



SAGINAW TRANSIT AUTHORITY REGIONAL SERVICES BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday – January 22, 2024

12:00 PM

STARS Board Room (615 Johnson St.)

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Kathy Miller called the meeting to order at 12:15 PM.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Ms. Kathy Miller – Chair, Mr. Floyd Kloc, Mr. Carl Ruth, Mr. Michael Hanley, Ms. Evelyn McGovern, Ms. Vickie Dillon

Members Absent: Dr. Michael Gavin, Ms. Diana Gutierrez

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS

Mr. Kloc moved to excuse all absent members, which was supported by Mr. Ruth. Movement carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Kloc moved to approve the agenda as presented, and the Board of Director December 18, 2023 meeting minutes. Mr. Ruth supported the movement. Movement carried unanimously.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE, ITEMS FOR APPROVAL (01/22/2024)

Cash Flows

Ms. Lauren Pavlowski, CFO, gave a quick summary of the cash flows.

Draft November Financial Statements

Ms. Pavlowski reviewed the draft November Financial Statements, allowing for any questions from members.

Glossary of Terms

Ms. Pavlowski put together a glossary of terms to help the Board of Directors members better understand the frequently reviewed financial reports. This will be a living document, and she will add more terms when requested.

Accessibility Plan

Ms. Pavlowski and Mr. Steffens, Executive Director, asked for a resolution for the accessibility plan, ensuring the TAC Board remains in compliance. Mr. Kloc motioned to approve the resolution for the accessibility plan, which was supported by Mr. Ruth. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOURCES & OPERATIONS, and INNOVATIVE SERVICE OFFERINGS COMMITTEE'S UPDATE (01/08/2024)

Mr. Steffens stated both committees created preset agendas, to help keep these committees on track throughout this upcoming year. A handout with a brief topic for these committees for each of the next five months was given to each member for reference.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Steffens mentioned he and three other speakers testified to the city regarding the remaining ARPA funding and

pitched us to use whatever is left of this funding to go toward purchasing new buses. He said this was good timing to show the city how prepared and in compliance STARS is, and how quickly and easily we could spend this funding. Mr. Kloc spoke with someone working for the city who said this has to be spent on things previously applied for – Mr. Steffens said this was previously applied for. Mr. Kloc suggested applying these funds toward shelter or pad projects, and that the money has to be committed by 12/31/2024 but not necessarily spent.

Mr. Steffens said the MPTA and Mass Trans Executive Officers met to work toward unifying the organizations. He and Ms. Jamie Forbes met with Mr. Tim Dempsey of Saginaw Future to talk about the Potter Street Station relocation project, our buses, and the memorial cup among other things – in hopes he expresses interest in joining our Board. Mr. Steffens gave an update on renewing our stake with Partnershift lowering it to 20k, and also said the bus unveiling with Senator Kildee went well and had great press coverage. Mr. Steffens shared that we were awarded a carbon reduction fund that will grant up to three new lift cabs, and more can be allocated to us if other agencies do not spend their portion of the fund.

Mr. Steffens reported that DHHS signed on to RTW, which Ms. Jamie Forbes had worked on for years. Ms. Miller asked if we have a contract or amount. Mr. Steffens replied there is no large contract, this is all by use at \$15 per use. CMU signed on as well. Mr. Hanley questioned the absentee issue in the union contract per management rights contracts, Mr. Steffens said the union distills the attendance contract. Ms. McGovern mentioned a member of Women of Color observed a driver helping an elderly man cross the street on MLK day, who then took him home when he realized City Hall was closed. Mr. Steffens will attempt to identify the employees and give them recognition for this act of kindness in our community. Mr. Ruth mentioned he received calls regarding our winter schedule; Mr. Steffens replied that we have no winter schedule, rather blizzards can slow service down and cause us to run behind. Mr. Steffens will be sure the verbiage “winter schedule” is not used, and riders understand that we simply run behind sometimes during harsh weather. Mr. Ruth noted a driver having an earpiece in on the bus, which Mr. Steffens noted is against policy and he will correct this behavior.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Kloc motioned to go into closed session, supported by Mr. Ruth. The Board voted unanimously to go into closed session regarding the Executive Director Contract. They then voted unanimously to come back from closed session. Mr. Kloc made a motion to approve the recommended Executive Director Contract as presented. Mr. Ruth supported the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Hanley congratulated Mr. Steffens on all of his great work and positive performance at STARS.

Ms. McGovern is excited about the future projects Mr. Steffens will continue to push for.

Mr. Kloc said to keep up the good work. Mr. Ruth agreed.

Ms. Miller said the list of accomplishments with the recommendation was helpful and impressive. She stated that the press coverage with Congressman Kildee was phenomenal.

Mr. Steffens said he enjoys his job as Executive Director of STARS and appreciated all of the recognition for the work he does at the authority. Mr. Steffens is excited to continue creating a vision for the next ten years at the authority, rather than just trying to survive like we had to do in the past.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Miller asked for an adjournment. Mr. Ruth motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:23 PM, supported by Mr. Kloc. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.



Vickie Dillon, Secretary

Date: 3/25/24