

The Board commented on Mekemson's excellent contributions to the KCTA sharing that his knowledge and expertise would be greatly missed.

6.) APPOINT 2015 KCTA COMMITTEES

Chairperson Teeter explained that at the April 13th KCTA, Resolution 15-005 Updating the Structure of KCTA Board Committees. At that meeting she had recommended the following appointments:

Executive Committee

- Rosine
- Breneman
- Teeter

Finance/Budget Review Committee

- Rosine
- Sahu
- Ecklund

Outreach Committee

- Breneman
- Aardema

A motion was made to accept the recommended appointments to the 2015 KCTA Committees

Motion: Sahu

Second: Ecklund

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

6a.) APPOINT KCTA SECRETARY

Chairperson Teeter explained board member Breneman had stepped in as acting Board Secretary in during Mekemson's absence and with Mekemson's resignation had agreed to accept an appointment to the position for completion of the term.

A motion was made to appoint Breneman as KCTA Board Secretary to replace Mekemson.

Motion: Sahu

Second: Aardema

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

7.) UPDATE ON AUGUST 4, 2015, PUBLIC TRANSIT MILLAGE ELECTION

Exec. Dir. McBride reported the mass postcard mailing had taken place on May 29th and shared that so far about ten calls had been received with about half of them opposing the millage and the rest were asking questions.

Exec. Dir. McBride shared the City of Kalamazoo current status for their Absentee Voters:

- 3,055 voters on their Absentee Voter File List
- 1,611 AV Applications sent out so far
- 660 AV Ballots returned so far
- 1,900 to 2,100 anticipated AV Ballots voted by the end of the election

Exec. Dir. McBride explained the Public Meeting Calendar provided in the packet noted the meetings and presentations that had taken place and, the upcoming ones scheduled prior to the election. He also shared additional outreach efforts: the *Kalamazoo Gazette* would be running an in-depth article about the millage that weekend along with interviews being broadcast by WMUK and the Public Media Network (PMN). He said he and Chairperson Teeter would be interviewed by Keith Rowe also on PMN.

Chairperson Teeter spoke on behalf of Citizens for Community Transportation shared the efforts being made by the group to educate the public about the upcoming millage vote. She said it was a phone, mail and community presentation campaign. Currently there was about a 30% contact rate of phone calls made with an 85% positive response. The remainder, received voice messages, which was followed by a postcard mailing. She said even when speaking with citizens who do not use public transit, they were very supportive and knew it was important for the well-being of the community. Chairperson Teeter told everyone that they were still mailing out informational postcards and responding to callers with questions and requests for millage election signs.

Chairperson Teeter communicated Kalamazoo Township would be having a renewal for their operating millage on the August 4th ballot.

8.) COMMUNICATIONS - None

9.) REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Exec. Dir. McBride reported on the positive side that taxable values are starting to escalate again with the countywide assessed value increased at a 4-5% range; meaning our property tax revenue is beginning to grow again.

Breneman asked if after seeing the increase in taxable property values, there would be a breakdown of what jurisdictions the increases would have come from. Exec. Dir. McBride said yes and we were right in the mix of seeing very positive growth.

Exec. Dir. commented on the ridership reports that Metro County Connect (MCC) continues to grow with large class for community service van drivers taking place later in the week.

Rosine asked to have a list provided of all the community organizations that use the service vans. He said it would be helpful especially with the KCTA millage coming up again in 2016 to know who is utilizing this service.

Exec. Dir. McBride communicated that after several meetings concerning continuation of service, Kalamazoo Valley Community College (KVCC) and Texas Township had agreed they would want to have fixed-route bus service to their area and will soon begin working on a financial shared agreement to make it happen with the successful passage of the millage in August. He added that discussions are ongoing with Oshtemo Township and that Pavilion Township has expressed that they do not desire entering into a service agreement.. Pavilion Estates was concerned for their residents and were wanting to explore a variety of options that could involve the community service vans.

In response to a question from Breneman, Exec. Dir. McBride confirmed that KVCC and Texas Township would be paying according to what the Township precincts would have collected if they had been included in the CCTA boundaries.

Exec. Dir. McBride informed the group he had again met with Michigan Works about providing public transit for employers and employees in a multi-county basis. He said Michigan Works encompasses five neighboring counties with the concern being that the larger pool of potential employees is in Kalamazoo County, however, transportation to these outside counties is the challenge for aligning workers with job openings. Exec. Dir. McBride said there will soon be discussions with the Governor's Office, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Michigan Department of Economic Development (MDED) to secure some funding to launch some sort of pilot program.

10). COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Executive Committee – Has not met
- b. Finance/Budget Review – Has not met
- c. Outreach – Has not met
- e. Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study – Chairperson Teeter said she had attended the KATS meeting and would provide a report of that meeting in the future.

11). UNFINISHED BUSINESS - There was no unfinished business.

12). NEW BUSINESS - There was no new business.

13). CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – No Report

14). CITIZENS' TIME

There were no citizen comments

15). MEMBERS' TIME

Ecklund invited everyone to attend the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) at the Disability Network on July 24th.

16). ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

KCTA Chairperson

KCTA Secretary