



RECORDED

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MOUNTAIN RIDES TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Wednesday, June 15, 2022, 1:00 p.m.
Conference Call and in person, Ketchum City Hall, Ketchum**

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

PRESENT: Chair Melody Mattson (at-large), Vice-chair Tom Blanchard (Bellevue), Kathleen Kristenson (Blaine County), Peter Hendricks (Sun Valley), Martha Burke (Hailey), Kristin Derrig (Ketchum), and Neil Bradshaw (Ketchum)

NOT PRESENT: Secretary Rick Webking (Sun Valley),
Juan Martinez, Ex-officio Board Member, City of Hailey

ALSO PRESENT: Mountain Rides Executive Director, Wally Morgus
Mountain Rides Director, Assets & Planning, Ben Varner
Mountain Rides Director, Operations and Outreach, Kim MacPherson
Mountain Rides Manager, Transit Operations, Jamie Canfield
Mountain Rides Admin Coordinator, Jerry Garcia

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Melody Mattson called to order the meeting of Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at 1:02 pm via conference call and in person at the Ketchum City Hall. Vice-chair Tom Blanchard called roll and determined that a quorum was present.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR, BOARD MEMBERS, and STAFF

Melody Mattson said she was looking forward to hearing about the Faces-of-Transit and thanked the drivers for keeping up with traffic.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA (incl. questions from Press)
There was none.

4. Consent Calendar items

- a. Approve: Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, May 18, 2022.
- b. Receive/file: Performance Dashboard report for May 2022.
- c. Receive/file: Minutes of Planning and Marketing Committee Meeting, June 1, 2022
- d. Receive/file: Minutes of Finance & Performance Committee Meeting, June 1, 2022

- e. Receive/file: April 2022 Operating, Financial Statements, and Bills Paid.
- f. Approve: Disposal/Surplus of four buses.
- g. Receive/file: Reports from Director, Assets & Planning; Director, Transit Operations; Director, Finance & Administration; Manager, Transit Operations; Manager, Mobility Programs & Resiliency; Executive Director

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

5. ACTION ITEM:

Architect Scope of Work and Work and Contract Documents

Ben Varner said he is going to Spokane, where they have the only purpose-built electric bus facility in the northwest. The building design will begin around August 1st. Ben also said that the building design might change after he visits Spokane.

Wally Morgus said that timing is critical to get the cost of the building because there is a grant opportunity towards the end of the summer.

Kristin Derrig moved to approve the contract with Vital Ink Architecture per the presented scope of work and authorize the Executive Director and Staff to execute the contract in an amount not to exceed \$37,000. Tom Blanchard Seconded. The motion passed.

6. DISCUSSION ITEM:

FY2023 Budget

Wally Morgus stated that Mountain Rides is asking the joint power partners to increase their funding by 12 percent, which is reflected in the budget. Wally also mentioned that he had not gotten any push back against the 12 percent increase, but he has not gotten any confirmation saying that it will go through.

Wally said that he has been having conversations with ITD about the 5311 money; again no guarantees on this, and it looks like there might be additional money to the state of Idaho, which will be distributed among the providers in the state. They might get more 5311 money than what is presented in the budget but will not know until sometime in July. Wally also said they do not intend to charge any fares in FY23, given that they still have CARES FUNDS available.

Wally also discussed the 8.3 percent increase in salaries and wages for MRTA staff based on the inflation rate.

Wally said it is important to mention that they now have more information about what the joint powers are doing regarding the raise for FY23.

Tom Blanchard said he would like to know about what the joint powers are going to be doing. Wally said that Hailey is doing a three percent raise on top of the graduated raise from mid-year, and Ketchum is looking into getting a four percent raise.

Peter Hendricks said Sun Valley is looking to get an eight percent increase in salary and wages. Neil Bradshaw said that the City of Ketchum is looking at one-time bonuses, which will be in that four to five percent range to bring them to the nine percent level, which will be a one-time cost. Neil also said that he recognizes the importance of staff retention, and a combination of raises and bonuses will give more flexibility.

Wally said once you fall behind with a raise that is less than the cost of living, you are behind forever.

Neil said that the revenues go up to three percent by law and can't get ahead of themselves and create an unsustainable base in terms of financing.

Wally said that he likes the idea of seeing a combination of a raise and a one-time bonus.

Wally asks to what extent the management and board of Mountain Rides are bound to ensure that their employees get the cost-of-living increase that matches the inflation rate, or are they responsible for communicating to the employees what we can do?

Neil said that there is no easy answer, and, in his role, he is trying to treat everyone similarly.

Peter Hendricks said some of these questions need to be answered, but they do not have to be answered today.

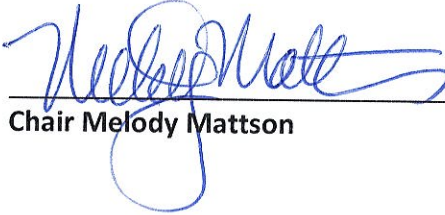
7. DISCUSSION ITEM:

Items of Interest to the Board

Kim MacPherson talked about the evening special and how excited everyone is to support Mountain Rides. Kim also spoke about The Faces of Transit which will be in the paper every other week.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Peter Hendricks moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:35 pm. Kathleen Kristenson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.



Chair Melody Mattson