

# Mountain RIDES

RECORDED

REGULAR MEETING  
MOUNTAIN RIDES TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
Wednesday, January 16, 2013, 4:00 p.m.  
Sun Valley City Hall Meeting Room, Sun Valley, Idaho

Board Members of the Mountain Rides Transportation Authority of the Cities of Bellevue, Hailey, Ketchum and Sun Valley, and Blaine County, State of Idaho, met in a Regular Meeting in the Sun Valley City Hall Meeting Room, Sun Valley, Idaho.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Susan McBryant, Vice-Chairman Mark Gilbert, Secretary Steve Wolper, Peter Everett (by phone), Sarah Michael, Joe Miczulski, and Nils Ribi.

**ABSENT:** Board Member Michael David.

**ALSO** Mountain Rides Executive Director Jason Miller

**PRESENT:** Mountain Rides Business Manager/Treasurer Wendy Crosby  
Mountain Rides Operations Manager Jim Finch  
Mountain Rides Operations Coordinator Rod Kelly  
Mountain Rides Maintenance and Facilities Manager Rod Domke  
Administrative Support Coordinator Kim MacPherson

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Susan McBryant called to order the meeting of Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

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**2. Comments from the Chair and Board Member thoughts**

New Mountain Rides Chairman Susan McBryant said she'd had good transition meetings with Executive Director Jason Miller and outgoing Chairman Peter Everett.

**3. Public comment period for items not on the Agenda (including questions from the press)**

There was no comment from the public at this time.

**4. Action items and discussion items**

**a. Discussion Item: Welcome new Blaine County Board representative.**

New Blaine County-appointed Board Member Sarah Michael said it was good to re-engage with Mountain Rides after helping initiate valley-wide public transit service five years ago as a County Commissioner.

**b. Discussion Item: Status of South Valley Transportation facility.**

Mountain Rides Executive Director Jason Miller said Mountain Rides was looking at other potential sites in the south valley. Staff will inform the Federal Transit Administration of the timeline setback in order to amend the grant and get an EIS done quickly once a new property is identified.

There will be no changes to the Valley route service to Bellevue through May. Schedules have been printed and the service is funded.

Board Member Nils Ribi said Sun Valley City accepted service level drops when they decreased their funding, and it was appropriate that Bellevue should be asked to accept the same. Board Member Michael said the County Commissioners want to discuss the situation with Bellevue leadership before making any decisions.

Board Member Peter Everett asked if the Bellevue P&Z decision was legal and appropriate. The Mountain Rides Board has worked on a Bellevue site for many years, and would like to find a south valley site ASAP. Continuing to rent the Woodside facility will incur budget shortfalls, and Valley route service will have to be cut one way or the other. Another factor to be considered in the location search is the "deadhead" distance the buses have to travel from the end of their route to the bus barn. Bellevue is at the very end of the route, and ideally located. A facility in Bellevue would save Mountain Rides \$60,000 annually in rent and deadhead.

**c. Discussion Item: FY2014 Federal Transit Administration Funding Applications for operating and capital projects.**

Mountain Rides Business Manager Wendy Crosby said the FTA funding application is basically the same. Projects have to match the strategy presented in the Local Coordinated Mobility Plan. The Board confirmed that capital requests are consistent with the Mountain Rides Capital Improvement Plan. Staff will meet with District 4 Coordinating Council to review goals in Mountain Rides' Local Coordinated Mobility Plan prior to sending funding requests to the Public Transportation Advisory Board and ultimately to ITD. One issue that may come up is fixed-route service in Twin Falls, which has been a District priority the existing provider may not be able to provide.

**d. Discussion Item: Board meeting room conflict and need for adjustment to time and/or day.**

In an attempt to accommodate Board members who work during the day, the Board set a test meeting time for Tuesday, February 19, at 3:00 p.m. at Ketchum City Hall.

**Board Member Mark Gilbert moved to amend the Mountain Rides adopted meeting schedule to try a test Board meeting time for the February meeting on February 19 at 3:00 pm MST. Motion seconded by Board Member Joe Miczulski. Motion passed unanimously.**

**e. Discussion Item: Board committee assignments for 2013.**

Planning and Marketing Committee meets 1:00pm first Wednesday of the month.

Members: Steve Wolper, Sarah Michael, Joe Miczulski, Nils Ribi.

Finance and Performance Committee meets 3:00pm first Wednesday of the month.

Members: Peter Everett, Mark Gilbert, Susan McBryant, Michael David.

**f. Action Item: Approve award of vehicle fuel bid to United Oil.**

One bidder—current supplier United Oil—submitted a valid bid and met all criteria.

**Board Member Mark Gilbert moved approval of the award of vehicle fuel to United Oil, seconded by Board Member Sarah Michael.** In discussion, Mountain Rides Maintenance and Facilities Manager Rod Domke said the bid was low compared to budget because fuel prices are currently down. Board Member Gilbert said the bid should be a contract for the supplier to provide fuel at a specified price. Board members directed staff to submit the current bid/contract to the MRTA attorney for final approval, and work with other local entities to look for cost-savings options in the future. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**g. Action Item: Approve Strategic Action Initiatives for 2013, based on outcomes of strategic workshop.**

Board Member Ribi suggested:

- Committee Involvement should specify what each committee is responsible for.
- Communications and Marketing didn't seem like a priority. – The Board removed it.
- The Capital Account Allocation Policy could better be done in late spring so funding partners know what is expected. Executive Director Miller said all three previous items should be done prior to city budgeting, even though it would be a time challenge.
- Board Member Ribi said "Catch-all" didn't seem appropriate in a *Strategic Plan*. He suggested something important enough to be added to the strategic plan should be presented to committee and/or the Board and amend the Strategic Plan.
- Board Member Everett suggested a "dashboard" of five paramount performance indicators that are before the Board every month. Executive Director Miller has already recommended six important items that are currently before committee.

**Board Member Mark Gilbert moved to change the Strategic Action Plan as discussed, seconded by Board Member Peter Everett. Motion passed unanimously.**

**6. Committee reports**

There were no committee meetings in January.

**7. Staff reports**

**a. Transit report from Operations and Maintenance with December 2012 ridership and year end ridership**

- Mountain Rides Maintenance and Facilities Manager Rod Domke said the redesigned ski racks are working great.
- Rush Truck Center continues to devise new programs for the IC buses. The fuel dilution problem has improved considerably, and Mountain Rides should start saving money in service work.
- A problem with the building heating ventilation system was diagnosed by Steve Wolper and fixed by an electrician for \$260 instead of replacing the system for \$14,000.

Mountain Rides Operations Manager Jim Finch said Mountain Rides had faced some operation challenges in 2012, including Highway 75 construction, Woodside rebuild, etc., but there was still a .1% gain in ridership. 2012 was the best year for ridership since the merger of all public transit providers in Blaine County. VanPool is seeing significant gains, and Sun Valley Company is committed to the service.

Mountain Rides drivers participate in a public relations training program with Sun Valley Guest Services; and Administrative Support Coordinator Kim MacPherson met with Sun Valley Company bellmen to enable them to help guests ride the bus. Mountain Rides is considered a Sun Valley Company “department”. Chairman McBryant commended the partnership with Sun Valley as an extraordinary collaborative effort to welcome guests to our area.

Mountain Rides Operations Coordinator Rod Kelly is committed to getting the RouteMatch system working. RouteMatch doesn’t appear to have committed staff and finances to keeping its commitment to its development schedule, and other Idaho agencies are having the same problems with them. Ultimately, ITD has to require performance from RouteMatch. Kelly has set five goals for 2013, which, if accomplished, will make great strides in getting the system fully operational. Staff needs to set a timeline in which to accomplish defined performance.

**b. Bike-Ped report**

No report.

**c. Business Manager report**

In the interest of time, Mountain Rides Business Manager/Treasurer Wendy Crosby indicated she had nothing additional to report beyond the written report. She distributed the December Review and Expenditure Budget Performance Report that didn’t make it into Board members’ packets this month.

**d. Executive Director report**

In the interest of time, Jason Miller also indicated he had nothing additional to report beyond the written report.

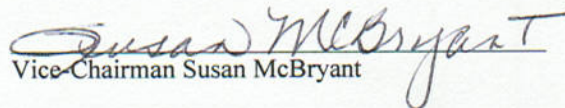
**8. Consent Calendar items**

- a. Approve minutes – December regular board meeting.
- b. Receive and file December 2012 Financials.
- c. Receive and file December 2012 Bills Paid.

**Board Member Nils Ribí moved to approve the Consent Calendar, including the Minutes of December 19, 2012 Regular Board Meeting, the December 2012 Financial Report, including the Review and Expenditure Budget Performance Report for December 12, and December 2012 Checks Issued Report. Motion was seconded by Board Member Mark Gilbert. In discussion, Board Member Gilbert asked about a negative number in the Financial Statement, a couple of expenditures, and noted the Checks Issued Report had not been signed. Business Manager Wendy Crosby will check on the negative number. Board Member Nils Ribí amended his motion to include signature on the Checks Issued Report. Amended motion seconded by Board Member Mark Gilbert. Amended motion passed unanimously.**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**With no other business to come before the Board, Board Member Mark Gilbert moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:56 p.m., seconded by Mountain Rides Executive Director Jason Miller. Motion passed unanimously.**

  
Vice-Chairman Susan McBryant

cc: Commissioner Angenie McCleary, Blaine County  
Susan E. Robertson, Sun Valley City Administrator  
Gary Marks, Ketchum City Administrator  
Sandy Cady, Ketchum City Clerk  
Heather Dawson, Hailey City Administrator  
Mary Cone, Hailey City Clerk  
Dee Barton, Bellevue City Clerk  
Tess Cenarrusa, Carey City Clerk  
Randall Patterson, Carey Mayor