

Faribault-Martin County Joint Transit Board – Executive Committee
FM Transit Facility
1023 North Dewey Street Fairmont, MN 56031
March 7, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Board Chair Bill Groskreutz. Joint Transit Board Executive Committee members present in person were: Faribault County Commissioners Young and Groskreutz and Martin County Commissioners Bleess. Missing was Martin County Commissioner Belgard who had Commissioner Koons attend in his place. Also present was Jeremy Monahan, Faribault – Martin County Transit Director.

Board Chair asked for any changes to the agenda. There were none. Motion made by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Bleess to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Monahan produced an Unpaid Bills report totaling \$32,289.75 and noted there will still be regular and recurring bills arriving in the coming weeks that will be due before the next Executive Committee meeting. Discussion ensued regarding a few of the bills including the Replacement of the Exterior Lights for the Transit Facility which is an added security measure. Also one of the vehicle repairs is the result of an insurance claim from January where another vehicle struck our bus that was parked completing a stop. The cost of the repair less our deductible has been reimbursed by MCIT. There was discussion about some of the other bills and their details.

Motion made by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Bleess to approve payment of the Unpaid Bills as presented and to approve giving the Transit Director authority to continue to pay other regular and recurring bills at the discretion of the Transit Director upon receipt. Motion passed unanimously.

Monahan produced a Bank Statement for the Transit Board. It showed that as of February 29, 2024 the Transit Board had \$288,977.95 for a bank balance. There were no large funding amounts in February and none due until April. Monahan noted that the farebox revenue has been very strong lately approaching \$10,000 per month. The rest of the activity was business as usual.

Discussion turned to Old Business and an update on the recent Compliance Review. Monahan presented a table from the Compliance Review final report provided by the consultants hired by MnDOT to conduct the review. This table summarized all of the Compliance Findings and Advisory Recommendations. Monahan explained that of the items listed only the Findings are required to be acted upon. The deadline for all actions is May 2024. Any further actions that require Board approval will be brought before the Executive Committee in April for review and then to the Full Board for consideration. However, a number of the Findings and Recommendations were already taken care of with the actions taken by the Board at the February meeting. Also, there were some Recommendations that were taken care of administratively such as correcting the outgoing message if dispatch is unable to answer a call and not allowing callers to leave a message and assume their ride has been reserved. There was discussion about the

Findings and Recommendations and the amount of effort and effect they might have on the system. No other action was required at this time.

Discussion turned to New Business and an ongoing criminal investigation involving one of the passengers and multiple staff while riding the bus. Security concerns regarding the transit system and personnel were discussed.

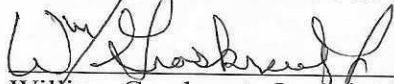
Motion made by Commissioner Bless, seconded by Commissioner Young to authorize the Transit Board to reimburse the Transit Director for any filing fees associated with a Harassment Restraining Order that may be needed. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion turned to the ridership report. Monahan presented the charts that showed a strong February that had an extra day for a normal February so there was a solid increase over the 2023 ridership amounts. It was noted that Faribault County had a dip in ridership from January 2024 which is likely attributed to a large illness breakout in area schools causing many preschoolers to be absent for a number of days in February. Martin County was essentially flat from January and that follows recent year trends. Monahan noted that the Drivers are still being motivated with stat updates to have another increase over last year's numbers for March. There was some discussion about the ridership data.

To accommodate schedules the next Executive Committee meeting was changed to Friday April 12th at 10:00 a.m. at the Prairieland Facility in Truman. The next Full Board meeting will be held on Tuesday April 22nd at 9:00 a.m. in Blue Earth.

With no further business to wit, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

JOINT TRANSIT BOARD
FARIBAULMARTIN COUNTIES



William Groskreutz Jr., Joint Transit Board Chair

ATTEST: 
Greg Young, Board Secretary