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, February 15, 2012, at 12:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Peter Everett, Secretary Jim Jaquet, Board Members Mark Gilbert, Curtis Kemp, Vice Chair Susan McBryant, Joe Miczulski, and Steve Wolper.

ABSENT: Board Member Franz Suhadolnik

ALSO Present: Mountain Rides Executive Director Jason Miller
Mountain Rides Business Manager/Treasurer Wendy Crosby
Mountain Rides Operations Manager Jim Finch
Mountain Rides Maintenance and Facilities Manager Rod Domke
City of Hailey/Mountain Rides BikeShare Coordinator Eric Grootveld

1. CALL TO ORDER
   Chairman Peter Everett called to order the meeting of Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at 12:00 p.m.

2. Comments from the Chair and Board Member thoughts
   Chairman Peter Everett repeated his comment from the previous meeting that downtown Seattle’s planning department no longer requires parking. The City of Seattle believes that parking generates traffic.
   Board Member Steve Wolper said more people were flying into Boise and taking the bus to Sun Valley, which could be a future opportunity for Mountain Rides.
   Everett said about 30¢ of the cost of a gallon of gas goes to the Federal Highway Administration for the Highway Trust Fund, which must, by law, be spent on building highways, roads and bridges. The Reagan Administration allotted 20¢ of that money to mass transit. The current Congress is trying to undo the Reagan mass transit allotment. People think the Highway Trust Fund covers the cost of highways, but in fact it only pays a fraction of the cost. The City of San Francisco a few years back calculated that all revenue generated by cars (license plates, parking fees, gasoline tax, etc.) only paid 50% of all costs related to cars (police enforcement, parking spaces, road repair, etc.). All forms of the U.S. transportation system are subsidized—planes, trains, ports, bike paths, sidewalks, and the automobile is hugely subsidized.
   Only in the last couple years has the topic of transportation related to health come up at the annual Transportation Research Board Conference. The Washington State Legislature is drafting a bill that would add human health to public policy goals, alongside economic vitality, mobility and the environment.
   Seattle is spending $184 million to improve the transportation entrance to their city with wider sidewalks, a bike path, and trees in the middle … but no increased automobile capacity.

   Board Member Susan McBryant moved to amend the agenda to consider a new Action Item regarding the Federal Transportation Bill, since this is a fast-moving bill and needs immediate action. Motion seconded by Councilor Curtis Kemp, and passed unanimously.

   Board Member Mark Gilbert moved that it is a policy of the Mountain Rides Transportation Authority Board to oppose a diversion of funds from the public transportation account established by the Reagan Administration. Motion seconded by Councilor Curtis Kemp, and passed unanimously.
   State Representative Wendy Jaquet has already been asked to contact Idaho Representatives Simpson and Labrador regarding this.

3. Public comment period for items not on the Agenda (including questions from the press)
   There was no public comment at this time.
4. Committee reports  
   a. Planning and Marketing Committee: report from Chair Steve Wolper  
The Committee discussed flag stops, and decided to not move it forward. Executive Director Jason Miller and Board members agreed.
   
b. Finance and Performance Committee: report from Co-Chair Mark Gilbert  
The minutes are a report of the Committee meeting.

5. Staff reports  
   a. Transit report from Operations and Maintenance with January 2012 and ridership  
Mountain Rides Operations Manager Jim Finch reported Hailey ridership almost doubled in January over a year ago. Town route is down a little over last year. There’s less Town service than last year, probably comparable to the decrease in ridership. The CSI vanpool has been discontinued due to lack of ridership; but there is potential for a couple new vanpools. RouteMatch is about the same. The new signs are in.

   Mountain Rides Maintenance and Facilities Manager Rod Domke said two vehicles that needed major work were back in service. Two maintenance personnel are going to a brake seminar. The gas depot at Ketchum Mountain Rides facility is moving ahead. Once all the partners have been established, everyone will get together to determine who pays what.

   Everett congratulated the maintenance staff on taking excellent care of the buses. He has ridden older buses with 400,000 miles and brand new buses and couldn’t tell the difference.

   Mountain Rides still has a workforce apartment available. It will now be advertised to the public. Two bus shelters have been received and will be installed soon. Five more shelters were received, but damaged, and will be returned.

   b. Bike-Ped report  
   Still recruiting for a new Bike-Ped coordinator.

   c. Business Manager report  
Mountain Rides Business Manager/Treasurer Wendy Crosby said Mountain Rides is near the end of 5311 grant funds for FY2011. Next grant cycle will begin April-May. Cash flow is good in the meantime.

   d. Executive Director report  
Mountain Rides Executive Director Jason Miller said he would be keeping track of the new transportation bill. The Senate version of the bill has a two-year term at current funding levels. The Community Transportation Association of Idaho (CTAI) Legislative Conference is upcoming.

   RouteMatch is testing an outdoor sign that displays real-time bus routes and locations.

6. Action items and discussion items  
   a. Discussion Item: Ketchum Transit Plaza/Hub  
LSC has collected data on traffic flows, ridership, amenities and kiosks, and is conceptualizing a site plan for the transit hub on East Avenue between Sun Valley Road and Second Street. Everyone who will be impacted has been contacted; most of the response has been positive. An average of 500 people a day will load and unload buses at the hub, which should be good for the businesses in the area. Mountain Rides staff will meet with staff from all Ketchum departments, and then present the preferred plan at a public workshop.

   b. Discussion Item: Standee capacity issues  
There are almost always standees on the Valley route from the Middle School north to the hospital. Staff is concerned about standees at highway speeds. Regular pass riders don’t like riding the 3:15 southbound bus because kids take over at the Albertsons stop. The School District pays Mountain Rides $16,000 to carry the students, and the buses made over 24,000 school trips. Everett suggested getting a larger bus on that route. Mountain Rides doesn’t want to leave people or kids at the stop to wait an hour for the next bus, and wants to keep kids in the habit of riding buses. The Board supported bargaining with the schools for special student passes or additional funding.
c. Action Item: Approve Strategic Business Plan priority initiatives for 2012
Staff has reviewed the Strategic Business Plan and considers it a reasonable workload, with some outside help. Councilor Curtis Kemp moved to approve the Strategic Business Plan priority initiatives for 2012, with further input from the committees. Motion seconded by Board Member Joe Miczulski, and passed unanimously.

d. Action Item: Approve submission of FY2013 grants applications
Board Member Jim Jaquet moved to approve submission of FY2013 grants application, seconded by Board Member Mark Gilbert. Motion passed unanimously.

e. Action Item: Approve Candice Pate contract for services
Miller received an estimated scope of work, hours and cost from Pate. The workplan lists specific activities, which may change over time and in conjunction with the Marketing Alliance and other partners. The contract is within budget, and there is money for implementation as well. Board Member Mark Gilbert moved to approve Candice Pate contract for services, subject to any changes made by legal counsel. Motion seconded by Board Member Jim Jaquet, and passed unanimously.

f. Action Item: Approve Bicycle Sharing System Agreement with Social Bicycles, Inc. for bike share project
Mountain Rides’ attorney said the liability provision in the Agreement is not acceptable and non-negotiable. Board Member Mark Gilbert moved to send a final version of the Agreement, per counsel’s recommendation, to Social Bicycles, Inc. for the bike share project. Motion seconded by Councilor Curtis Kemp.

Gilbert rescinded his former motion, and made a replacement motion: Board Member Mark Gilbert moved to approve the contract, subject to the changes legal counsel recommends and requires. Motion seconded by Board Member Jim Jaquet, and passed unanimously.

g. Action Item: Approve Authorization to Solicit Bids for one (1) new Heavy Duty, 35’ Bus
Grant funding for this was received late last fall. ITD allows piggyback purchases, but the state and Mountain Rides legal counsel said it was against state statute. The State Purchasing Office said state statutes do allow piggybacking, so Mountain Rides legal counsel has been asked for a revised legal opinion. If piggybacking is illegal, this is a backup authorization.

Councilor Curtis Kemp moved to approve authorization to solicit bids for one new heavy duty 35’ bus, subject to input from Mountain Rides legal counsel. If legal opinion okays a piggyback purchase, the executive director is directed to pursue a piggyback purchase if appropriate. Motion seconded by Board Member Joe Miczulski, and passed unanimously.

7. Consent Calendar items
   a. Receive and file January 2012 Financials
   b. Receive and file January 2012 Bills Paid
   c. Approve minutes – January regular board meeting and February committee meetings

Board Member Steve Wolper moved to approve the Consent Calendar, with the minutes amended as directed, seconded by Board Member Jim Jaquet. Motion passed with six ayes. Councilor Curtis Kemp abstained since he was not in attendance at the last Board meeting. Board Member Steve Wolper abstained from the Planning and Marketing Committee minutes, since he was not in attendance.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION
Board Member Mark Gilbert moved to go into Executive Session for purposes of land acquisition, litigation and personnel, pursuant to Idaho Code 67-2345 1(c) at 1:53 pm, seconded by Councilor Curtis Kemp. Roll call: Mark Gilbert yes, Curtis Kemp yes, Peter Everett yes, Jim Jaquet yes, Susan McBryant yes, Joe Miczulski yes, and Steve Wolper yes. Motion passed unanimously.

9. ADJOURNMENT
With no other business to come before the Board, Curtis Kemp moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mark Gilbert. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Peter Everett
cc: Commissioner Angenie McCleary, Blaine County
    Sharon R. Hammer, Sun Valley City Administrator
    Kelly Ek, Sun Valley City Clerk
    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
    Lynn Dickerson, Carey City Clerk
    Randall Patterson, Carey Mayor