

MINUTES
Board of Trustees
Madison County Mass Transit District
8:30 a.m., Thursday, January 28, 2021
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; JOSEPH DOMER, ACT; PHIL ROGGIO,
ACT; MARK STEYER, ACT; JUSTIN DIXON, ACT; PENNY
BROWN, ACT; JONATHAN CORTEZ, ACT; AMANDA
SCHOMAKER, ACT; & CALEB SCHNUR.

III. Public Comments

No public comments were presented.

IV. Consideration of the Minutes of the December 17, 2020, regular meeting for inclusion in the official records of the District.

TRUSTEE GUY MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE ADOMITE, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED PER SCHMIDT'S SUGGESTION 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 December 2020 claims for payment:

Managing Director SJ Morrison presented the payments and claims report.

TRUSTEE ADOMITE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE GUY, 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 ECONOMY MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE GUY, 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 December 31, 2020:

Managing Director SJ Morrison presented the monthly financial report.

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

- C. Quarterly Investment Report:

Michelle Domer presented the quarterly investment report.

Schmidt suggested revisiting the investment policy to diversify our investments with a more mitigated risk.

Jedda and Morrison agreed.

Jedda would like the opportunity to revise the investment policy at the February meeting. Jedda suggested checking with the Madison County Treasury Office on short-term investments, rates, and bonds for municipalities.

TRUSTEE ADOMITE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE SCHMIDT, TO APPROVE OF THE QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT.

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.

D. Resolution 21-22 Amending the FY2021 Operating Budget for Cares Act Revenue

Jedda pulled Resolution 21-22 from the agenda.

VI. Transit Service:

A. Managing Director's Report, SJ Morrison

Two staff members tested positive for COVID-19, and two others were awaiting test results.

The Fixed Route service had 70,000 boardings the month of December, which is fifty percent down from the previous year. The Paratransit service carried approximately 90 to 100 trips per day.

Police patrol bikes were delivered to the City of Troy, and the Village of South Roxana. The rugged bikes come equipped with lights and a siren.

The Illinois General Assembly presented a scare with a piece of legislation that would have eliminated special taxing districts' ability to tax the sale and consumption of cannabis. The estimated impact on MCT sales tax revenue would have been a quarter of a million dollars annually. MCT reached out to lobbyist Jerry Costello and Mike Walters, who began making phone calls and discussing the impact with lawmakers. Even though the bill expired, the language concerning MCT was removed. Morrison thanked Jerry Costello and Mike Walters for their efforts. Morrison believes the bill is expected to return because there is a concern about Missouri legalizing recreational cannabis, and they want to provide Illinois dispensaries with every advantage.

RideFinders awarded employers who partnered with RideFinders to promote alternative transportation modes. Awards were presented to the Charles F. Prevedel Federal complex, Walgreens Distribution Center, and Washington University. Morrison congratulated the employer's efforts over the past eighteen months to promote alternative transportation modes.

The Eastgate Park & Ride contractor had completed the parking lot sub-base, and the curb was nearly completed. The water and irrigation lines were installed, and the

retention pond was excavated. Weather permitting, the building foundation and parking lot lighting would begin shortly. The project is on schedule for the September 2021 opening.

Morrison updated the board on the MCT Trails. Juneau continued to work on the preliminary plans for the I.T. Beltline Trail. The consultants continued to work on the Schoolhouse Trail Pleasant Ridge Park Connector, the Nickel Plate paving project, and the Troy Trail Extension from Spring Valley to Formosa along US-40. The Troy Extension was expected to be sent for bid in February. Oates continued to work on the Schoolhouse Trail tunnel under IL-157 in Collinsville. The Trail Beautification Phase II, the adding of shrubs, flowers, and berms along the MCT Trails' would begin this spring. The wayfinding project would be initiated at Mont Junction in Glen Carbon as a test site this month to allow staff and trail users to provide feedback before implementing system-wide.

B. MCT Vehicle Lease Program

Morrison provided background on the MCT Vehicle Lease Program.

Since it's conception, MCT has maintained agreements with organizations and municipalities to supplement and expand MCT services. Those agreements have taken two forms: MCT-owned and maintained vehicles that are leased to various entities; and organization-owned vehicles, which MCT maintains through a maintenance agreement.

Schmidt questioned how the agreements came about and if there was a plan to engage with more municipalities.

Morrison responded that the municipalities and organizations approach MCT with a need for a specific population who requires service that is not public transportation for special events or group related events that is not open to the public.

Adomite mentioned he was the President of the Jarvis Township Seniors, who was in the second category, Municipality owned vehicles, of the MCT vehicle agreements. The MCT-owned vehicles had to be sublet in a certain manner with stipulations and requirements. A certain economy of scale is required with these local transportation opportunities. Jarvis Township did not have enough riders. It is a useful function if your ridership is high enough that the local organization can sustain the staffing to carry out the function. Adomite expressed that MCT-owned vehicles were very advantageous.

Jedda suggested reaching out to communities within Madison County to let them know that this program is available, notify them how it works, and gauge their interest.

Schmidt mentioned reaching out to the adult daycares within Madison County.

Adomite questioned what the federal requirements are for leasing a vehicle. Many faith-based entities could utilize a bus once a month for activities. Adomite asked if it was possible to create a runabout vehicle that can be utilized by non-profit groups on a reservation basis.

Morrison indicated that it is not possible because it borders on charter service. There are restrictions on using funds for anything that could compete with a private entity.

Guy echoed that the other municipalities and communities need to know about this opportunity, and it would be nice to offer it.

C. RideFinders Strategic Marketing & Communication Plan

Morrison stated there were discussions on how to promote, grow, and enhance the RideFinders program. The program has been operated by MCT since 1994, for nine (9) counties, which is funded one hundred percent (100%) with federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funds. An RFP would be issued to find a marketing firm to develop a marketing communicating strategy for RideFinders.

Amanda Schomaker presented the RideFinders Strategic Marketing & Communication Plan. Market research to better understand the current audience is a large component of growing the program. A series of quarterly promotional campaigns throughout the year were proposed.

Morrison inquired if the board considered the dollar amount reasonable for the three-year RFP for a marketing firm to create a marketing and communications plan that is one hundred percent (100%) funded by CMAQ funds.

Guy expressed this is an opportunity to promote the program and make more people aware of the federally funded service.

Adomite was intrigued by using social media advertising to target people within our area and with certain employers. Schomaker stated there is a way to promote the program to people within our area through social media.

Adomite stated the plan was great. Adomite suggested using a theme of being a leader in the metropolitan area in terms of alternate transportation modes to promote RideFinders.

Jedda commented that he is interested in seeing the marketing research information. He would also like to see meetings with major employers and larger governmental entities. There is a great benefit to meeting face-to-face with these community and business leaders.

Schomaker stated that all the components are necessary for success. She mentioned the merger of five (5) private-sector organizations into one: Greater St. Louis Inc. A meeting would occur with the President of the organization within the next couple of weeks. The RideFinders group just met with the head of transportation at WashU to address the vanpool program. She expressed that she is ready to meet with people.

Jedda expressed that RideFinders is an opportunity for the Transit District to be a leader in the nine (9) county region and be a shining beacon to what can be done.

Morrison stated an RFP would be issued, and an award recommendation would be brought back to the board for approval.

Jedda suggested having Morrison attend meetings with prominent community and business leaders.

D. Managing Director, SJ Morrison, presented the information.

Schmidt loves the fare structure adjustment and simplification but was curious as to why some rural areas were left out of the District.

Morrison informed Schmidt that MCT is not a county-wide organization. There are only sixteen townships that are a part of the Madison County Transit District. The townships not included do not have the sales tax in place which supports the District and as a result, are not a member of the transit district. Even though they are out of the transit district, they are still residents of Madison County, so MCT offers paratransit services with an out of district surcharge.

Adomite stated that the municipalities and the paratransit service work hand in hand to provide the best amount of service to the areas, dependent on the riding volume.

Jedda stated that simplification is the way to go. It makes it easier for the users, the drivers, and the staff. Jedda suggested reaching out to townships to see if they have an interest in becoming a part of the transit district. While there may be an increased sales tax on some items but there are additional benefits to being included in the transit district.

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

21-23 AUTHORIZING MCT FARE STRUCTURE ADJUSTMENT AND SIMPLIFICATION

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. May 2021 Service Change

Joe Domer presented the May 2021 Service Change.

Morrison brought attention to the Gateway TradePort, the new warehouse district located at IL-111 and Engineer Road. There are currently two warehouses, one being Amazon and one facility under construction.

Roggio stated the warehouse district would include eleven (11) lots.

Morrison stated there is already a demand for service at the Amazon building in the short few months.

Roggio stated that building number two is ready to be occupied and has a tenant.

Morrison stated that Roggio had been working closely with the developer.

Domer reported that an additional operating bus was placed in service to pick up fifteen (15) to eighteen (18) patrons at the IL-111 and Engineer Road intersection.

Adomite requested clarification on route #13 Troy – Glen Carbon. He questioned if MCT still serves the Troy Plaza site currently. Domer confirmed that the bus still operates at Troy Plaza and awaiting the opening of Pete's Market.

TRUSTEE ADOMITE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE GUY, TO APPROVE THE MAY 2021 SERVICE CHANGE.

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.

F. Proposed MCT Trails Tree & Bench Commemorative Program

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

Morrison stated a lower cost option was figured into the MCT Trails Commemorative program. The total cost for the application and the donation would be five thousand (\$5,000) per bench and five hundred (\$500) per tree.

Adomite expressed that the proposal looks excellent, and he loved the way it came together.

Jedda stated it was a great program and that he was glad to see it moving along. This project will help enhance and improve the trails.

Morrison stated a finalized application, and a resolution would be presented to the board for approval later.

G. Morrison provided background information on the program and the benefits for the Madison County youth. This program helps familiarize them with the transit services.

Schmidt questioned why the program was limited to the summertime.

Morrison stated it was a pilot program to allow Madison County students to gain access to summer activities, and it remained in the summer months. A student monthly pass is available at a reduced rate during the non-summer months.

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

21-24 ALLOWING ALL MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS STUDENTS IN GRADES K-12 TO RIDE THE MCT FIXED ROUTE SYSTEM FREE OF CHARGE WITH THE 2021 MCT SUMMER YOUTH PASS

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. Morrison stated the application is for two (2) 40-foot transit buses to replace buses nearing their useful life expectancy as defined by FTA. The funding is eighty percent (80%), and MCT would be responsible for twenty (20%) of the local match for the approved project cost. The application fee is equal to half of percent of the total ask. The application will be refunded if the grant is not awarded.

TRUSTEE SCHMIDT MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE ECONOMY, TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

21-25 AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION TO EAST-WEST
 GATEWAY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR CONGESTION
 MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS FUNDS FOR 40-FOOT
 TRANSIT BUSES

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.

- I. Morrison explained as a recipient of federal funds, MCT must certify that we comply with all Federal statutes and regulations yearly.

Penny Brown explained, to execute grants and make modifications, the certifications and assurances must be uploaded and pinned in TRAMs. This certification includes a designation of authority for FTA Assistance Awards that are uploaded into the MCT Transit account to execute grants inside TRAMs.

Morrison explained that the categories are reviewed by FTA in the triennial review process and recipients must show proof of compliance. Some categories are audited for a closer look.

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

21-26 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CERTIFICATIONS AND
 ASSURANCES FOR FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANCE
 PROGRAMS

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.

- J. Morrison stated that the Barbara Street improvements would create better access to the Formosa-West Trail, and would satisfy a condition for the acquisition of property. MCT would provide the funds for the materials, and Collinsville Township would provide the labor for the improvements.

Roggio stated the MCT maximum out of pocket is fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).

Morrison reiterated the two benefits, the acquisition of property and the improved access to the trail. The property owners nearby will benefit from the street improvements as well.

Jedda echoed that this is a fantastic addition to the trail system, and it would provide access to a large subdivision within Collinsville. This improvement would be the first neighborhood access in the Collinsville area. He is glad to see the project happening, thanked the staff and Morrison for their efforts to make it happen.

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

21-27 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE COLLINSVILLE TOWNSHIP

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.

- K. Morrison reported that an invitation for bids (IFB) was issued in December and several bids were received. The low bidder was Stutz Excavating Inc. out of Alton, and we are recommending an award of contract to make the connection from MCT's Schoolhouse Trail to the Pleasant Ridge Park in Maryville. An intergovernmental agreement was executed with the Village of Maryville to define both parties' responsibilities concerning the connection. MCT is responsible for building a large culvert as part of the agreement executed with the Village of Maryville.

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

21-28 AUTHORIZING AN AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE SCHOOLHOUSE TRAIL PLEASANT RIDGE PARK CONNECTOR

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.

Morrison mentioned that the IDNR grant provides financial assistance up to one hundred eighty-five thousand dollars (\$185,000) of the project cost. Morrison asked Steyer to provide a timeline.

Steyer said once the project has been awarded, the contractor has two-weeks to return the documents. A pre-construction meeting would be conducted, and the contractor would then have one hundred (100) days to complete the project. The project is expected to commence in late February, early March.

VII. Other Business

No Other Business presented.

VIII. Executive session to discuss the acquisition or lease of real property under (5), litigation under (11), and discussion of lawfully closed minutes (21) of the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2(c)).

TRUSTEE ADOMITE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE ECONOMY, TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE ACQUISITION OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY UNDER (5), LITIGATION UNDER (11), AND DISCUSSION OF LAWFULLY CLOSED MINUTES (21) OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT (5 ILCS 120/2(C)).

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.

L. Resolution 21-29 Authorizing the Release of Certain Executive Session Minutes

Jedda postponed Resolution 21-29 until the February Meeting.

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

21-30 AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY, INCLUDING THE USE OF THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN

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.

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

21-31 AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY, INCLUDING THE USE OF THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN

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 ADOMITE MADE THE MOTION, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE GUY 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 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted.


