

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SOUTH CENTRAL TRANSIT
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 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
John Schubert

Also Present:

Sheila Niederhofer
Sara Nollman-Hodge
Vicki Clift
Randy Barrow
Pam DeMaris
James Biggs
J.R. Elliott
Norm Smith
Chris Garner
Marvin Miller
Chester Neff
Kevin Loucks
Jeff Stark

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – A revision to page 7 of the August 23, 2018 board minutes was distributed before the start of the meeting. Stratemeyer ask for a few minutes to review. Guidish went on to communications and stated we would come back to approval of minutes. After Public Comment, Guidish stated we would revisit Approval of Minutes.

Stratemeyer stated that he had another discussion on the minutes. Stratemeyer referred to last month's minutes regarding the discussion Beth Monken had during Public Comment. Because the minutes will be on the public website he would like to point out that Ms. Monkens proposition was incorrect, and the premise was incorrect that this Board has no say in the way the manning of this committee is made up, the trustees. This was the inappropriate place, because she can not call on us to do action on something that we can not do action on. Stratemeyer would like to have that clarified in the minutes before we go into her speech. Stratemeyer states that he thinks they should clarify that, her proposition complaining to them for the Board make up is not theirs, not valid. Stratemeyer stated he wanted to clarify, since the minutes would be on a public website that the position she took was invalid and we should do that in front of what she says, before she starts her speech in the minutes. Conley stated she disagreed, we should not change minutes because that is what was said. She stated they are wanting to change what was said in the meeting. Conley ask Stratemeyer if he stated that in the meeting, Stratemeyer said no, and Conley ask why it should be in the minutes, Stratemeyer stated because he was there, and he wants the minutes changed and that's his proposal. He stated what she said was invalid and since it will be put on a public website it should be clarified. Motion by Boyd to accept page 7 of the August 23, 2018, Board meeting minutes, seconded by Jones. Conley, Boyd, Jones, Easterly, Copeland, Iossi, Smalley, Schubert aye. Rodden, Stratemeyer nay. Motion carries. Motion to accept the minutes as amended and note that the Board agrees that the issue brought by the employee at last months meeting, can not be resolved by this body by Iossi, seconded by Boyd. Stratemeyer moved to table, seconded by Copeland. Guidish stated Stratemeyer's motion was out of order because there was already a motion on the table. Stratemeyer stated tabling a motion takes precedence over the motion on the floor. Guidish stated had he tabled before the motion and second, he believed it would, but we have a motion and a second and there is support for our current motion and we have to deal with it first. Conley, Rodden, Boyd, Jones, Easterly, Smalley, Iossi, Schubert aye. Copeland and Stratemeyer nay. Motion carries.

COMMUNICATIONS

Guest Recognition – James Biggs

Public Comment – Guidish ask for any public comment. Chester Neff, Perry County Assistant Supervisor addressed the Board saying:

After attending last month's board meeting I observed that the board gains knowledge from various members of management on how SCT is performing. I would like to offer a few reasons for how and why these reports are so positive.

Before I was hired as an SCT driver I had to go through the interview process with Sara. During the interview I learned very quickly what her top priority was –SCT. Because of my inability to communicate my thoughts properly, Sara thought that by hiring me I could be a liability for SCT. She did get that straightened out rather quickly. Since then I have had opportunities to participate in work related events with Sara present. Whatever the topic, anything from insurance, state regulations, employee or route issues, etc. etc. Sara would always be able to comment or instruct resolving any issue. I would usually think to myself, "now that was impressive". If there is an issue brought to her attention she will never tell you to take a number and wait. Her knowledge of the workings of SCT allows her to respond to any issue promptly. When I was in the military my M O S was 13A1N-special weapons. Our success depended in large part on our knowledge of any given situation and how to apply it for a successful outcome. I believe a fitting second title for Sara could be, Sara-SCT special weapon.

After being hired I had to go through driver training. That's when I met Randy. My first thought was, "I wonder what he can show me—I've been in transportation longer than he has memory. Well that didn't scare Randy one bit. Training with Randy goes like this—every day it was steady and calm. Randy was preparing us to blend into our counties without making a big splash. Since then I have had opportunities to work with Randy on various projects such as starting a new route. It went like this—Randy in Centralia, me in Perry County. I would email my brilliant plans for starting a new route and before I could pat myself on the back Randy would message me back pointing out my errors. My first mistake was assuming that you just start a new route. Anyone can do that. I learned from Randy that to be successful the route must be created. And that is what Randy does. Steady and calm, you shape it to what you want it to become. This is one of the reasons SCT has been able to grow by leaps and bounds, expand territory, and increase ridership. All steady and calm.

Soon after completing driver training SCT had a companywide CPR/First Aid training event. While taking a written test I heard a voice behind me say, "you need to look at

number four again. I did and discovered that I had answered incorrectly. During the first aid training we had to learn the proper way to bandage someone with an injury. Quickly I had my victim starting to look like a mummy. This same person came along and took the bandaging material and showed us the proper way to do it. I noticed this person would go around the room offering assistance wherever needed. On the bus ride home, I ask my supervisor who this person was, and he informed me that it was Sheila our managing director. Now don't hold that against her—she can't help but do those things because that is who she is. It doesn't matter if it is assisting and leading an employee to the best they can be, always personally making sure the public's expectations are always exceeded or managing our company through the potential catastrophe of no funding for a lack of a state budget. And all without shutting down routes or laying off drivers---quite a feat. Sheila is not capable of operating in any self-serving manner and she never seeks the limelight. Sheila is all about others and making sure SCT is successful at what we do.

Perhaps you have heard the expression, "its running like a well-oiled machine". I believe that to be an accurate statement of SCT. How is it oiled you ask? I believe that Vicki provides our oil. Without her expertise we could be at risk of running dry. It is so true that it takes a special person to do certain jobs. For most of us to do Vicki's job we would have to beat it with a stick to try and get it right. Thank goodness Vicki never has to use that approach. Thank goodness she loves the tedious task of securing grants and the like. I believe it would be appropriate to designate here the "unsung hero" of SCT.

All the people mentioned and others, pour their time and energy into their talent, combining with loyalty and dedication making SCT the success that it is. To every one of them, this is not just a job, it is a part of their life. Their talent and knowledge are being lived through SCT. If you were the owners of the Cubs and wanted to put together a winning team, it would cost you millions of dollars to purchase the talent to accomplish this. Now since there are not any Rolls Royce's in the parking lot, we could say that what we have here is a real bargain. All of this just mentioned and more, are the why and how the board receives those positive reports.

For the continued success of SCT we hope the board will always provide support and grant the necessary freedom for these folks to live their lives through SCT.

Letters and Cards Received – None.

PRESIDENTS REPORT – Guidish reported that John Schubert and David Meyer, Washington County Board Chairman had a discussion and the agreement is that one time a year, when requested by Chairman Meyer Board can go to Washington County to give a report, once a year the Board would like to meet the President and any of the Board members that would like to go. That will probably be in January. In Marion County, Guidish spoke with Chairman Hahn, twice a year Guidish will provide to Chairman Hahn in writing a copy of basically what is going on that concerns Marion County and the Budget as it would stand at the time he would request it for the year. He will share with his Board whatever he would like to and will call upon them if he would like them to come. Guidish has not spoken to any of the other counties.

MANAGING DIRECTORS REPORT – The Managing Directors report was forwarded to each trustee prior to the meeting in their packet. Niederhofer ask if there were any questions regarding her report. Copeland said he really liked the reports and they were very informative.

LEGISLATIVE – Niederhofer reported nothing going on until veto sessions return in November.

REPORTS

Personnel Committee

Boyd reviewed the minutes of the September Personnel meeting. Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Iossi, seconded by Smalley. All aye. Motion carried.

Finance Committee

Copeland reviewed the minutes of the September Finance meeting. Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Easterly, seconded by Schubert. All aye. Motion carried.

Financial Reports

Clift reviewed the financial summary for August. Clift reported that Fred Becker of Glass & Shuffet will be at the October meetings to review the FY18 audit results. Clift stated that there were some minor adjustments made, Stratemeyer ask what changed and Clift reviewed those changes. Motion to approve the Financial Reports by Rodden, seconded by Copeland. All aye. Motion carried.

Stratemeyer asked that copies of audit be made available to the Board when management gets copies.

Monthly Report

Nollman-Hodge reviewed the August monthly reports with the Board.

County Board Meeting Reports

Boyd reported going to two Franklin County Board meetings in August, stating the first meeting was regarding updated shuttle changes and the second was to answer questions due to SCT representatives attending the meeting. Schubert of Washington County attended his county Board meeting in which Guidish reviewed under Presidents report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none.

NEW BUSINESS

Funding Contracts

Clift reported receiving two funding contracts, the first, the Downstate contract which was forwarded out to Board members and Marvin Miller, it requires a Resolution and Legal opinion and this morning the Section 5311 contract was received and emailed out to Board and Marvin Miller and it also requires a Board resolution and legal opinion. Rodden ask when the Board needs to make a Board resolution, Clift stated asap. Guidish stated they could go ahead and address the first contract and ask if the second could wait until next month. Niederhofer stated they (IDOT) would frown upon it and it would be one of the last viewed by IDOT for being turned in so late. Guidish stated that Miller had issued a legal opinion on the downstate contract. Miller had not seen the 5311 yet as it was just emailed this morning so could not issue a legal opinion. Miller stated that the contracts are IDOT issued and cannot be changed. Miller also stated the Board could call an emergency meeting on Monday as Miller could review the contract by then, but he doesn't want the Board to feel pressured to do something. Guidish ask if anyone was uncomfortable moving forward with the Downstate contract. A motion was made to accept the current Downstate Operating Grant as presented, Resolution # 494419-1141-9655 by Iossi, seconded by Stratemeyer. All aye. Motion carried.

Discussion began on Section 5311 contract, Motion to adopt 5311 Resolution #500019-0338-9654 contingent upon approval of legal counsel's opinion, Rodden stated contingent upon no negative legal opinion. Motion to adopt 5311 Resolution #500019-0338-9654 contingent upon approval of no negative legal opinion by Rodden, seconded

by Smalley. Stratemeyer stated this was a poor way to govern, call for the question. Guidish stated question has been called, do we want to end the debate, is anyone opposed to ending the debate. Guidish stated we are ending the debate. Conley, Rodden, Boyd, Jones, Easterly, Copeland, Smalley, Schubert, Iossi aye. Stratemeyer nay. Motion carries.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

Guidish stated we had an Executive Session at the last Board meeting and an agreement was made in that session but that it could not be discussed any further and ask the Board what it wanted to do. Rodden stated he didn't remember what they agreed on. Rodden stated they could go into Executive session again.

Motion by Boyd to go into Executive Session, seconded by Jones. Roll call was taken to go into Executive Session, Conley aye, Rodden aye, Boyd aye, Jones aye, Easterly aye, Copeland aye, Smalley aye, Schubert aye, Iossi aye, Stratemeyer aye.

Executive session was entered into at 12:58.

The meeting came back into regular session at 1:06.

Guidish stated the question on the floor is the Executive Director's compensation. A motion to accept that agreement by Rodden, seconded by Iossi. No discussion. Rodden, Boyd, Jones, Easterly, Copeland, Smalley, Schubert, Iossi, Stratemeyer aye. Conley nay. Motion carried.

Guidish ask for any other business to be brought before the Board. Schubert stated that he would like to see another table added to the Board table so that all Board members can be seated together and acknowledged.

Copeland stated he would like go into Executive Session to discuss "Personnel matters" and "Board matters" at the next Board meeting. Guidish ask if he wanted that put on the agenda and he stated yes.

ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn by Copeland, seconded by Iossi. All aye. Motion carried.

George Guidish, Board President

