



RECORDED

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MOUNTAIN RIDES TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
Wednesday, August 19, 2015, 12:30 p.m.  
Ketchum City Hall Meeting Room, Ketchum, Idaho**

Board Members of the Mountain Rides Transportation Authority met in a Regular Meeting in the Ketchum City Hall Meeting Room, Ketchum, Idaho.

**PRESENT:** Chair Mark Gilbert (Sun Valley), Vice-chair David Patrie (Blaine County), Secretary Steve Wolper (At-Large), Michael David (Ketchum), Kristin Derrig (Ketchum), Susan McBryant (Hailey) and Jane Conard (Sun Valley)

**ABSENT:** Joe Miczulski (Bellevue)

**ALSO** Mountain Rides Executive Director Jason Miller

**PRESENT:** Mountain Rides Business Manager Wendy Crosby  
Mountain Rides Operations Manager Jim Finch  
Mountain Rides Maintenance Manager Ben Varner  
Support Specialist Kim MacPherson  
Ryan Thorne, *Idaho Mountain Express*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Mark Gilbert called to order the meeting of Wednesday, August 19, 2015 at 12:36pm and Secretary Steve Wolper took roll and determined that a quorum was present.

**2. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBER THOUGHTS**

Mark Gilbert mentioned that he was going to the annual APTA meeting with Jason Miller in October in San Francisco. He thanked staff for applying for and receiving an RTAP grant for the expenses.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA (including questions from Press)**

Ryan Thorne from the *Idaho Mountain Express* was present. Ryan asked if there were any comments regarding the article in the paper about Mayor Jonas' comments after the meeting on Monday night. Mark Gilbert mentioned that we have an item on our agenda and will talk about it then. He also mentioned that the organization is always going through changes and making sure we do the best for the community. Mark Gilbert welcomed Ryan to the meeting.

Mark Gilbert would like to take Item 4b and 4d together.

#### 4. ACTION ITEMS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

##### a. Action item:

*Action to approve FY2016 pay scale and benefit update*

Jason Miller stated that one of our top priorities for 2015 we wanted to take a look at our pay scale and that we had not done a full look or comparison of pay or benefits since 2008-2009 timeframe. For the last 6 months we have been involved with the research from peer and local public and private agencies. We contracted with a consultant out of Boise for about \$1000 to have a third party look at the research. We did make a few changes to the PTO chart. This chart does not affect any existing employees in any immediate way but allows a better entry wage for attraction of employees. On the retention side it allows for the potential for head room in their category for well performing employees. **Susan McBryant made a motion to continue item to the September 16<sup>th</sup> regular board meeting. Steve Wolper seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

##### c. Discussion item:

*Review current draft of Mountain Rides' FY2016 budget*

Wendy Crosby stated that this is the updated FY2016 budget which has been reviewed by the Finance & Performance committee. This is the first time that the board has seen it. This will come as an action item to be adopted at the regular board meeting in September. Susan McBryant noted that in the City of Hailey there will be a charge for the Hailey route which is a change over last year because the City of Hailey did not find the \$7000 to fund the route to be fare-free.

##### b. Action item:

*Action to approve change order for Idaho Power hook-up fee for south valley facility*

Jason Miller stated that this change order is a change to the contract and the contingency budget but not to the contractor. He wanted the board to have the information. We are moving along well with the project. We expected some utility cost at the street but this came as a surprise that there was no three-phase power at the street.

**This was incorrectly listed as an action item; The contract amount falls within the Executive Director's authority and this is not a change order.**

##### d. Discussion item:

*Update on south valley facility project including change order report*

Ben Varner has been on the ground in Bellevue and gave an update to the City of Bellevue at the city council meeting. Ben gave an update as to the status of the project and we are staying on schedule.

##### e. Discussion item:

*Discuss recent City of Ketchum workshop and impacts of FY2016 service planning*

Jason Miller gave a report regarding the final budget number for the City of Ketchum and because of this all the agencies that receive money from the city will have a workshop style meeting in front of the mayor and city council. All Mountain Rides staff was at the meeting. It was a long workshop. The good news is that we have support from our elected officials. The

city is paying attention and is interested in what we do. The structured process that we go through was communicated to the council as well. Jason Miller stated there were three main things we will have to address: how do we shift from other routes with less productivity to the Blue route? We could shift about 1000 hours from Green route to the Blue route. The midday gap will still exist but the shift would come out of West Ketchum to improve Blue route frequency to 30 minutes year round during morning and afternoon and improve night service in summer and winter. In the workshop we were also joined by Todd Beutler from Cache Valley transit in Logan, UT. as part of the format to have an outside perspective. He was a great asset and offered great input. As far as infrastructure projects go we will be working with city staff and the KURA identifying right-of-way for bus stops and amenities and improving digital signs and customer service information. The third big idea that was interesting was having a fixed percentage of the LOT going to public transit. It sounded that the city was quite interested in that and it would be helpful going forward if all three cities with the LOT could support it.

Michael David remarked that the staff did a great job on too short of notice. It was a good discussion and a lot of good will come out of it. The long bullet list of items were ideas and the only ones that had unanimous support was the improvement of the Blue route and improving bus stops. It was great to have Todd's unbiased eyes on this and to speak to the benefits of cost free service. Michael was disappointed about the City of Hailey not finding the funding for the Hailey route. They may not understand the significance of adding fares and how much "leakage" it could cause.

Kristin Derrig stated that the city didn't necessarily want to shift service but to add to service and in speaking with Mayor Jonas that marketing is a big issue.

Steve Wolper mentioned that we should define leakage as a loss of passengers due to charging fares. He went to the meeting with great trepidation but there was great recognition of our services and hearing council members ask how to increase service, add a fixed amount LOT and share in capital improvements. As a board member it was reassuring that our service is appreciated.

Dave Patrie gave kudos to the staff for the presentation.

Jason Miller said it was a huge team effort. The 4<sup>th</sup> item that came out of this discussion is the need for a 5 year business plan. It may require some outside help. We need to have a long term plan out there so our partners know what we are planning for.

Mark Gilbert stated that former board member Nils Ribi directed our attention to the fact we should have a 5 year business plan along with our 5 year capital improvement plan. As an organization we see a connection with the 5 year business plan and the LOT amount. We could do a lot with a designated funding. An agency that has a reliable dedicated funding source would have a leg up on everyone else to carry out long term plans. Kudos to staff and everyone who worked on the project.

## 5. Committee Reports

Planning & Marketing committee reports for July and August from Steve Wolper.

**The committee members approved the reports.**

Finance & Performance committee reports for July.

**Due to the fact that there was no quorum, this will be moved to the September meeting for approval.**

**6. Staff reports**

- a. Dashboard performance reports for June 2015
- b. Operations report
- c. Maintenance report
- d. Marketing and Outreach report – Free Fridays are a good will effort for the community.
- e. Bike-Ped report – Jason Miller pointed out that we have almost 100 members for bikeshare.
- f. Business Manager report
- g. Executive Director report

**7. Consent Calendar items**

- a. Approve minutes for July 15<sup>th</sup> regular board meeting. **David Patrie moved to approve the July 15<sup>th</sup> minutes. Jane Conard seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Mark Gilbert, Steve Wolper and Kristin Derrig abstained.**
- b. Receive & File financials June 2015  
**Susan McBryant moved to receive and file the financials. Michael David seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.**

**8. Adjournment**

**Michael David moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:48pm. Steve Wolper seconded and the motion carried unanimously.**

  
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Chair Mark Gilbert