



RECORDED

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MOUNTAIN RIDES TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Wednesday, January 16, 2019, 12:30 p.m.
Ketchum City Hall Meeting Room, Ketchum, Idaho**

The Mountain Rides Transportation Authority's Board of Directors met in a Regular Meeting in the Ketchum City Hall Meeting Room, Ketchum, Idaho.

PRESENT: Chair Kristin Derrig (Ketchum), Vice-chair Grant Gager (Ketchum), Secretary Tory Canfield (at-large) (by phone), Rick Webking (Sun Valley), Tom Blanchard (Bellevue), Peter Hendricks (Sun Valley) and Kathleen Kristenson (Blaine County)

ABSENT: Jim Finch (Hailey)

ALSO PRESENT: Mountain Rides Executive Director, Wally Morgus
Mountain Rides Director, Transit Operations, Ben Varner
Mountain Rides Director, Finance & Administration, Tucker Van Law
Mountain Rides Director, Community Development, Kim MacPherson
Peter Jensen, *Idaho Mountain Express*
Amy Manning, Executive Director, IIIA
Wendy Crosby, City of Sun Valley
Walt Femling, City of Sun Valley Law Enforcement
Sgt David Aslett, City of Ketchum Police
Meghan Myrick, Sun Valley Company

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kristin Derrig called to order the meeting of Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 12:35pm. Tom Blanchard called roll and determined that a quorum was present.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBER THOUGHTS

Chair Kristin Derrig will forward some articles to MRTA staff regarding electric buses. Grant Gager followed up regarding the dollar night issues and suggested adding a discussion item to the agenda regarding Dollar night.

Kristin Derrig welcomed Kathy Kristenson to the board as the Blaine County member.

Grant Gager moved to add a conversation regarding Dollar night, Blue Route to occur as close to 1:00pm as possible. Peter Hendricks seconded, and the motion passed.

Tory Canfield joined the meeting by phone.

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

There was none.

4. PRESENTATION: Idaho Independent Intergovernmental Authority (IIIA) FY2018 Annual Report, by Amy Manning, Executive Director, IIIA

Amy Manning presented and summarized the FY2018 Annual Report for IIIA.

5. ACTION ITEM: Approve Consent Calendar items

- a. Approve minutes: Regular board meeting and Special meeting for December 19, 2018
- b. Receive/file: Performance Dashboard report for November 2018
- c. Receive/file: Performance Dashboard report for December 2018
- d. Approve board and committee meeting schedule for 2019
- e. Receive/file: Reports from Director, Community Development; Director, Transit Operations; Director, Finance & Administration; Executive Director
- f. Approve out-of-state travel for Coordinator, Transit Operations; Director, Transit Operations; Director, Finance & Administration; Executive Director

Wally Morgus stated that ridership is up about 17% fiscal year to date.

Grant Gager attributed the increase in ridership to the new bus stop signage.

Grant Gager moved to approve the Consent Calendar for items. Tom Blanchard seconded. The motion passed.

Added DISCUSSION ITEM:

Wally Morgus stated that the discussion will be about Dollar night on Sunday night, January 13th. There were 80-90 people waiting at the Wells Fargo bus stop at 1:40am.

- The driver came into the stop
- The passengers rushed the bus, crowded on to the bus, the crowd also broke a few things on the bus
- The Ketchum Police were not able to make it that night
- Kudos to driver for the documentation of what happened
- MRTA is being proactive and engaging Ketchum Police Department (KPD), Sun Valley Police Department (SVPD), Sun Valley Company and the owner of the establishment holding dollar night
- MRTA staff have come up with a plan for Sunday night: stop at YMCA, call KPD and will proceed when we have back-up. If they can't be there the driver will hold at the YMCA until 2:15am and survey the situation
- MRTA needs to keep our drivers safe so maybe we empower our drivers to decide to turn left on 6th and going to the Elephant's Perch stop or where they can go safely

Wally Morgus said the best solution remains to be when KPD is available to be there.

Kristin Derrig asked about speaking to the riders directly and if they don't behave, they will not be getting on the bus.

Wally Morgus said MRTA can reinstate the "seat drops" letting the riders know when the buses leave. The establishment where dollar night is held has been making announcements about when the buses are leaving.

Walt Femling from the City of Sun Valley said Sun Valley company is stepping up and taking drastic measures to stop this. This behavior hurts the company as well with employees not showing up for work and damage to the dorms. Sun Valley company top management went to the establishment and talked to them about underage drinking and being over-served, but it did not go well. Sun

Valley said it will be “2 strikes, you’re out.” They lost an employee last year due to exposure. Walt Femling said that if KPD is tied up, the driver can call SVPD. He is impressed with Sun Valley company. They are acting on this and want to be a part of the solution.

Peter Hendricks said the drivers can call the 911 dispatch. If Ketchum can’t respond, then Sun Valley will be dispatched. The City of Sun Valley is concerned and stated that we will have their full support and that we need to have a cooperative effort to do this.

Wally Morgus reiterated that we would like to have 100% assurance that there will be coverage. Wally said thank you for the support and we are treating this as a community effort. On the humanitarian side is we don’t want to leave anybody but the practical side of MRTA says what is our responsibility?

Walt Femling said he will talk to Sun Valley about having a bus to pick up the remaining riders.

Sgt David Aslett of KPD said they are trying to find a solution working with the bars.

6. DISCUSSION ITEM: Preliminary Summer 2019 Service Considerations

Discussion ensued regarding routes and schedule for Summer 2019.

Wally Morgus stated this is really an early awareness for everyone that will be coming up soon. The first one will be the roadwork in Elkhorn this summer which will impact Blue service and Red service during symphony.

Wally Morgus also suggested a discussion about service to River Run. In the summer we do get asked about getting to River Run. He will initiate a conversation with Mayor Neil Bradshaw about Ketchum service for the summer.

Kristin Derrig asked if there was a possibility of combining the Silver route and Ketchum circulator and have a partnership with Sun Valley Company and the City of Ketchum.

Wally Morgus said regarding the airport connection and understanding the demand for the service. Also, look at the Valley route and that we have enough frequency and not too many runs.

Kathy Kristenson said she uses the Valley route all hours during the day. She also would like regular service on the holidays. She would like to see more later evening service.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Tory Canfield moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:05pm. Peter Hendricks seconded. The motion carried unanimously.


Chair Kristin Derrig