

Meeting Minutes
CENTRAL COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
KALAMAZOO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Joint Regular Meeting
November 18, 2019

Place: Metro Administration Building, 530 N. Rose Street
Time: 11:30AM
Staff Present: Sean McBride, Greg Vlietstra, Kathy Schultz, Annette Arkush, Barbara Blissett
Others Present: John Gisler, Max Hornick, Lewis Whalen, Steve Brown, Jenna VanSpronsen, Earl Cox, Sr., Majyck Dee, Tandy Moore, Tami Rey, James Devers, Takisha Johnson, Marcus Johnson, Melissa Ray, Stacy Jackson, Abra Steppes

1.) KCTA ROLL CALL

*KCTA Members Present: Curtis Aardema, Jeff Breneman**, Pamela Brown Goodacre*, Dusty Farmer, Martin Janssen, Aditya Rama, Tim Sloan, Sam Urban, Greg Rosine*

KCTA Members Absent: None

**Pamela Brown Goodacre arrived at 11:34 a.m.*

***Jeff Breneman arrived at 11:40 a.m.*

1). CCTA ROLL CALL

CCTA Members Present: Curtis Aardema, Rob Bricker, Rob Britigan, Chris Burns, Dusty Farmer, Martin Janssen, Nicolette Leigh, Garrylee McCormick, Randy Thompson, Greg Rosine

CCTA Members Absent: Jim Pearson was present via conference call but unable to vote.

2.) REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by KCTA and CCTA for approval of the joint CCTA/KCTA meeting agenda for November 18, 2019.

Motion: McCormick

Second: Rama

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

3.) REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by KCTA and CCTA to approve the joint CCTA/KCTA October 14, 2019 meeting minutes.

Motion: Britigan

Second: Aardema

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

4.) PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Gisler commented on the recent events taking place at Kalamazoo County with the transition of their County Attorney and Assistant County Attorney. He commented that the Kalamazoo County Central Dispatch Authority market research was now available to the public.

5.) MILLAGE PLANNING DISCUSSION

Exec. Dir. McBride provided background on the previous meeting discussions concerning the millage. He said boardmembers ranked each of the scenarios of 0.75 mills, 0.90 mills and 1.05 mills as least desired, 2nd most desired and most desired. Exec. Dir. McBride stated that based on the presentation, discussion and prioritizing exercise, the CCTA and KCTA Boards requested staff to develop a CCTA Millage Resolution requesting 0.90 mills. He said the proposed millage was attached for the CCTA Board's approval.

The Boards expressed their support for the decision to request 0.90 mills realizing that the increased millage would continue to provide the current services as well as the possibility for additional partnering with local employers and allowing for future enhancements to routes and services.

Leigh voiced a concern regarding the fund balance being significantly depleted by the year 2024. Exec. Dir. McBride stated that it was a reality that funding from the Federal Transit Administration and the State of Michigan could be reduced in the coming years therefore, affecting the bottom line and fund balance. Staff will monitor closely and is always trying to find ways to better manage limited funds.

Leigh requested the resolution wording for Kalamazoo Township be referred to as Charter Township of Kalamazoo.

A motion was made by CCTA to adopt Resolution 19-004 Transportation Millage Request for 2020 with the wording change for Kalamazoo Township to "Charter Township of Kalamazoo."

Motion: McCormick Second: Janssen

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Ayes: Aardema, Bricker, Britigan, Burns, Farmer, Janssen, Leigh, McCormick, Thompson, Rosine

Nays: None

Absent: Pearson

6.) DISCONTINUING PILOT COMSTOCK BUS ROUTE #10

Planning and Development Manager Kathy Schultz briefed the Boards on the background for the Pilot Comstock Bus Route and the recommendation to discontinue this service.

Schultz stated that over the last year the route has not had demonstrated ridership need and the Route Committee reviewed the ridership numbers and determined the route was not sustainable over the past year. She said alternative for transportation was being discussed with area employers for when the pilot is discontinued.

A motion was made by KCTA to end the Route 20 East Comstock Pilot Route effective January 5, 2020.

Motion: Janssen Second: Aardema

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Ayes: Aardema, Breneman, Brown Goodacre, Farmer, Janssen, Rama, Sloan, Urban, Rosine

Nays: None

Absent: None

A motion was made by CCTA to end the Route 20 East Comstock Pilot Route effective January 5, 2020.

Motion: Thompson Second: Bricker

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Ayes: Aardema, Bricker, Britigan, Burns, Farmer, Janssen, Leigh, McCormick, Thompson, Rosine

Nays: None

Absent: Pearson

7.) CCTA/KCTA 2020 MEETING CALENDAR

A motion was made by KCTA and CCTA to adopt the CCTA/KCTA 2020 Meeting Calendar.

Motion: Breneman Second: Janssen

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ayes: Aardema, Breneman, Brown Goodacre, Farmer, Janssen, Rama, Sloan, Urban, Rosine

Nays: None

Absent: None

8.) YOUTH MOBILITY UPDATE

Exec. Dir. McBride updated the Boards on the Youth Mobility Program that had started in August 2019. He noted that this program provides an opportunity for students to have access for after school activities, work and the community.

Exec. Dir. McBride stated that since then they have been experiencing various issues including student behavior on the buses and at the Kalamazoo Transportation Center (KTC). He said this behavior has resulted in Kalamazoo Public Safety being called to intervene on several occasions.

Exec. Dir. McBride described several solutions being implemented in the upcoming weeks to address these issues including:

- Student passes will not be accepted between 2-4 pm weekdays starting December 2nd through the end of February.
- Students will need an opt-in form signed by parents and students to use the program beginning November 18th.

The Boards discussed the challenges facing riders and drivers. They commented on the solutions being presented.

9.) REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Exec. Dir. McBride reported negotiations with the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) was moving forward. A Collective Bargaining Agreement has been tentatively agreed to and will be brought to the ATU membership in the near future, sometime in mid-December or January. The agreement would include everything except wages which would be handled through the arbitration process.

Exec. Dir. McBride stated Metro Connect was in the process of upgrading its phone system to better handle reservations.

Exec. Dir. McBride shared that staff had visited the Milwaukee transit system that is currently using safety doors and Metro would be conducting pilot testing on some buses in the near future.

Exec. Dir. McBride commented that an Employee Appreciation Event had been held.

10.) SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee – Rosine reported the Executive Committee met and discussed the current agenda, millage resolution and Foundation for Excellence Youth Mobility Pass.

Finance Subcommittee – No report

Outreach Subcommittee – Aardema stated the committee would be meeting soon and asked members to look over the assignment list to see if there needed to be any changes.

Pension Board – Did not meet.

KATS Policy Committee – Aardema reported they discussed the transfer of some major streets to the City of Kalamazoo, upcoming repaving of Portage Road and Oakland Drive. He said there would continue to be public meetings for input on the proposed changes to downtown streets.

Local Advisory Committee (LAC) – Meeting scheduled Wednesday.

Pension Board – Has not met.

11.) COMMUNICATIONS – None

12.) OLD BUSINESS – None

13.) NEW BUSINESS – None

14.) CHAIR'S REPORT – Chair Rosine commented

15.) PUBLIC COMMENT –

A variety of comments were received concerning the pilot Youth Mobility Program changes from the following people:

Meg Blinkiewicz
Jenna VanSpronsen
Majyck Dee
Tandy Moore
Tami Rey
James Devers
Takisha Johnson
Marcus Johnson

Melisa Ray
Stacy Jackson
Abra Steppes
Bailey

16.) MEMBERS TIME –

Boardmembers thanked everyone for coming and sharing their comments concerning the Youth Mobility Program.

Aardema noted that the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport has been without a director since June and the search for a new one was in process.

Farmer asked for an update on the process for students to obtain tokens and access to the buses during the interim period before the new passes would be available. She said she looked forward to partnering with the groups and organizations helping the youth of the community.

Burns shared that he and boardmember Pearson had been reelected to the Portage City Council and looked forward to continuing to work with the Boards in the future.

Leigh stated that educating youth on how to properly use public transportation should be a part of the emphasis for the Youth Mobility Program. Leigh noted that Kalamazoo Township had passed a resolution for Climate Emergency and the goal to be Net 0 for carbon emissions by 2030. She encouraged the CCTA and the KCTA to look at what it could do to reduce carbon emissions.

17.) ADJOURNMENT

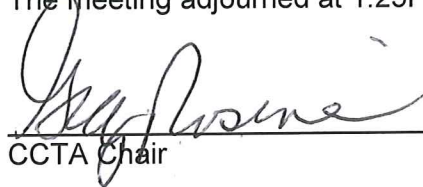
A motion was made to adjourn the CCTA/KCTA meeting.


Motion: Aardema

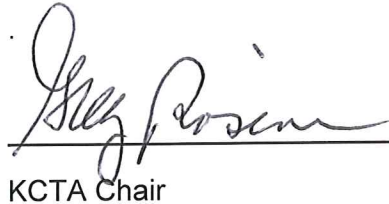
Second: Janssen


Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25PM


CCTA Chair


CCTA Clerk


KCTA Chair


KCTA Clerk