

Minutes of the August 10, 2022 Board Meeting
45 Mill Street, Wilmington, Vermont and Via Video

Seth Boyd called the meeting to order at 5:07 pm. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were as follows

Board Members:

Randy Capitani
Seth Boyd (Acting President)
Jason Rasmussen
David Moulton

Members of the Public: None Present

Staff Present:

Keith Johnson, Finance Manager, SEVT
Christine Howe, General Manager, SEVT
Randy Schoonmaker, CEO SEVT

Invited Guests:

Tim Bradshaw, VTrans

Public Input: None

Review July 13 Meeting Minutes: No changes

Amendments to the Agenda: None

Finance Committee Report: Christine reported ridership numbers. The Red and White Lines in Brattleboro are on pace for another record year, and across the board most routes are showing good improvement. Rockingham fixed routes are up 63%. Demand Response is up 36% from last year and continues to tick up. The Wilmington-West Dover route is the same ridership as last year currently. Wilmington fixed routes are up 95% and total SEVT ridership is up 44%. Seth asked for clarification on the Readsboro route. Christine explained there are regular riders who live in Readsboro, work in Dover and use the bus for transportation.

Randy explained the financial reports are on Director Point and there is an executive summary for Board members. Tim explained the prepaids are released and should be in SEVT accounts within several days. Jason asked how much of the account's payables will be covered when the prepaids realized. Keith explained that the current payables and line of credit would be paid off and still leave money for cash flow.

Randy presented the revenue from sponsorships for this fiscal year. If all sells, we would see \$80,000 in sponsorship income this year. There was an update on Medicaid revenue and expenses. Randy presented an excel spreadsheet showing the funding formula for Medicaid revenue across the transit providers in the state of Vermont. Tim asked if Elaine from VPTA is aware of this report, and Randy explained that this report is generated from Elaine and VPTA. Not all of SEVT expenses for service are being covered at this time. All operators are losing money at this time, but the formula for revenue is flawed. There is a new contract beginning in January 2023, and the negotiations are beginning now for a better funding formula. SEVT asked VPTA to not withhold the escrow payment to at least minimize the lose each week. Seth asked how each operator calculated expenses. Randy explained all transit providers use the same cost allocation method, so everyone is calculating

expenses the same way. Randy C asked to clarify that the contract negotiation for Medicaid is not with VTTrans but with Department of Health Access. Tim explained that while it is a “shared” program for rides, VTTrans does not have say in the contract negotiations and try to remain neutral if we can. Randy S explained VTTrans contributes all the capital. Randy C said that it was the second time reviewing the information and it is still mind boggling. However, members acknowledged it was good information to review.

Renew Officer Emergency Decision Making: Randy S presented the draft for review. He explained that if there is a reaction needed quickly there should be something in place. It is easier to convene one or a few Board members for a decision, rather than full Board approval of nine members. Randy C asked what we do with this, and what will trigger it. Randy S explained this is an operating policy, not a bylaw. Seth said he would like a committee, not a full committee, but a committee of say two members and the CEO. Jason agreed with Seth, but if there is a situation that you can only reach one board member, then the CEO and that member should be allowed to make the decision. Keith made the point if it states CEO and President, but the President is not available, what is the fall back? Randy C said to go back and incorporate some of this language to bring back to the board. We will do a pecking order of individual people and not a committee based on officers or positions. This will be presented at the next board meeting.

Nominating Committee Report: Seth reported on the Nominating Committee. Seth and Randy C both reached out to their prospective contacts and neither have panned out. Randy S will reach back out to Adam Grinold to see if he found any possibilities. Randy S is looking for direction. Jason reached out and the Springfield Regional Development Corporation is thinking about it. Seth asked to keep this in their minds as we wait to hear back from the three leads we have out at this time.

New Business: Dave Moulton announced he is retiring as of December from Mount Snow. He is willing to stay on the Board, however if someone must be a Mount Snow representative but he will not be a Mount Snow Representative. Randy S will look into whether the person has to be Mount Snow representative.

Tim thanked Randy S and the staff about moving the Microtransit forward, VTTrans greatly appreciates it. Other towns were Manchester, Middlebury, Barre, and Morrisville loop

Randy C thanked Tim and Ross for resurrecting Route 30 after the last Board Meeting. Seth asked about the Financial Consultant RFP. Christine explained the first round produced no proposals. VTTrans asked us to cast a wider net of advertising, which we will and see what that produces. Tim explained if the second round still comes up empty there would be the possibility of working on something internally.

Executive Session if Necessary: None

Motion to adjourn: Randy C motioned to adjourn, seconded by Dave, adjourn at 6:03 pm