

Minutes of the Special May 4, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting

Board Members Present: Seth Boyd, Sue Fillion, Dan Thoenke, Jason Rasmussen, Randy Capitani

Management Present: Randy Schoonmaker
Keith Johnson

Guest Present: Ross MacDonald, VTrans

The meeting was called to order by Seth at 1:04 pm.

Randy prepared a proposal for Okemo for SEVT to assume their transportation program over the next couple of years. This winter one existing route would add stops plus another route with the same driver and vehicle we are operating now; we would add a Jackson Gore-Okemo route; and a Jackson Gore Parking Lot route. We would add additional routes the following year. For this coming winter we would generate \$276,885 in revenue and would generate a surplus of \$90,248. There are some capital and ownership costs to be addressed. Randy requested the Board to discuss and vote on this proposal. Ross felt the proposal sounded great. His question was can we hire more staff relative to not having enough drivers for programs like the AHS Reach-Up program. How do they mesh? Randy explained that the AHS driving staff would be year-round at \$25 whereas the Okemo routes would be seasonal at \$31 per hour. They are two different labor pools. We would interview existing Okemo drivers as well. Ross mentioned the expansion vehicle that we requested in the grant agreement. We would use a spare bus or ask Okemo for another bus. We are holding off supporting a new route at Mount Snow to see how the Okemo proposal works out. VTrans is fine with us proceeding. Seth asked if an Okemo bus would be branded as a MOOver bus. Randy replied that anything we drive would have spots. Leasing or buying a bus(es) from Okemo is an option. Randy suggested that Okemo sell us what buses we need for \$1. We agreed that anything we drive we should own or lease. Seth asked if we would hire their drivers. Randy replied that we would interview everyone and that there are drivers that we know we want and there are drivers we are not sure about. We will be paying them \$7 more per hour than what they are currently being paid. Randy C asked about the quality of buses that Okemo is using now. They have Gilligs, school buses, and small cutaways. There may only be one or two buses we would be interested in. Jason asked, by adding the West Hill route, would we be impacting or losing riders on other routes? Randy replied that the existing Route 61 schedule can be driven in 25 minutes, leaving us 25 minutes per hour to add The Pointe and the West Hill route within the existing one-hour headway. We can use the same bus and the same driver as we are doing now, asking only for a fuel surcharge in addition to the \$35,000 donation they give us annually.

Randy C motioned to authorize Randy S and/or staff to go ahead and give the presentation to Okemo. Dan seconded. Randy C reminded us that with the new bylaws Randy S would have to bring a new contract back to the Board for signature. All approved.

Randy S thanked the Board and offered to send the proposal to the Board and Ross.

Meeting adjourned.