
MONONGALIA COUNTY URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
JANUARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 7, 1998

AUTHORITY MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jenny Dinsmore
Frank Salucci
John Spears
James Caravasos
Bob Roberts

NOT PRESENT:

Sandy Holepit
David Martinelli

OTHER PERSONNEL PRESENT:

David Bruffy
Denice Gribble

CALL TO ORDER:

The Transit Board Meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Mr. Spears and Second by Mr. Caravasos that the minutes be accepted as printed.

For: All Opposed: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Bruffy reported that he received a letter from the County Commission officially appointing Mr. Roberts to a three (3) year term.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Bruffy reported that the financial statements are incomplete this month due to the early meeting date. Financial reports and bank statements were not yet available. Mr. Bruffy reported that revenue was up for the month of December and that overall ridership was up from the month of October. Mr. Bruffy also reported that the income deficit for the month of December was continuing as anticipated.

Mr. Bruffy reported that Christmas Eve ridership was about 50% of a normal day and he recommended service be continued on Christmas Eve in the future.

Mrs. Dinsmore expressed her concern with the low ridership numbers and asked the General Manager whether the routes needed to be reviewed. Mr. Bruffy reported that there is some opportunity to improve the ridership numbers based on improved community awareness of services.

Mr. Bruffy reported that there has been a gradual increase in recent ridership numbers. Mr. Bruffy reported that administration has been focusing on ways to maximize revenue-generating efforts while minimizing risk to the organization.

Mr. Bruffy reported that he has talked with PACE TEC and In Touch and Concerned about coordinating services and providing vehicle maintenance.

Mr. Salucci reported that he put together four (4) goals for Mountain Line in 1998 and he asked the Board if anyone had any suggestions. The goals were presented as follows:

1. Coordinate services with WVU's bus system and ours to allow students to ride the buses using their ID/PRT cards.
2. Create shorter and more efficient bus routes so riders can get from point A to point B quicker.
3. Meet with WVU to discuss the Master plan and possible traffic congestion due to the construction.
4. Build a satellite parking lot away from the downtown campus to help alleviate the traffic congestion during WVU's Master plan construction.
5. Look into the possibility of bringing the Morgantown Airport under the Monongalia County Urban Mass Transportation Authority to generate business growth helping offset the expenses of the Transit Authority.

Mrs. Dinsmore asked the Board if consideration of consolidation of services with the Morgantown Parking Authority could be added as Goal #6. The Board generally agreed that it should be added but without a formal Motion to that effect.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Alcohol and Substance Abuse Policy – Mr. Bruffy reported that there have been changes in the Federal Regulations dealing with this policy and that the existing policy was adopted by the City of Morgantown prior to consolidation of City and County services. Mr. Bruffy reported that this policy is intended to reflect changes in federal regulations and to adopt a Substance Abuse Policy by MCUMTA.

Mrs. Dinsmore moved and Mr. Caravasos seconded to accept the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Policy as presented.

For: All Opposed: None

B. Mr. Bruffy reported that local solicitations were made for a testing agency per the requirements of MCUMTA's new Alcohol and Substance Abuse Policy. Several direct solicitations were made but only MCUMTA's current service provider, Wedgewood Family Practice, responded. Since the estimated annual expenditure for these services is less than \$2,500 dollars, the General Manager recommended the contract for services with Wedgewood Family Practice be renewed. Estimated value of the contract is \$1,000 dollars.

Mr. Caravasos moved and Mr. Spears seconded to accept the contract as presented.

For: All Opposed: None

C. Resolution 1998-01 Authorizing Fiscal 1998-99 49 U.S.C. Section 5311 Operating Assistance Grant Application (formerly Section 18). Mountain Line is requesting funds totaling \$324,107 dollars to be matched by an equal amount in local contributions.

Mrs. Dinsmore moved and Mr. Roberts seconded to accept the Resolution as written.

For: All Opposed: None

The Resolution was then signed.

MANAGER'S REPORT (written report as presented):**Information**

1. Employees signed up for payroll deduction changes for health insurance and those changes went into effect for the first pay period of 1998 (January 2). Most employees took advantage of the "even" payment plan spreading out their co-payments over all 26 paychecks instead of one big co-payment per month.
2. Contact was made with Mr. Robert Flowers, owner of the parking garage located on Chestnut Street, regarding Mr. Flower's interest in selling his property to Mountain Line. Mr. Flowers indicated he is not interested in selling his property at this time.
3. Morgantown City Police Chief Lucci was contacted about patrolling the Walnut Street Station and he provided assurance that he has assigned that responsibility to his Officers. Also, Joe Perfetti, Assistant Public Works Director was contacted and asked that the Station area be added to the downtown street sweeper list. Mr. Perfetti indicated he would assign that area to the sweeper list.
4. Correspondence received from the West Virginia Division of Public Transit indicates that Mountain Line may receive new vehicles in 1998. According to Director O'Connell, Mountain Line is scheduled to receive four (4) new accessible vans and two (2) new buses. Funding for this equipment is contingent upon State matching funds as well as federal funding sources. The importance of this new equipment to Mountain Line's fiscal solvency is of paramount importance and the Board will be provided with updates on the status of these acquisitions, as they become available.
5. Through his contacts with the WVU College of Business & Economics, Dr. Spears has facilitated the acquisition of two (2) Interns for the Spring 1998 Semester. Position descriptions are finalized and these positions should begin working in marketing and personnel beginning in February or as soon as they are filled.
6. A brief summary of ridership information has been prepared for the first half of the fiscal year (attached). Points of interest from this data review include service provision of just more than 97,800 rides with 63% of all rides being provided through the five (5) largest routes.

As an additional item, Mr. Bruffy reported that he spoke with Mr. Bruce Inglehardt of the Morgantown Mall to discuss cars parking in the fire lanes and obstructing bus routes. It was agreed that only fire prevention officers have jurisdiction to cite a driver for this violation. On other topics, Mr. Inglehardt offered to assist in locating permanent bus stop signs and time schedules. Mr. Bruffy reported that they also discussed establishing a park and ride at the Mall.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Marketing Committee –
Nothing to report.

Personnel Committee –
Nothing to report.

Organizational Committee –
Nothing to report.

Finance Committee –
Nothing to report.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Holepit
Secretary of the Board

