

Mountain RIDES

RECORDED

REGULAR MEETING

MOUNTAIN RIDES TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Wednesday, August 15, 2012, 12:00 p.m.

Ketchum City Hall Meeting Room, Ketchum, 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 Ketchum City Hall Meeting Room, Ketchum, Idaho, on Wednesday, August 15, 2012, at 12:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Peter Everett, Vice-Chairman Susan McBryant, Secretary Jim Jaquet, Board Members Mark Gilbert, Joe Miczulski, Nils Ribí, and Steve Wolper.

ALSO PRESENT: Mountain Rides Executive Director Jason Miller

Mountain Rides Business Manager/Treasurer Wendy Crosby

Mountain Rides Operations Manager Jim Finch

Mountain Rides Admin Support Kim MacPherson

Attorney Adam King

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Peter Everett called to order the meeting of Wednesday, August 15, 2012 at 12:00 p.m.

2. Comments from the Chair and Board Member thoughts

Board Member Jim Jaquet said the Sun Valley Story Tour is quite popular. There is now a microphone on board, and two buses going in opposite directions, with a maximum of 20 Story Tour people per bus.

Board Member Mark Gilbert said California has approved a budget for the first phase of a bullet train.

Chairman Peter Everett said transit was run by private companies until the 1940s and was quite profitable. People who rode rail and transportation systems back then were pretty well-heeled. After WWII and the GI bill came suburban sprawl. General Motors bought trolleys in San Francisco and ran them into the ground. The private car became dominant, and for-profit transit systems started to fail. The cities bought transit systems to provide for the disadvantaged—people with no money, the handicapped, and underage—people who didn't have cars. But the 70s-80s brought pollution, congestion and energy problems, and the country tried to sell transit systems used by the disadvantaged to SOV drivers. Now, it is once again becoming cool to use transit.

Board Member Jim Jaquet said we still need incentives to use public transit, including paid parking. One meter per block, payable with a credit card, would make it easy. And the parking machines can dispense transit passes.

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

Terry Smith from the *Idaho Mountain Express* asked that the executive sessions in future meetings be at the beginning or end of the meeting so he didn't have to leave in the middle of the meeting and miss the rest of the meeting. He also asked that the statutory purpose of the executive session be indicated on the agenda.

4. Presentations

Certificates of Appreciation to Board Members for their work on the Mountain Rides Board

Chairman Peter Everett thanked former Mountain Rides Board Member Curtis Kemp for his years of service as Ketchum appointee on the Mountain Rides Board of Directors, and awarded Kemp with a plaque of recognition. Everett especially thanked Curtis for his help in facility planning and promoting the Town circulator bus.

Chairman Everett also thanked Board Member Nils Ribí with a plaque of recognition. Ribí served an earlier term on the Mountain Rides Board of Directors. Ribí has returned for a new term as City of Sun Valley appointee.

5. Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Statute 67-2345 1(c)

This Executive Session is earlier in the meeting because it has impact on agenda action items later in the meeting.

Board Member Nils Ribí moved to go into Executive Session at 12:16 p.m., pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2345 1(b) employee evaluation, and 1(c) acquisition of real property not owned by a public entity. Motion seconded by Board Member Mark Gilbert. Roll call: Peter Everett yes, Nils Ribí yes, Vice-Chairman Susan McBryant yes, Secretary Jim Jaquet yes, Mark Gilbert yes, Joe Miczulski yes, and Steve Wolper yes.

Open session resumed at 1:02 p.m.

6. Committee reports

- a. **Planning and Marketing Committee report from Chair Steve Wolper**
Approve August committee minutes
- b. **Finance and Performance Committee report from Chair Mark Gilbert**
Approve August committee minutes

Board Member Nils Ribi moved to approve the August minutes of the Planning and Marketing Committee and the Finance and Performance Committee, with the addition noted in the meeting, seconded by Board Member Steve Wolper. Motion passed with six in favor and Board Member Mark Gilbert abstained from approving the Planning and Marketing Committee minutes.

7. Staff reports

- a. **Transit report from Operations and Maintenance with July 2012 ridership**

Operations Manager Jim Finch said Valley ridership was down a little, probably due to Woodside construction. The decline could also be school students who can no longer ride free.

Mountain Rides Maintenance and Facilities Manager Rod Domke was out of town picking up a repaired bus.

Four of the IC buses have old 2007 engines that are failing. Staff is keeping close eye on the warranty mileage limit, and planning for contingency if the IC buses aren't in service. IC is working with Mountain Rides to figure something out.

Mountain Rides is considering getting a consultant to advise on long-term fueling options.

- b. **Bike-Ped report**

Vice-Chairman Susan McBryant encouraged Mountain Rides to laud Hailey Sustainability Director Mariel Platt for doing an excellent job of promoting the BikeShare program. Hailey city leadership is equally enthusiastic.

- c. **Business Manager report**

Nothing new to add to the printed report.

- d. **Executive Director report**

Executive Director Jason Miller said Mountain Rides received two grants in the latest round of State of Good Repair, Bus Livability awards. One grant of \$20,000 is for asset management software; and a second grant of \$112,000 will be for a passenger waiting building at Ketchum's transit hub. The transit hub grants and matches now total \$380,000.

Mountain Rides would like to have funding each year to purchase one big and one small bus, but haven't been successful so far this year. It may be that funding is more available for buses that are CNG (compressed natural gas) or hybrid.

ITD Senior Transportation Planner Ted Vanegas said there is a push for upgrading fleets to clean fuels. The new two-year transportation bill doesn't include discretionary funds, so 5309 competitive grant funds are being rolled into formula funding. Hybrids cost almost twice as much as a diesel bus. Electric buses are not proven yet. CNG buses cost very little more, and retrofitting diesel for CNG can probably be done. There are no CNG fuel stations in the valley, but staff is preparing to hire a consultant to research fuel options.

The 2% cut in 5311 funding has no effect on current year or next year budgets.

The ITD audit was good. Mountain Rides is deemed to be a low risk sub-recipient. The full report will be available soon.

8. Action items and discussion items

- a. **Discussion Item: Draft FY2013 Budget**

Sun Valley Company buys bus passes on the Valley route; and is now a Vanpool partner, and contributing to Vanpool fares.

Board Member Nils Ribi said the way the cities' contributions were presented in the budget was confusing. He suggested the full amount contributed by each city be stated first, then broken out on following pages.

The draft budget Legal Fees line item is a 27% decrease over last year's budget, but still allows for Mountain Rides' attorney to be available during Board meetings for any legal questions.

- b. **Discussion Item: 2012 Strategic Priorities progress update**

Mountain Rides is on track with Priority One items; and progress is being made on lower priority items as well.

- The bus service to Friedman Airport is on hold.
- Some progress is being made on RouteMatch. Mountain Rides has not signed off on implementation of the project. The onboard hardware will be switched to Panasonic Toughbooks tablets. The digital signs will be installed in the next couple months. RouteMatch will reimburse Mountain Rides for extra staff time and costs.

A number of priorities will continue on in future years. Quarterly reports will be forthcoming to the committees.

c. Discussion Item: Review white paper on role of transportation centers in resort communities by LSC Transportation Consultants

Next week is the second open house. LSC has worked in many resort communities, and designed and built transit hubs in many cases. Their report on the experience of different communities with transportation hubs will be presented. Each community report includes a sitemap showing transit route interaction and uses neighboring the transit hub. The hubs were almost all constructed on city-owned property, but not on city rights-of-way. The report seemed a little too positive; although it did report on the Breckenridge transit hub which is being changed because of pedestrian-bus conflict. All transit hubs in the report were located near key areas of activity. Ribí suggested it would be helpful to identify what activities Ketchum riders are primarily looking for. Everett noted negative comments about one transit center were that it had drawn business away from them.

d. Action Item: Approve contract to purchase real estate for south valley transportation center

The Board was not ready to move on this item at this time.

e. Action Item: Approve Resolution # 08-2012-01 designating the Executive Director as the authorized official for submitting, administering and executing federal grants

Board Member Mark Gilbert moved to approve Resolution # 08-2012-01 designating the Executive Director as the authorized official for submitting, administering and executing federal grants, subject to change of the word "Authority" to "Department". Motion seconded by Board Member Jim Jaquet. Motion passed unanimously.

f. Action Item: Receive and file July 2012 Financials and July 2012 Bills Paid

Board Member Ribí asked that a column be used to describe what the payment is for.

Board Member Mark Gilbert moved to receive and file July 2012 Financials and July 2012 Bills Paid. Motion seconded by Board Member Steve Wolper, and passed unanimously.

g. Action Item: Approve reopening of FY2012 Capital Equipment Budget to receive new funding for bus washer
Vice-Chairman Susan McBryant moved to approve reopening of FY2012 Capital Equipment Budget to receive new funding for bus washer. Motion seconded by Board Member Steve Wolper, and passed unanimously.

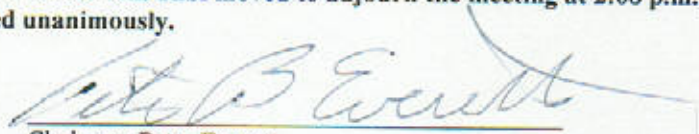
9. Consent Calendar items

a. Approve minutes – July regular board meeting

Board Member Steve Wolper moved to approve the minutes of the July regular Board meeting, seconded by Board Member Jim Jaquet. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Adjournment

With no other business to come before the Board, Board Member Nils Ribí moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:08 p.m., seconded by Board Member Steve Wolper. Motion passed unanimously.



Chairman Peter Everett

cc: Commissioner Angenie McCleary, Blaine County
Virginia Egger, interim 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