

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
SOUTH CENTRAL TRANSIT
THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2018
12:00 P.M.
SCT TRANSPORTATION CENTER
100 N. LOCUST STREET
CENTRALIA, IL 62801**

Present:

David Rodden
John Schubert
Sam Easterly
Ben Stratemeyer
George Guidish

Absent:

Don Copeland

Also, Present:

Sheila Niederhofer
Sara Nollman-Hodge
Vicki Clift
Randy Barrow
Pam DeMaris
Margaret Conley
Beth Monken
Marvin Miller

The Budget/Finance committee meeting was called to order by George Guidish.

GUEST RECOGNITION/PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Clift reviewed the financials for July. Clift reported that Fred Becker and staff of Glass & Shuffet are presently at the main office working on the fiscal year end audit. Those results should be available at the September meetings. The committee recommended the July financial reports go to the full board for approval.

CONTRACTS

Public Aid – Niederhofer reported receiving \$4,500 since last board meeting. Niederhofer also recognized Beth Monken for her accuracy in public aid billing.

LINE OF CREDIT – Clift reported communicating with Midland representative Cindy Deering regarding increasing the line of credit to \$3M if we reach that point, she stated that would be no problem if needed.

AUTO INSURANCE RENEWAL – Clift reported receiving notice from our current auto insurance carrier Scottsdale Indemnity Company excess liability policy came in lower than last year at \$251,658 verses last years \$262,310, about a 7% decrease. A recommendation by Guidish to send to the full board, seconded by Stratmeyer. All aye. Motion carried.

EMPLOYEES SALARIES/INCREASES – Guidish stated that he requested for this item to be put on the agenda. Guidish stated that the employee salaries and increases is information that a board member is entitled to if they are going to do their due diligence they should know this information. Although it was voted down last month to publish names with salaries, changes will be made to put position classifications and pay scales, but without names. Guidish stated it would be good for public consumption. It should be provided to the personnel committee members and that they keep it along with the finance committee members and do what they want.

PCOM – Niederhofer reported on the quarterly PCOM report, stating that 5 complaints in one quarter is very good.

AUGUST BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE – Niederhofer ask the committee for permission to miss the August board meeting due to her leaving on vacation. The vacation has been planned for a year. All agreed to excuse her from the meeting.

OTHER – nothing.

ADJOURN – The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Stratmeyer, seconded by Schubert.

Niederhofer reported on working with the city of Carbondale as they are revamping the Amtrak station that's going to include a bus transfer station for SCT, Jackson County Mass Transit and Rides Mass Transit. Guidish stated that this kind of thing should be addressed at the board meeting under the Managing Directors report.

SCCTD BUSES – Niederhofer stated she emailed information out yesterday regarding information on the SCCTD buses with pictures and ask for any questions. IDOT has already given their approval, just waiting for paperwork. No board approval is required. Guidish stated he finds that acceptable.

4 LEASED BUSES (MIDWEST LEASING) – Clift reported on having 4 – 2014 – 32 passenger Freightliner buses that we use on our inter-city routes that the lease will expire in February. This is a 1-year lease with option to purchase at the end of the lease. The buses have between 109,000 and 117,000 miles on them. They are with Midwest Transit but leased through Santander Leasing. A list of options was included in the packets. Discussion was held on the options. Motion to send to the board a recommendation to lease for another year at present rate with purchase options at the end of the lease by Stratemeyer, seconded by Easterly. All aye. Motion carried.

PUBLICATION OF BUDGET & EMPLOYEE SALARY RANGES IN THE LOCAL PAPER – Guidish ask that this be put on the agenda. He states that SCT is the only organization that does not publish this. Guidish distributed a proposal for committee to view. The proposal included salary ranges with employee names listed under the corresponding range. Guidish would like this to be published in the legal sections of the largest circulation newspaper in each of the 6 counties that SCT represents. Guidish stated that he would like this published in the Sentinel as the Marion County, the Breese Journal as the Clinton County and the whatever paper is in Washington County and the DuQuoin Evening Call in Perry County and whatever the appropriate paper is in Jefferson County. Niederhofer stated she had no issue with this but that it is not a requirement by IDOT or the FTA, that very few transit systems publish salaries. Rodden stated for the interest of transparency. Motion to move to the full board for publication by Rodden, seconded by Guidish. All aye. Motion carried.

OTHER – Rodden stated that he would like to go back to the conflict of our relatives. He stated the policy lists families. If we make the policy consistent with the by-laws, then we can make an exception. Stratemeyer stated he thinks we try to do so many policies as a “gotcha”, it’s not good or healthy for a board to function that way. Where is the level where it’s a relevant expense? Rodden stated if it’s in the interest of the board.

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Stratemeyer stated he got the letter about Conley and doesn’t think that Conley’s votes or attitudes have changed over \$500 a year that went to the paper. He states he thinks it’s a “gotcha” policy and he opposed that policy from the beginning and he believes we should follow the law. The board tries to make it so tight that it is a “gotcha policy”. He is all for transparency, but we’ve had the policy and debated it. Guidish suggested adjourning the meeting and having a workshop, stating he had time, they could have a frank discussion about what they want to do, and If Marvin had time to stay, they may want to amend and correct the policy. Rodden informed Guidish that meeting afterwards would violate the Open Meetings Act. Motion to move this discussion to the full board by Guidish, seconded by Rodden. All aye. Motion carried.

Schubert stated that he would not be at the board meeting next week.

Niederhofer ask for a clarification if they want conflict of interest policy on the board agenda. Guidish stated he did.

ADJOURN – As there was nothing else to bring before the committee, the meeting was adjourned by Rodden, seconded by Schubert.

