

MINUTES

Board of Trustees

Madison County Mass Transit District
One Transit Way, Granite City, Illinois
8:30 a.m., Thursday, August 27, 2020

I. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Jedda led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Call to Order: Roll Call

Chairman Jedda called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: ALLEN P. ADOMITE, ANDREW F. ECONOMY,
CHRISTOPHER C. GUY, RONALD L. JEDDA, AND J.
KELLY SCHMIDT.

MEMBER ABSENT: NONE.

OTHERS PRESENT: TONYA GENOVESE, LEGAL COUNSEL; ANDREW
CARRUTHERS, LEGAL COUNSEL; SJ MORRISON, ACT;
SUMMER MOORE, ACT; MICHELLE DOMER, ACT; PHIL
ROGGIO, ACT; MARK STEYER, ACT; JONATHAN
CORTEZ, ACT; AMANDA VILIOCCO, ACT; JONATHAN
CORTEZ, ACT; JUSTIN DIXON, ACT; AMANDA
SCHOMAKER, ACT; & ROB SCHMIDT, ACT.

III. Public Comments

No public comments were presented.

IV. Consideration of the Minutes of the July 30, 2020, regular meeting for inclusion in the official records of the District.

TRUSTEE ADOMITE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE ECONOMY, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR INCLUSION IN THE OFFICIAL RECORDS OF THE DISTRICT.

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

ALLEN P. ADOMITE	AYE
ANDREW F. ECONOMY	AYE
CHRISTOPHER C. GUY	AYE
RONALD L. JEDDA	AYE
J. KELLY SCHMIDT	AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

V. Financial

A. Payments and Claims: Consideration of the July 2020 claims for payment:

Managing Director SJ Morrison presented the payments and claims report. TRUSTEE GUY MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE ADOMITE, TO APPROVE THE PAYMENTS AND CLAIMS, EXCLUDING THE PAYMENTS AND CLAIMS TO THE CITY OF TROY AND THE AGENCY FOR COMMUNITY TRANSIT.

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

ALLEN P. ADOMITE	AYE
ANDREW F. ECONOMY	AYE
CHRISTOPHER C. GUY	AYE
RONALD L. JEDDA	AYE
J. KELLY SCHMIDT	AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

TRUSTEE GUY MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE ECONOMY, TO APPROVE THE PAYMENTS AND CLAIMS TO THE CITY OF TROY AND THE AGENCY FOR COMMUNITY TRANSIT.

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

ALLEN P. ADOMITE	ABSTAINED
ANDREW F. ECONOMY	AYE
CHRISTOPHER C. GUY	AYE
RONALD L. JEDDA	AYE
J. KELLY SCHMIDT	ABSTAINED

TRUSTEE ADOMITE & SCHMIDT ABSTAINED. ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

B. Monthly Financial Report: Reviews of the monthly financial records as of July 31, 2020:

Managing Director SJ Morrison presented the monthly financial report.

TRUSTEE ADOMITE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE SCHMIDT, TO APPROVE OF THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF DATE.

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

ALLEN P. ADOMITE	AYE
ANDREW F. ECONOMY	AYE
CHRISTOPHER C. GUY	AYE
RONALD L. JEDDA	AYE
J. KELLY SCHMIDT	AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

VI. **Transit Service**

A. Managing Director's Report:

Managing Director SJ Morrison produced the report.

Morrison introduced the new ACT directors, Jonathan Cortez, Director of IT; Justin Dixon, Fleet Director; Amanda Schomaker, Director of Marketing; & Rob Schmidt, Director of Facilities.

Morrison informed the board that the voluntary furloughed drivers had returned to work, and bus services were restored to about eighty percent. After the first few days

of restoration the ridership counts increased. SIUE returned to school, and that makes up for twenty percent of ridership.

Morrison stated that the Paratransit ridership continued to increase as senior centers, assisted living, and adult daycare centers reopen. Paratransit is well over a hundred trips per day.

Morrison let the board know that the Gateway Commerce Center Express service was implemented and going well as anticipated. Amanda Viliocco participated in a teleconference with the employers of the Gateway Commerce Center to share the express service information. Viliocco chimed in that the employers requested posters and timetables for display in the employee common areas.

Morrison let the board know that the Summer Youth Pass program continues until Labor Day. Even with the pandemic there were five hundred youth passes distributed throughout the county.

Morrison spoke of the continued popularity of the MCT Trails. Morrison announced that the preliminary plans for the Troy Trail Extension, Schoolhouse Trail/Pleasant Ridge Park Connector, and Nickel Plate Trail Improvement were received. The plans would be sent for bid within the next couple of weeks. Morrison mentioned that the consultants were conducting a study on the IL-111 bridge, Schoolhouse Trail, IL-157 tunnel, and the Yellowhammer bridge, and that the IL-111 bridge study was received. Morrison stated that there was no word on the Illinois Highway Safety Improvement program grant for the IL-111 bridge. Morrison stated that cross traffic does not stop signs were added to fifty intersections where the trails cross streets. Morrison informed the board that a MEPRD grant was submitted for the I.T. Beltline.

Morrison announced that the Eastgate Park & Ride bid notice was published for construction. A pre-bid meeting would be held on September 15, and bids were due September 29. An award recommendation will be presented to the board at the October meeting.

Morrison concluded his report.

B. Art and Beautification on the MCT Trails

Morrison presented seven beautification projects to the board, which include adding landscaping, trees, and other efforts such as installation of public art. Morrison estimated the project to cost one hundred fifty thousand dollars, but it could add a lot of beauty to highly visible parts of the trails. Morrison stated a contract award recommendation would be presented at the September board meeting and complete the project by fall before the first frost.

Adomite loved the presented projects and cost.

Guy expressed his concerns about the trees falling on the trails.

Jedda suggested reaching out to local communities for more beautification ideas.

Morrison stated that Viliocco had reached out to local artists, and art programs at colleges and universities.

Jedda mentioned reaching out to notify the public through social media of our beautification efforts and locations.

Morrison stated branding would be utilized at art installation sites to show certification or approval. Also, a URL would provide additional information on where to find art along the trails, and artist information.

C. Alternative Transit Solutions

Guy proposed his idea of contracting with Uber or Lyft to provide free rides on Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve to prevent driving while intoxicated. Guy believes this is a great way to promote MCT.

Morrison stated that we are obligated to provide a service which is ADA accessible because we receive state and federal funds, and Uber and Lyft might not offer those services. Morrison mentioned that there are instances of transportation agencies using Uber and Lyft for the first mile/last mile, but the legality has not been determined and there are liability concerns.

Viliocco stated that transit agencies across the country are all approaching and handling the matter in different ways.

Adomite suggested using paratransit as an additional option by providing a phone along with an Uber or Lyft code. Adomite stated if an ADA option were not provided, we would open ourselves up to a lawsuit. Adomite mentioned this is a great idea to test the utilization of Uber and Lyft.

Adomite agreed that it is a fantastic idea with limitations to one or two evenings.

Schmidt questioned if it would be a good idea to bring law enforcement in on the discussion.

Genovese, the legal counsel, stated she was looking into the legality on the transit side.

Adomite questioned if the limits would be located just within Madison County.

Multiple members of the board agreed that this would be in the best interest of the county.

Adomite questioned the ease of creating a promotion code with Uber or Lyft.

Morrison and Genovese collectively assured Adomite that creating a code can be done with little effort.

Adomite questioned if a ride would be allowed for a Madison County resident traveling from St. Louis back to Madison County. Adomite mentioned that only allowing rides within the county would keep business local.

Schmidt questioned how the Red Bird Express and Munny buses were funded.

Morrison stated that the vehicles are ADA accessible.

Jedda stated that the use of local funds and partnering with local businesses and establishments to kick-in funds for the advertisement of their partnership to provide a free ride home. Jedda told the board there are a lot of positives.

Adomite mentioned the positive media coverage will outweigh the cost.

Guy stated this is an opportunity for the public who does not utilize public transit services.

Morrison stated that he would look into it, and more information would be brought to a future meeting.

Jedda mentioned this is a great way to reach out and do a public service for the community, and it is worth it if we prevent an accident caused by a drunken driver.

Morrison mentioned the airport express shuttle service that was mentioned at an earlier meeting. As well as taking another look at the route number 13 Troy – Glen Carbon shuttle, it is one of the lower performing routes, that is carrying about six hundred patrons per month.

Adomite mentioned pushing a shuttle service from our park & rides to a MetroLink station that connects to Lambert or the MidAmerica airport to provide parking and connections to airports and major employers. Morrison brought up a previous discussion of a St. Clair County and Madison County vanpool initiative, which MCT currently provides as RideFinders. Morrison mentions that it may not make business sense to operate a bus for small scale ridership; however, a vanpool would be driven by a vanpool participant and not an ACT employee. The recommendation would be that for the cost of a bus pass, seventy dollars per person, a vanpool could operate anywhere within the county. It is substantially cheaper to operate a vanpool rather than a bus. Morrison pointed out that this service has been requested at the Gateway Commerce Center, and it has the potential to be successful.

Jedda mentioned offering options and gathering the publics' interest and expanding or retracting service based on those interests. Jedda questioned how many patrons the vans hold.

Morrison explained there are various van sizes, and he would prepare numbers for the next board meeting, but he believes this would be a great program. Morrison mentioned that the program is established and would be easy to launch.

VII. Other Business

VIII. Executive session to discuss the acquisition, and/or sale, or lease of property under (c)(5), and litigation under (c)(11) of the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2).

TRUSTEE ADOMITE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE SCHMIDT, TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE ACQUISITION, AND/OR SALE OR LEASE OF PROPERTY UNDER 2(C)(5), AND LITIGATION UNDER 2(C)(11) OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT (5 ILCS 120/2).

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

ALLEN P. ADOMITE	AYE
ANDREW F. ECONOMY	AYE
CHRISTOPHER C. GUY	AYE
RONALD L. JEDDA	AYE
J. KELLY SCHMIDT	AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

TRUSTEE ADOMITE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE SCHMIDT, TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION.

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

ALLEN P. ADOMITE	AYE
ANDREW F. ECONOMY	AYE
CHRISTOPHER C. GUY	AYE
RONALD L. JEDDA	AYE
J. KELLY SCHMIDT	AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

TRUSTEE ADOMITE MADE THE OMNIBUS MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE ECONOMY, TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS:

- A. 21-06 AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY 7252 PIN OAK ROAD, EDWARDSVILLE, IL
- B. 21-07 AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY 813 EAST CHAIN OF ROCKS ROAD, PONTOON BEACH, IL

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

ALLEN P. ADOMITE	AYE
ANDREW F. ECONOMY	AYE
CHRISTOPHER C. GUY	AYE
RONALD L. JEDDA	AYE
J. KELLY SCHMIDT	AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

TRUSTEE GUY MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE SCHMIDT TO ADJOURN.

A ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWED:

ALLEN P. ADOMITE	AYE
ANDREW F. ECONOMY	AYE
CHRISTOPHER C. GUY	AYE
RONALD L. JEDDA	AYE
J. KELLY SCHMIDT	AYE

ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Summer Moore
