public.**

Commissioner Waninger entered at 7:37 am.

No Action was taken.



5. VTrans Update – Ross McDonald entered at 7:39 am.

Mr. McDonald gave a brief update on the CARES Act and stated that discussion have been taking place throughout the State on how to best utilize these funds. Also VTrans have been having weekly calls with the FTA discussing availability of PPE, Cleaning supplies and the bus disinfecting procedures, etc.

Mr. McDonald informed the Board that VTrans is applying for grants to purchase twenty-six cutaway/sprinter type vehicles.

Tom Barnes entered at 7:50 am.

There was discussion.

6. GM Update – Mr. Moore presented the COVID-19 memos that were included in this month's board packet.

Mr. Moore informed the Board that staff has also been working with VPTA and the VT State Governor to mandate all passengers wear face coverings while on the bus.

There was discussion.

Mr. Moore stated that GMT staff has received conflicting information on whether or not GMT is eligible for reimbursement under the FFCRA and will follow up once a final decision has been made.

Mr. Moore informed the Board that three preexisting bus shelters have been removed from Cherry St. in Burlington near the DTC, due to excessive loitering. The three shelters have not been in use by GMT for three years. Burlington Police had also expressed concern over the amount of loitering in the shelters.

There was discussion.

7. Continuity of Operations Plan– Mr. Moore presented the draft of the Continuity of Operations Plan and stated that a final draft will be presented at the next board meeting for input from The Board.

There was discussion.

No action was taken.



8. Finance Report – Mr. Foss presented an overview of the finance report that was included in this month’s board packet.

There was discussion.

Mr. Foss stated that letters were sent to the member town offices about Colchester joining as a non-voting member and a slight increase in member assessments.

There was discussion.

Commissioner Dimitruk stated that she does not want the current uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic to cloud the fact that our staff has been working hard to get GMT’s finances under control.

Commissioner Spencer inquired about whether or not GMT will use some of the CARES act fund to help support member communities.

Mr. Foss said this has not been discussed yet.

Mr. Moore stated that as staff get a better understanding of how we may use the CARES act funding it should be an agenda item at the May Board Meeting.

9. Premium Pay for Eligible Employees – Mr. Moore presented the Premium pay memo that was included in this month’s board packet, which states that eligible employee will receive an additional \$3.00 per hour, for hours actually worked at a GMT facility or operating a GMT vehicle.

There was discussion.

Commissioner Spencer requested that this premium pay have a specific end date that could be extended as needed. Commissioners Dimitruk and Kaynor expressed support for this as well.

Commissioner Davis entered at 8:41 am.

There was discussion.

No action was taken.

10. FY21 Service Changes- Mrs. Smith presented the Service Changes for Urban and Rural Systems memo that was included in this month’s board packet. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic we created a series of videos that outlined the changes



that were on our website, on social media sites, shared with partners/stakeholders, and broadcast on public access television. Broadcasting the videos through these channels allowed passengers a much longer feedback period, roughly a month.

There was discussion.

Commissioner Spencer thanked staff for continuing this process virtually and said he does not support the changes but understands moving forward with these changes temporarily to help the current situation and revisiting them at a later date.

Commissioner Moore stated that Lamoille County supports the proposed changes for their region.

Commissioner Kaynor stated that he did not support these suspensions but understands at this time they must happen, however going forward GMT will need to be nimble and revisit these changes when we can.

There was discussion.

No action was taken.

11. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Request for Proposals – Mr. Foss presented the memo that was included in this month’s board packet which stated that the contract with GMT’s current ADA service provider SSTA is expiring June 30 2020. An RFP was issued for this contract.

There was discussion.

12. Executive Session: 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3), Personnel- Tabled until a special board meeting can take place.

There was discussion on when to hold a special board meeting to vote on agenda items 4, 7, 9, 10 and 12 from today’s agenda.

The Board decided on hold a meeting on Thursday April 23, 2020 at 7:30 am.

13. Adjourn – **The meeting adjourned at 9:13 am.**