

REVISED
MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SOUTH CENTRAL TRANSIT
THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2018
12:00 NOON
SCT TRANSPORTATION CENTER
100 N. LOCUST ST.
CENTRALIA, IL. 62801

Present:

George Guidish
Margaret Conley
Pam Boyd
Don Jones
Ed Smalley
Don Copeland
David Rodden
Sam Easterly
Ben Stratemeyer
David Iossi

Absent:

John Schubert
Sheila Niederhofer

Also Present:

Sara Nollman-Hodge
Vicki Clift
Randy Barrow
Pam DeMaris
James Biggs
Brian Hunt
Beth Monken
Cindy Holmes
Megan Vandever
Norm Smith
Jeff Stark
Alicia Westbrook
Kevin Loucks
Chester Neff
Chris Garner
Mark Lienen
Richard Parker
JR Elliott
Marvin Miller

The meeting was called to order by board President, George Guidish.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Copeland, seconded by Conley the minutes of the July board meeting were approved as read. All aye. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Guest Recognition – Chris Garner, Clinton County Supervisor, Mark Liening, Clinton County Assistant Supervisor, Alicia Westbrook, Jefferson County Supervisor, Kevin Loucks, Perry County and Franklin County Supervisor, Richard Parker, Franklin County Assistant Supervisor, Chester Neff, Perry County Assistant Supervisor, Beth Monken, Financial Assistant, Megan Vandever, Director of HR, Cindy Holmes, Assistant Director of HR, Jeff Stark, Director of Training/Safety Officer, Norm Smith, Director of Maintenance, JR Elliott, Former (Retired) Jefferson County Supervisor, Brian Hunt, Centralia Morning Sentinel.

Public Comment – Guidish ask for any public comment. Beth Monken stood and stated “I would like to introduce myself, I am Beth Monken. I have been employed with SCT since 1999 and a life long resident of Clinton County. I am going to begin with a text received on May 22nd of this year. The text was from a Clinton County Board member and it read as “Beth, this was on our agenda last night...up for vote and passed authorization of South Central Transit Quo Warrantor lawsuit. I responded with thank you for the information as I had no idea what it meant. I now understand it to mean: *A legal proceeding during which an individual’s right to hold an office or governmental privilege is challenged.* Once I determined the meaning, I contacted the board member, Clinton County Chairman, and the Clinton County State’s attorney to inquire as why SCT would be challenged. I was told because of the current board makeup. However, with pending litigation no one was allowed to give out more information. After this, I decided it was time for me to do some research in equal representation. After reviewing the Local Mass Transit act it is apparent that this board is not acting under the guidelines set forth. The Illinois local Mass Transit Act: from (chapter III2/3, paragraph 353.1) states “If the district is located in more than one county, the number of trustees who are residents of a county shall be in proportion, as nearly as practicable, to the number of residents of the

district who reside in that county in relation to the total population of the district.” The Act further states: “the corporate authorities or the county board chairman, with the consent of the county board, of each participating municipality or county shall appoint one trustee to the Board for each 30% or fraction thereof of service that the municipality or county receives from the District. If an even number of trustees are appointed to the Board, the corporate authorities or the county board chairman, with the consent of the county board, of the municipality or county that receives the largest percentage of service from the District shall appoint one additional trustee.” “The first Trustees appointed to the Board shall serve for terms of 4 years or less, the terms to be staggered to the extent possible so that they expire one ear apart and so that the terms of not more than 2 trustees expire in the same year, with the Trustees to serve less than 4 years to be selected by lot. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.” This is a lot of information but to break it down I believe the following has happened... when South Central Transit was formed in Marion County 5 members were appointed at which time the terms were not staggered and since Brookside Township was included one member from Clinton County should have been appointed as well...This did not happen. As the district annexed other counties in: again, the Act was not followed as the original board should have been reduced by one each time a county was annexed in until only one member remained from Marion County. Currently SCT is represented by six counties...in my calculations 7 board members should make up the board, instead of the current 11. I attended the Clinton County Board meeting Monday night and read an article in the Centralia Sentinel the next morning: I feel at this time the South Central Transit Board should be asked a simple question, why is Marion County represented by 5 board members? After attending SCT meetings and reviewing minutes from their website; I believe it is time for the board to follow some of its recommendations. Which a few are as follows: First, “The board’s responsibility is money, public tax dollars at work.” (currently the tax payers are paying over 30% more for the entire board and Marion County is paying 75% of what it should be in representation). “follow the law”, (the Act is not being followed), and finally “Each trustee/board member is appointed by a county board and they answer to that county board, not anyone else, so it is their responsibility to do their due diligence to make sure everything is in order.” It is my wish that all of you do your due diligence and report back to your county board and explain that the current SCT board makeup violates the Local Mass Transit District Act. Thank you for your time.

Letters and Cards Received – None.

PRESIDENTS REPORT – Guidish reminded the board of last months board meeting date change that Niederhofer ask for because she couldn't be here and that this month we decide to keep it and she asks to be away from here because she is out of town on vacation. Guidish stated that he dropped the issue last month but at no time should we change the date of a board meeting because one person cannot be here. Guidish also said First of all, the Managing Director is an employee of this board, she is not in charge of this board. The board should be the ones to decide whether they want to change the meeting and with a very good reason, because of the open meetings act, the rules have to be followed and it should remain the same. Guidish stated that he thought it was unnecessary to change the date, that he had to be paid some extra mileage because he was out at the campsite on Friday and because some of us do have regular jobs and he takes personal time off to attend these meetings.

MANAGING DIRECTORS REPORT – The Managing Directors report that was included in the board packets reviewed SCT assisting White Rehab & Health Care Center in Mt. Vernon evacuate their residents due to a chemical spill, the 4th FY18 PCOM Report that was completed and included in the committee packets, a summary of the Safety/Security Committee meeting held in August, a summary of the Employee Pay/Benefit Restructuring Committee that met on August 10, the addition of 4 new routes to the Kaskaskia Workshop Contract starting September 10th, a summary of the Human Services Transportation Program quarterly meeting held at the SCT Transportation Center, Niederhofer's gratitude to the evaluation committee for the outstanding review and recommended increase and appreciation to the board that they all understand the responsibility that goes into the Managing Director position, and that they are grateful for SCT's success, however, Niederhofer respectfully declined a pay increase again this year. Niederhofer's report stated her job has and will always be more to her than a paycheck. It is about helping people who otherwise would not be able to be productive citizens, get to life saving medical treatments or just to get groceries. Those of us who have the means to own a vehicle, have family or friends who can care for us or provide us transportation to the doctor or get groceries, sometimes forget that there are those who do not have this luxury. That is why she is passionate about SCT. The RTAC (Rural Transit Assistance Center) creates a mobility index of all rural transit systems in Illinois. They

have not submitted this information for FY18 yet. RTAC reported at the end of FY17 the state average trip per capita was 0.78, the average cost per trip was \$18.72. At the end of

FY18 SCT trips per capita was 2.85 and our cost per trip was \$16.89, as you can see SCT performance in providing trips is way above the state average and our cost per trips is well below the state average. These numbers show that SCT is keeping cost below the state average yet providing more trips in our district than other transit districts. Additional information regarding statistics from APTA's website was included. (American Public Transportation Association) Motion to accept the Managing Directors report by Conley, seconded by Jones. All aye. Motion carried.

LEGISLATIVE – Nollman-Hodge reported not much going on until veto sessions return in November.

REPORTS

Personnel Committee – Boyd reviewed the minutes of the August personnel meeting. Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Iossi, seconded by Easterly. All aye. Motion carried.

Finance Committee

Copeland thanked Guidish for leading the August finance meeting in his absence and stated he would not read through the minutes as personnel did. Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Rodden, seconded by Smalley. Rodden stated that he thought we should read the whole thing.” It says 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. “ All aye. Motion carried.

Financial Reports

Clift reviewed the financial summary for July. Clift reported that Fred Becker of Glass & Shuffet were in the office for 3 to 4 days last week and yesterday working on the FY18

audit. The audit should be ready for review at the September finance and board meetings. A Motion to accept by Rodden, seconded by Conley. All aye. Motion carried.

Monthly Report – Nollman-Hodge gave the monthly reports for July. It was stated that we have had several months with low complaints and more compliments than complaints. Nollman-Hodge went on to thank everyone in the room (SCT employees) because of them we have such a great monthly report consistently.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none.

NEW BUSINESS

Vehicle Maintenance Policy – Nollman-Hodge noted that with the thanks of Norm Smith Director of Maintenance, one sentence was added stating “check all safety systems and inner locks”. Motion to approve the Vehicle Maintenance Policy updated August 23, 2018 by Easterly, seconded by Copeland. All aye. Motion carried.

Auto Insurance Renewal – Clift reviewed the information given at the finance committee meeting regarding auto insurance renewal. Proposed renewal reflects a 7% decrease from last year’s premium. Jones stated that reflects our safety program/ training program. Easterly agreed. Motion to accept the premium renewal from present carrier by Jones, seconded by Boyd. All aye. Motion carried.

Conflict of Interest – Guidish reviewed the recommendation of the Personnel Committee. Miller stated our policy of 2006 that was updated September 22 of 2016 was mirrored from our funding contract and state statute. Motion to accept the Conflict of Interest policy accepted on September 22, 2016 shall stand, board members are reminded to follow Article 6, section 2 of the bylaws, board members should let us know if there is a perceived conflict of interest and the Personnel Committee will deal with that issue at the next available meeting by Boyd. Seconded by Iossi. 9 ayes, 1 nay Stratemeyer. Motion carried.

Report on County Board Contacts – Rodden asked for Report on County Board Contacts to be put on the agenda. Rodden stated if we go to a county board meeting and get paid for going to a county board meeting, then we should report back to the board who we talked to and what we said at the county board meeting, so board knows what is going on.

Iossi said he usually takes notes when he goes. Motion to approve a SCT board member attending a county board meeting and seeks compensation for such, they should report to the full board what transpired by Jones. Boyd stated that we should put that on the agenda because she has attended 2 this month. Guidish said we could put County Board Contacts on the agenda. Jones stated that it should be business pertaining to SCT not just anything else. Guidish agreed. Motion seconded by Boyd. All aye. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Managing Directors Evaluation/Salary

Guidish stated that we would be entering into Executive Session and everyone would have to leave the board room. A break was taken for all to leave. Roll call was taken and those remaining for the executive session were Conley, Guidish, Boyd, Easterly, Jones, Rodden, Copeland, Smalley, Iossi, Stratemeyer, Miller and DeMaris.

Guidish stated as a matter of Roberts Rules of Order a motion by Copeland to go into executive session, seconded by Stratemeyer to discuss the Directors evaluation and salary. All in favor to going into executive session say aye, all aye. Board entered executive session at 12:32.

Motion to go back into regular session at 12:53 by Rodden, seconded by Boyd. All aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Rodden, seconded by Boyd the meeting was adjourned.

_____ George Guidish, Board President

