

MINUTES
Board of Trustees
Madison County Mass Transit District
8:30 a.m., Thursday, December 17, 2020
Video/Teleconference

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: ANDREW CARRUTHERS, LEGAL COUNSEL; SJ
MORRISON, ACT; SUMMER MOORE, ACT; MICHELLE
DOMER, ACT; PHIL ROGGIO, ACT; MARK STEYER,
ACT; JUSTIN DIXON, ACT; JERRY KANE, ACT; JERRY
COSTELLO; MIKE WALTERS.

III. Public Comments

No public comments were presented.

Chairman Jedda modified the agenda schedule.

V. Consideration of the Minutes of the November 19, 2020, regular meeting for inclusion in the official records of the District.

TRUSTEE ADOMITE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE SCHMIDT, 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	NO RESPONSE
CHRISTOPHER C. GUY	AYE
RONALD L. JEDDA	AYE
J. KELLY SCHMIDT	AYE

ECONOMY NO RESPONSE. ALL AYES. NO NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

VI. Financial

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

Managing Director SJ Morrison presented the payments and claims report.

TRUSTEE ADOMITE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE ECONOMY, 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 November 30, 2020:

Managing Director SJ Morrison presented the monthly financial report.

TRUSTEE ADOMITE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE GUY, 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.

VII. **Transit Service:**

- A. Managing Director's Report, SJ Morrison

Eleven staff members tested positive for COVID-19, and five others were awaiting test results. Since March, there has been a total of thirty employees that had tested positive for COVID-19. Most of the staff have recovered and returned to work.

The Fixed Route service had 82,000 boardings the month of November, which is fifty percent down from the previous year. The Paratransit service carried approximately ninety trips per day.

The ACT Board recognized a paratransit driver, Theresa Blair, for twenty-years of perfect safety. Theresa had logged forty-thousand hours behind the wheel of a paratransit bus without a preventable accident. As defined by the National Safety Council, to retain the perfect safety designation, a driver must make every effort possible to avoid an accident in all situations. Although this is a difficult milestone to reach, MCT has proudly presented several drivers with twenty-years of perfect safety. Morrison extended his appreciation for Theresa's efforts and diligence.

The Eastgate Park & Ride groundbreaking was held on November 23 and received positive press. The contractor, Bruce Unterbrink, was making great progress, and the project was expected to be completed by September 2021.

The police bikes were ordered for the City of Troy and the Village of South Roxana. The bikes will be sent to a local bike shop for assembly and will be delivered to the municipalities in mid-January.

The consultant for the CAD/AVL (computer-aided dispatch/automated vehicle locator) system, which is one hundred percent funded under the Rebuild Illinois grant, was prepared, and an RFI (Request for Information) was issued. The information was expected in mid-January, and the staff will assemble an RFP (Request for Proposal) later in January. This an exciting project for operations, but the public would benefit from the real-time bus location information.

The engineers were finishing up the topography and property surveys of the I.T. Beltline Trails. This trail is partially funded through an MEPRD grant. The Schoolhouse Trail Pleasant Ridge Park Connector in Maryville would be advertised for bid in the next couple of weeks. The Nickel Plate Trail paving project from IL-143 to Blackburn Road was in the final planning stage and projected to be sent for bid in March. Preliminary plans were returned from IDOT with comments on the trail from Spring Valley to Formosa in Troy that runs parallel to US-40 and the project will be bid in February. The survey/fieldwork was completed for the Schoolhouse Trail tunnel under IL-157, and the property lines and rights-of-way were being reviewed. The Yellowhammer survey work was on hold until the lower brush dies out within the heavily wooded area. Phase I of the Trails Beautification Project is complete, and Phase II (flowers, shrubs, & berm) would commence after the first of the year.

B. Proposed MCT Fare Structure Adjustment & Simplification

Managing Director SJ Morrison presented the proposed MCT Fare Structure Adjustment & Simplification.

Trustee Adomite questioned what ridership structure was used to create the financial impact.

Morrison replied that the calendar year 2019 was utilized because the calendar year 2020 is not complete, and it was inconsistent and not a typical year due to the pandemic.

Trustee Adomite stated there is no historical information that would give insight into what ridership will look like after a pandemic. Trustee Adomite questioned if the 2019 numbers would accurately reflect the first year after a pandemic or should we anticipate that ridership to be less.

Morrison stated that ridership would take time to rebuild, and the increases would not be immediate. There was a modest increase in ridership this fall, but most schools and businesses are still attending remotely.

Trustee Adomite agreed with the adjustment and simplification and stated that coming out of a pandemic is an opportunity to market a less expensive product to rebuilding ridership. The board should not expect that the worst outcome is two hundred thousand down because the hole could be deeper than projected due to the pandemic.

Trustee Economy questioned the length of the prolonged execution of the MCT Fare Structure Adjustment & Simplification.

Morrison stated the proposed structure was tied to a service change for various reasons, such as timetables, literature (marketing materials), driver training, and any fare change is subject to a public meeting process.

Trustee Guy supports the initiative to reduce the fare and eliminate the zones and believes it makes business sense at this time.

Chairman Jedda echoed the other comments and commented that this a good step forward. The simplification impact would need to be assessed a year from now to see the impact on the revenue.

Trustee Schmidt requested clarification on the Paratransit Non-ADA eligible trip for her understanding of Paratransit.

Morrison informed the board that a non-ADA eligible trip is a senior citizen (65+) or a person with a disability who is not qualified under the specific ADA guidelines of eligibility but is qualified to use the paratransit service at a higher fare rate. An ADA trip must be within 3/4 of a mile of a fixed route service, at the same hours and days of regular fixed route operation.

C. Proposed MCT Trails Bench Program

Managing Director SJ Morrison presented the proposed MCT Trails Bench Program.

Chairman Jedda supported the proposed program and stated it enhances the usability for all trail goers, and not just cyclists. The placement of benches along the trails will allow people to donate and become more involved in the MCT Trails, and he considers this an overall trail enhancement.

Trustee Adomite questioned if a lower cost option would be available in designated areas as an additional option that is more feasible.

Morrison stated the cost was strategically planned to prevent the clutter of the natural trail environment. Morrison mentioned a lower-cost product to offer.

Trustee Adomite mentioned memorializing more than one person per bench to cut the cost.

Morrison suggested a tree with a plaque for a lower price point option.

Trustee Guy seconded having a lower price point option and agreed that a tree is a good option.

Trustee Schmidt was pleased that we are listening to the community and users of the trails. She had received numerous positive comments. She questioned the progress of the 501(3)(c) organization's efforts to accept gifts.

Chairman Jedda stated that it is in progress, and he understands that some may be hesitant to donate to Madison County Transit. The foundation would be more well-received for donation purposes.

Morrison proposed to represent the proposed bench program with some modifications at a future meeting for the board's consideration.

D. TRUSTEE GUY MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE ADOMITE, TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

21-16 APPOINTING DIRECTORS OF THE AGENCY FOR COMMUNITY TRANSIT, INC.

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.

E. TRUSTEE SCHMIDT MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE ADOMITE, TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

21-17 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TWO VEHICLES FOR THE GRANITE CITY TOWNSHIP, OF GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS, TO SERVE RESIDENTS OF MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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.

III. Presentation by Jerry Costello.

Costello updated the board on his efforts this year to provide funds to Madison County Transit.

Morrison expressed his appreciation for Costello's efforts not only for MCT but also for our region.

Trustee Adomite praised his efforts on behalf of MCT and the local taxpayers. This relationship with a previously ranked transit experienced lobbyist has allowed MCT to enhance our transit district with success at little to no cost to the local taxpayer.

Costello promised to continue to work with both parties at a congressional and state legislature level because success comes when working together.

Chairman Jedda thanked him for his assistance and requested to be kept abreast of the change of administration as it relates to transit and the impact on MCT.

Costello expressed that having a previous Mayor within the leadership position of Secretary of Transportation would benefit MCT.

VII. Transit Service:

F. TRUSTEE ADOMITE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE GUY, TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

21-18 AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES WITH MADISON COUNTY STATE’S ATTORNEY OFFICE

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.

G. TRUSTEE ADOMITE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE ECONOMY, TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

21-19 AUTHORIZING AN AWARD OF CONTRACT TO OATES ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR BASIC DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE FORMOSA-EAST ALIGNMENT STUDY

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.

H. TRUSTEE GUY MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE SCHMIDT, TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

21-20 AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THERMAL IMAGING UNITS

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.

VIII. Other Business

A. TRUSTEE GUY MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE ADOMITE, TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

Chairman Jedda provided Michael Walters with the opportunity to address the board.

Michael Walters thanked the board for their time and provided an update regarding his activities in Springfield. Walters explained what a lobbyist does behind the scenes and his state-wide approach, with a focus on the legislators. Walters explained how he was able to reach and explain to legislators what the \$15.2 million Rebuild Illinois grant money would be used for and why it was needed. Walters informed the board that Congressman Davis would be the republican member of the Transportation subcommittee. Walters commended Jerry Costello on his efforts at the DC level and deemed him as an asset to Madison County Transit. Walters has been promoting Madison County Transit and the MCT Trails across the state.

Morrison thanked Walters for his efforts and expressed his appreciation.

Guy thanked Walters for his time and stated he was an asset to Madison County Transit.

Adomite expressed how lucky Madison County Transit is to have senior leaders from both sides of the aisle, to have a recognized familiar presence from our area in Springfield. Adomite complimented MCT as an organization and thank Walters.

21-21 AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSULTING AGREEMENT WITH MICHAEL J. WALTERS

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. **Executive session to discuss the acquisition or lease of real 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 OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY UNDER (C)(5), AND LITIGATION UNDER (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 SCHMIDT MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE ADOMITE, 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.

X. ADJOURNMENT

TRUSTEE ECONOMY MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE ADOMITE 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 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Summer Moore

ⁱ Trustee Schmidt suggested the word change from seats to scenes at the regularly scheduled board meeting on January 28, 2021.