Regular Meeting

Springfield Mass Transit District

November 25, 2019
4:30 PM
Monday

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The Board of Trustees of the Springfield Mass Transit District met in a regular session in the office of the Springfield Mass Transit District located at 928 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois. The Meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM by Brian Brewer, Chairperson.

I. Roll Call

Present:
- Brian Brewer  Chairperson
- Karen Hasara  Treasurer
- Jerry Doss  Trustee
- Susan Davsko  Trustee
- Sandra Douglas  Trustee
- Steve Schoeffel  Deputy Managing Director

Not Present:
- Leslie McCarthy  Secretary
- Frank Squires  Managing Director

II. Approval of Minutes

Sue Davsko made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2019 regular meeting, seconded by Wynne Coplea. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Managing Director’s Report

Director Schoeffel detailed progress staff is making on a five-year plan for The District. Additionally, SMTD has been represented well at local community meetings regarding the Multi-modal expansion project. The Planning Commission is beginning work on the Long-Range Transportation Plan (20-30 years). The District is finalizing preparations for the holidays with a bus being dedicated to the Holiday Parade as in years past. Lastly, the training room remodeling has begun.

IV. Reports

A. Approval of Financial Statements & Cash Disbursements

Erik Bush reported September and October financials are ready for review and for questions.

B. Board Committee Reports: Finance-Operations-Administration

Finance: Wynne Coplea asked about certificates of deposit at CEFCU and INB that were recently closed. Director Bush responded those were closed with the instrument’s maturity. The proceeds were rolled into existing accounts. Davsko motioned, Coplea seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
Operations: Director Ashford reported on six new buses that staff recently returned from production review. The buses will start arriving in December. Director Ashford also reported that ridership was up for both Mainline and Access. Board Member Hasara inquired as to the cause of ridership increasing and Director Ashford shared her feeling that the numbers were up due to an increase in the areas served. Finally, Director Ashford reported this January will be The District’s first opportunity to review a full year-over-year comparison of new routes put in place at the end of 2018. Director Ashford introduced Mr. Spencer Sidwell as SMTD’s new manager of maintenance.

Administration: No committee report or questions.

C. Planning Commission Report: Mr. Jason Sass reported the Planning Commission is also working on five-year plans which will involve the community going forward.

D. Disabled Persons Advisory Committee Report/Access Springfield: Mr. Pete Roberts reports the DPAC is excited about the six new buses arriving, especially with the new SMART Ride features which assist in stabilizing the front of the bus. Gifts of food were provided to The District from DPAC.

V. NEW BUSINESS
1. Review and Consider Approval of SMTD Title VI Program Board member Doss moved with Board member Douglas seconding a motion for the board to approve SMTD’s Title VI program. Board member Hasara questioned The District’s Spanish translation capabilities, and staff explained The District utilizes a translation service that offers our customers translation services for 170 languages. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

2. Review and Consider Approval of Retiree Medicare Rates Board Member Douglas moved with Board member Coplea seconding a motion to approve the 2019-2020 Medicare PDP rates. Director Bush provided an overview of retiree health spending, noting this specific increase represented an $11/mo, or 7% annual increase. Director Bush reminded the board The District takes retiree health care benefits very seriously and staff continues to try and provide attractive benefits to our workforce. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

3. Consider Resolution Authorizing Staff to Evaluate Capital Debt Service under the Downstate Operating Assistance Program Board Member Coplea moved with Board member Davsko seconding a motion to authorize staff investigate pursuing debt service to meet the $3 million in new capital expenses for new buses. Board Member Brewer clarified this does not
authorize staff to issue debt, but merely begins the administrative process to evaluate the cost/benefit of doing so. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

4. Review and Declare Miscellaneous Property as Surplus Board Member Davsko moved with Board member Douglas seconding a motion to declare sundry property surplus. Director Bush explained this was a statutory requirement of the governing board to occasionally review the state of assets for disposal. Board member Davsko question the means of cost recapture, with Director Bush explaining The District uses auction, silent auction, classified, and the Illinois Municipal League to obtain the most efficient cost recapture available given the return. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

VI. Additional New Business
None

VII. Public Comments
Jane Ford – Extended Holiday wishes to SMTD Staff and Officers and presented The District with three gift food baskets as a sign of appreciation.

Ronald Walker – Excited about new buses. Would like The District to review shorter buses as some require all riders to move to the back of the bus if a wheelchair boards. Explained he would like more shelters at Junction Circle, as well as wood chips to keep mud down. Finally, Mr. Walker communicated his appreciation for the shelters at the new transfer center.

Kate Hall of the Hinshaw Law Firm was introduced.

VIII. Adjournment
Board Member Davsko moved with Board member Douglas seconding a motion to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.

Leslie McCarthy, Secretary

Approved:

Bryan Brewer, Chairperson