

# **GREAT FALLS TRANSIT DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES APRIL 27, 2011**

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Great Falls Transit District Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m., April 27, 2011, in the Conference Room at the Transit Facility at 3905 North Star Boulevard, Great Falls, Montana.

## **2. ROLL CALL AND ATTENDANCE**

### **Members Present:**

Carl Donovan, Chairman  
Ann Marie Meade, Vice Chair  
Sally Macmillan  
Marion Smith  
Ken Johnson

### **Others Present:**

Jim Helgeson, General Manager  
Sylvester Barros, Operations Manager  
Nadine Hanning, Finance Manager  
Cathy Bresson, Administrative Asst.

## **3. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

## **4. MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING – March 23, 2011**

Mr. Carl Donovan, Board Chair, asked for any corrections to the March 23, 2011 Board Meeting minutes. No corrections were noted. The March 23, 2011 minutes stand as approved.

## **5. MANAGER'S REPORTS**

### **a. Summary of System Status**

- Our local bus rodeo will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- State Rodeo is pending. May be moved to sometime in July
- Scott Messelt, one of our Paratransit drivers, will be going to the National Division II Rodeo in Indianapolis, Indiana. Scott took second in State last year. The first place driver is unable to go.
- Jim Helgeson and Sylvester Barros attended the MTA Conference in Helena.
- Great Falls Transit won the MTA Safety Award for 2010.

### **b. Performance Indicators**

### **c. Ridership Reports**

### **d. Financial Reports**

- Nadine Hanning presented the reports.

## **6. CHECK REGISTER**

The March 17, 2011 through April 21, 2011 check register was presented for approval. Chair Carl Donovan called for a motion to approve. Ms. Sally Macmillan moved/ Ms. Ann Marie Meade seconded. Motion passed.

**7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a. Technical Advisory Committee of the MPO (TAC)**

- Did not meet.

**b. Policy Coordinating Committee (PCC) of the Great Falls Metropolitan Planning Organization.**

- Did not meet.

**c. Great Falls TAC**

- Did not meet. Next meeting is May 5<sup>th</sup> at the Transfer Center at 10:00 am.

**d. ADA Advisory Committee**

- The next meeting will be June 2, 2011 at the GFT Transfer Center at 1:15 pm.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**a.**

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

**a.**

**10. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**11. DATE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING**

Work Session – Monday, May 23, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Board Meeting – Wednesday May 25, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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Carl J. Donovan, Chairman

Great Falls Transportation Advisory Committee  
5/5/11

Present: Shyla Pattera, Tammy Hogan, George Northcut, Tom Kelly, Mike Shea, Jim Helgeson, Mark Sanders, Stephanie Semenez, Nicole Cosby, Dave Sutinen

Chairperson Shyla Pattera called the meeting to order at 10:03 Am.

Shyla explained that she had received a message from Kay who had been the TAC secretary who had had a job reassignment and will no longer be able to attend TAC meetings. Kay is from the University of Great Falls. Shyla reminded the TAC that there will be an election of officers at the next meeting in August.

Shyla explained the role of the Transportation Advisory Committee in local transportation. The TAC will assist with the local transportation coordination plan and rank the vehicle procurement wishes of the local 5310 providers prior to the next capital assistance request. The request is sent to the Montana Department of Transportation from the lead agency. In Great Falls the lead agency is Great Falls Transit.

Shyla talked about all of the agencies that she regularly invites to TAC meetings.

Tammy asked about the status of the voucher system for people to get rides to and from work. Jim said that he is working with Pat Sanders at DPHHS on this issue.

Shyla told the group that NCILS is looking for clients who can help educate building inspectors on ADA regulation. Shyla also talked about the development of a community fund for individuals who may not have waiver dollars to buy bus passes. The suggestion that this might be a project that the United Way might fund was made.

Jim was asked about the current status of Great Falls Transit and whether he sees any changes coming because of the continued rise in fuel costs. Jim said that Great Falls Transit uses 10,000 gallons of diesel fuel monthly. A one dollar rise in diesel fuel costs GTF ten thousand dollars a month. Jim said that Transit has a budget forecast covering the next year and that he predicts that the next year will be similar to this year in operations.

There was discussion about the Transportation Summit held earlier this week. Three focus groups were developed at the Summit to address funding, public relations, and intercity/interstate travel connections. The Summit is the bringing together of the Dept of Transportation and Dept of Public Health and Human Services. For the state coordination between the two largest divisions is huge.

In the past legislative session the Montana Transit Association encouraged Representative Hogen to sponsor legislation that will remove the indirect cost allocation from the provider share for capital assistance. The overall effect will be that more vehicles can be obtained by grantees.

Discussion was held about the MTA Spring conference. Shyla was awarded the Friend of Transit by the MTA. Also receiving awards from the MTA were Senator Mich Tropila and Representative Brian Hogen.

There was brief discussion about the capital assistance review process. No one has any word on any progress. This should be occurring soon.

The next meeting will be held on August 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 Am at the Transfer Center.

Chairperson Shyla adjourned the meeting at 10:40 Am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Sutinen, acting secretary