



RECORDED

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MOUNTAIN RIDES TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Wednesday, August 18, 2021, 12:30 p.m.
Conference Call**

The Mountain Rides Transportation Authority's Board of Directors met in a Regular Meeting on a conference call.

PRESENT: Chair Kathleen Kristenson (Blaine County), Vice-chair Melody Mattson (at-large), Rick Webking (Sun Valley), Neil Bradshaw (Ketchum), Kristin Derrig (Ketchum), Juan Martinez (Hailey) and Tom Blanchard (Bellevue)

NOT PRESENT: Peter Hendricks (Sun Valley)

ALSO PRESENT: Mountain Rides Executive Director, Wally Morgus
Mountain Rides Director, Finance & Administration, Tucker Van Law
Mountain Rides Director, Community Mobility, Kim MacPherson
Emily Jones, *Idaho Mountain Express*

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kathleen Kristenson called to order the meeting of Wednesday, August 18, 2021, at 12:30pm via conference call. Secretary Rick Webking called roll and determined that a quorum was present.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR, BOARD MEMBERS and STAFF

Kathleen Kristenson stated her gratitude to the staff for all their hard work especially navigating the Hailey Road construction.

Melody Mattson said she is happy the electric buses are on the road.

Wally Morgus said we will be putting the electric buses in service on the Valley route starting on Monday, August 23rd. Three of the four charging stations are fully commissioned. We will be officially the first in Idaho to put electric buses in service as of Monday. We are happy with what we've seen from New Flyer so far. The charging company, ABB, will be here next week and the fourth bus will have a software upgrade. The electric bus and charging station training from New Flyer for the mechanics went well last week. He also said he asked for a quote for the next seven electric buses and the lead time is about 10 months.

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

Emily Jones from the Idaho Mountain Express said they would like to get their photographer on one of the electric buses on Monday.

4. Consent Calendar items

a. Approve: Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, July 21, 2021

- b. Receive/file: Performance Dashboard report for July 2021
- c. Receive/file: June 2021 Operating Financial Statements and Bills Paid and June quarterly Capital, Facilities, Workforce Housing, and Contingency Fund Financial Statements and Bills Paid
- d. Receive/file: Minutes of Finance & Performance Committee Meeting, August 4, 2021
- f. Receive/file: Reports from Director, Community Development; Director, Finance & Administration; Director, Assets & Infrastructure; Manager of Transit Operations; Executive Director

Neil Bradshaw moved to approve, receive, file, and adopt the Consent Agenda. Kristin Derrig seconded. The motion passed.

5. DISCUSSION ITEM:

FY22 Operating Budget, Salaries & Wages

Wally Morgus said that he and Tucker Van Law have spent some time going back through the payroll projections for FY22 and comparing those numbers in the budget that we ran by the committee at the July meeting. He said it is vital that we retain our employees here at Mountain Rides particularly those skilled employees, trained CDL equipped bus drivers. In looking at the budget, we are able to propose a 5.5% wage and salary increase for Mountain Rides for FY22 without increasing the budget.

Neil Bradshaw said that from a City of Ketchum perspective, this is very much in line with the kind of salary increases that they proposed. He is supportive of this kind of compensation change and it would be in line with Ketchum and some other jurisdictions in the county too. Juan Martinez said the City of Hailey is looking at using some of the federal dollars to help out with infrastructure. Juan said the Hailey's department heads were up 3%, average increase over salaries, 7% and for the lower salaries of some of our workers they are up 16-18%.

6. ACTION ITEM:

Approve board committee for Executive Director Performance Review

Kathleen Kristenson said that in the past the committee was Kristin, Tom, Grant, and Peter. Kathleen said she could stand in for Grant this year. This year the committee would be Kathleen Kristenson, Kristin Derrig, Tom Blanchard, and Peter Hendricks.

Neil Bradshaw moved to appoint Kathleen Kristenson, Kristin Derrig, Tom Blanchard, and Peter Hendricks to a special committee to conduct the Executive Director's annual review. Juan Martinez seconded. The motion passed.

7. DISCUSSION ITEM:

Items of Interest to the Board

Wally Morgus said we have postponed the Battery Electric Bash at Town Square in Ketchum in deference to the uncertainty about the Delta variant. He said maybe we could have the event in the spring.

Neil Bradshaw said there is no harm in celebrating, it brings some visibility to Mountain Rides because this is a great achievement.

Tom Blanchard said he thought this was going to be a major marketing point for us. He is hoping we would come up with another marketing alternative.

Wally said we will put something together and bring to the Marketing committee in September.

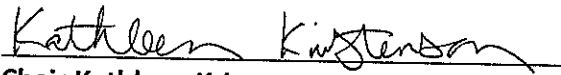
Neil said it could be a photo of the employees with an electric bus and put in the *Idaho Mountain Express*.

Wally said we can circulate the press release regionally and nationally.

Regarding the board meeting: The board agreed to look at having the meeting in person next month, September 15th. We will manage that as we get closer to the date. We will plan to have the meeting in person, and we can change to virtual at the last minute. We will have a virtual option either way.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Melody Mattson moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:12pm. Tom Blanchard seconded. The motion carried unanimously.


Chair Kathleen Kristenson