

PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

Advisory committee to the Mayor on public transit issues

Meeting Minutes for the meeting on March 28, 2011

Members present:

Kate Heligas
Julie Johnson Dresbach
Jim Madsen
Thad Mooney
Deb Nelson
Chris Schiltz

Members absent:

Greg Johnson

Public in attendance:

Joe Dvorak, DakotAbilities
Phil Jacobson
Chad Powell

Staff present:

Dennis Erckfritz, Operations Manager
Debra Gaikowski, Transit Planner
Randy Hartman, Assistant General Manager
Tierza Lanham, Paratransit Manager
Bill McCarty, Maintenance Manager

Call to order

Kate Heligas, Chair, called the Public Transit Advisory Board meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. and made introductory comments.

1. **Approval of February 28, 2011, PTAB Meeting Minutes**

Jim Madsen made a motion to accept the February 28, 2011 PTAB meeting minutes as written. Deb Nelson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Public Hearing: Proposed Program of Projects**

Kate Heligas began the Public Hearing as scheduled. Debra Gaikowski explained the Federal funds appropriated to the City and the proposed use of those funds. Kate opened it up for public comment. None was received. Julie Johnson Dresbach made a motion to accept the Proposed Program of Projects as presented. Thad Mooney seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Public Input on Non-agenda Items**

Phil Jacobson requested confirmation that Sioux Area Metro Route 8 would not be changing from a 35 minute run to a 30 minute run. Randy Hartman stated that Transit is not considering this change and will most likely not consider it any time in the near future.

4. **Old Business: None**

5. **New Business: None**

6. **Reports:**

a. February Operations Report

Randy reported on several incidents of media coverage regarding Sioux Area Metro within the past month. They included newspaper articles on the new Flash Card and the new airplane bus wrap, and two television interviews with Karen Walton, General Manager, on route changes and on the new fare card option.

Randy stated that Transit is also working on cleaning up The Bus Stop beginning with implementing a designated smoking area at the north end of the property, requiring uniforms on the Customer Information Clerks, and by freshening up several areas with new paint.

Randy reviewed ridership numbers for February, preventable accidents, and complaints received. This item was informational only.

b. Transit Marketing Committee Report

Debra talked about several items discussed at the last Transit Marketing meeting. They included Transit website hits, upcoming radio ads, and number of Flash Cards sold since they became available. This item was informational only.

c. Service Requests Report

At the request of a Board member at last month's meeting, Debra stated she will be giving a report each month of requests for service received. Requests this month were for expanded service in the north industrial park area and to University Center. Debra also reported on the status of the proposed route changes on Routes 10, 11, & 12. This item was informational only.

d. Transportation Coordination Report

Debra shared information that the South Eastern Council of Governments (SECOG) will be contracting with the USD Research Bureau to compile information from the transportation surveys completed last year. This information will be used to identify areas of need and potential pilot projects. Debra also mentioned that she, and the Mobility Manager from SECOG, will be attending a conference and training session on Mobility Management, in late April. This item was informational only.

7. **Other Business:**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.