

The Board of Trustees of the Sangamon Mass Transit District met in a regular session in the office of the Sangamon Mass Transit District located at 928 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois. The Meeting was called to order at 4:30PM by Susan Davsko, Vice-Chairperson.

I. ROLL CALL Present:

Brian Brewer	Chairperson
Sue Davsko	Vice Chairperson
Karen Hasara	Treasurer
Leslie McCarthy	Secretary
Sandra Douglas	Trustee
Jerry Doss	Trustee
Wynne Coplea	Trustee
Steve Schoeffel	Managing Director
Russell Reed	SMTD Counsel
Jason Sass	Associate Planner, SSCRPC

Absent:

Pete Roberts	ADA Advisory Committee
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II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no comments or questions. Trustee McCarthy made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2021 meeting, seconded by Trustee Douglas. The motion unanimously passed.

III. DIRECTOR REPORTS

Managing Director: Steve Schoeffel reported roughly 10% of the workforce is fully vaccinated with another 10-15% having reported receiving at least their first dose. SMTD helped promote a vaccination event hosted by a local Walgreens and multiple local governments. The event was designed to provide the underserved and first-line workers their vaccination. SMTD was happy to participate in the event. Work continues on the multi-modal transportation center project with the county. Staff is currently working through staging efforts to operating during construction. Redesigned routes for Chatham, Riverton, Rochester, and Sherman are scheduled to start in June, with a public presentation to the full board being prepared. Director Schoeffel noted staff is currently working on two contract negotiations with SMTD's two bargaining units. Finally, SMTD's community awareness group is holding a food drive with a goal of collecting 1,100 items.

Trustee Hasara inquired about the recently restarted fare collection. Director Ashford replied there was a decrease in ridership, on average, of 900 trips per day, which would include transfers. Passenger incidents also decreased. As of Friday, ridership increased to 3,200 from 1,600 on Monday. The return to 3,000+ is still less than pre-pandemic ridership.

Director of Operations: Melissa Ashford reported briefly on an item later in the agenda related to an opportunity to participate in an electric paratransit bus pilot program funded by the state. To participate in the program, SMTD qualified as two Environmental Justice Population Thresholds exists within our boundaries; Capital Township having a demographic of 25% or more of the

population identifying as ethnic minorities, and Springfield Township having an annual median household income 65% below the state average.

Director of Finance: Erik Bush updated the board on the farebox project and procurement projects. Staff met with Genfare to discuss project timelines recently. In addition, staff submitted to the Illinois Department of Transportation SMTD's concurrence request, which is required prior to executing any contracts. The original grant from the state was awarded in 2014 and will be matched with CARES Act resources. Two competitive requests for proposals went unanswered twice, Armored Car Services and Lighting Updates. Staff can begin direct contact with vendors.

IV. REPORTS

A. Approval of February Financial Statements and Cash Disbursements

Director Bush reported SMTD is currently operating 8% under budget for the year. Trustee McCarthy made a motion to approve the February Financial Statements and Cash Disbursements, seconded by Trustee Coplea. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Board Committee Reports: Finance-Operations-Administration

Finance: Trustee Coplea reported no meeting this month.

Operations: Trustee Douglas thought the Johnson and Johnson vaccination collaboration was very helpful to the community and appreciated SMTD's involvement.

Administration: Trustee Hasara reported no meeting this month.

C. Planning Commission Report: Jason Saas announced the 2021 parking survey. The plan commission is also launching its master bike plan for the community.

D. Disabled Persons Advisory Committee Report: Pete Roberts was not in attendance.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Board Elections

Director Schoeffel outlined the process where every two years, the Board of Trustees discuss amongst themselves certain roles in their involvement with the Board and vote on chartered board positions. Currently, chartered positions established in the bylaws of Board President, Board Vice-Chair, Board Treasurer, and Board Secretary are to be voted on. Attorney Reid explained the board could simply motion to keep the officers as-is, could motion for a change in specific positions, or a slate, or other variations of presenting alternative candidates or continuing candidates, but a vote is necessary.

Trustee Coplea asked the board if all were comfortable with continuing in their current positions. Hearing no objection, Trustee Coplea made a motion to vote to maintain the current chartered position holders as-is for a two-year term; Board President Brian Brewer, Vice Chairperson Sue Davsko, Treasurer Karen Hasara, and Secretary Leslie McCarthy.

Trustee Douglas seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous in approving the chartered board positions slate. Board President Brewer commended all members of the board of trustees and looks forward to continuing the collaborative effort of the group.

b. Consider Health Alliance Corporate Health Rate Renewal

Director Bush reviewed the current health insurance marketplace and how SMTD costs are based on experience factors. In prior years, SMTD has incurred experience above group estimates, but this year the renewal of 5% is based on SMTD's experience coming in under estimate. Given the uncertainty of the marketplace, and timing and security in pricing it provides budget and employees, Director Bush recommends the board approve the proposal.

Trustee McCarthy made a motion to accept Health Alliance's rate renewal for plan year 2021-2022 at 5%, seconded by Trustee Hasara. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Consider Letter of Commitment to Participate in Illinois Department of Transportation EV STAR Pilot Project

SMTD was contacted by the Illinois Department of Transportation seeking participants in a low or no emission revenue vehicle pilot program by placing vehicles in service strategically to better understand wider low or no emission deployment capacity. The district's spare ratio directed this effort into introducing vehicles in the urban routes SMTD serves. These would be in addition to the ARBOC currently in use. The District will have a charging station installed on-site. Given the option between an 8hr charging station versus a 1.5 hour charging station, SMTD staff asked for the 1.5hr installation, which may bear some cost. Otherwise, the two buses and charging infrastructure will be provided at no cost and maintained at SMTD cost. The buses operate on roughly a 120–150-mile range on a single charge, which also influenced the 1.5hr station selection. In response to Trustee Douglas, Director Ashford was not able to identify how many agencies will be able to participate. However, as a Regional Maintenance Center in partnership with the state, it would be strategic for both the district and state to use an RMC as a fact-finding site.

While not officially chosen, staff has completed all the background research and is asking the board for approval to execute a letter of commitment as presented. This is to seek permission to participate. Should any financial commitment be identified, staff would come back to the board to discuss.

Trustee Douglas made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coplea to accept staff's recommendation and move to commit SMTD to the participation requirements of IDOT's EV Star Pilot Project and direct staff to execute all necessary documents to initiate the project. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS

None

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jane Ford thanked SMTD for it's participation in the Walgreens vaccination event.

Director Schoeffel announced an open meeting for the rail project. Details will be sent out.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Coplea made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Hasara seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 5:16 PM.


Leslie McCarthy, Secretary

Approved:


Brian Brewer, Chairperson