



Minutes of the Four Hundred and Twenty-Fourth Meeting
Of the Utah Transit Authority Board of Trustees

The Four Hundred and Twenty-fourth meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Utah Transit Authority was held on July 22, 2009, in the Golden Spike Room at the FrontLine Headquarters of UTA located at 669 West 200 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Members of the Board of Trustees in attendance:

Larry Ellertson, Chair
Orrin Colby, Jr., Vice Chair
Justin Y. Allen
Michelle Baguley
Dama Barbour
Keith Bartholomew
Burtis Bills
Necia Christensen
J. Stephen Curtis
Terry C. Diehl

Charles Henderson
Robert A. Hunter
P. Bret Millburn
Frederick W. Oates
Michael Romero

Absent:
Christopher R. Bleak
Gregory Hughes

Also in attendance were John English, General Manager; Jennifer Kohler, Associate Corporate Counsel; Celeste Burningham, Corporate Office Specialist, as well as interested citizens, UTA staff and media representatives.

Welcome – Vice Chair Colby called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m. He stated that Chair Ellertson would arrive shortly.

Swearing in of Vice Chair Orrin T. Colby Jr. – Irene Huntsman swore in Trustee Orrin T. Colby, Jr. as the Board Vice Chair.

Public Comment

- Grace Goff, Salt Lake City. She stated that she had recently left the CAT Committee after serving for four years, making her aware of the issues facing UTA. She stated that she was concerned about the disabled and those that needed Paratransit not being able to afford transportation if the unlimited monthly passes were discontinued. She stated that those that are disabled are on a fixed income and cannot afford to see this taken from them. She stated that some of them might qualify for assistances in other programs but those that do not will fall through the cracks which would decrease their quality of life.
- Kira Larkin, Salt Lake City. She stated that she is on a fix income and the increase for Paratransit to \$4 a ride would be extremely difficult for her. She stated that this increase will make it impossible for the disabled community to do the things they are wanting to doing such as work, go to the doctor or activities.
- Tammi Diaz, South Salt Lake City. She stated that she enjoys using the fixed route system because of the freedom it gives her and the opportunities to meet new people. She stated that Paratransit is still needed but the need would be lessened if the fix route system were better. She distributed a handmade item stating that public transit is needed for the community.
- Bruce Parker, Salt Lake City. He expressed his gratitude for staff, especially Hal Johnson, for working hard to complete the new park-and-ride lot on 3900 South and

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Wasatch Blvd. He stated he was grateful for the improvement and the investment that UTA made for his community.

The Board made a decision to move item 8a up on the agenda.

John English made a presentation regarding the Paratransit issue. He discussed the history of the issue. He stated that two years ago a group met for a Future Search conference where an understanding of the needs and issues that needed to be met were discussed. He stated after this meeting the financial situation of the nation changed, negatively impacting UTA and other organizations. He discussed the details and facts of the Paratransit operations at UTA. He discussed the proposal that was presented at the public hearing. He discussed the hearings and the comments that were received during that time. He discussed the new proposal and the differences between the two proposals.

Mr. English stated that:

- UTA is seeking funds to offset individual rider costs through various state and federal agencies.
- Coordinated services are needed to serve individuals beyond the $\frac{3}{4}$ mile perimeter.
- UTA will not raise the Paratransit cash fare this year.
- Future fare increases will occur with agency wide fare increases.
- UTA continues to work with state and other agencies to seek additional funding to offset the high costs of Paratransit service for the rider
- UTA will discontinue the unlimited monthly pass and other discounts replacing with a multi-use punch card.

Chair Ellertson arrived at 2:58 p.m.

Mr. English stated that:

- UTA will implement the $\frac{3}{4}$ mile rule in a phased approach between September 1, 2009 and April 30, 2010.
- Grandfathered riders will continue to receive service during the implementation of the $\frac{3}{4}$ mile while UTA seeks alternative transportation.
- New UTA Flex Route service will provide options for the entire community in some areas without service.

Mr. English stated that UTA in partnership with the DSPD is seeking additional Medicaid reimbursement for establishment of a regional/state wide centralized and coordinated dispatch system. He discussed what a central dispatch system is and what it would do.

Mr. English stated that this proposal would take patients and a lot of work to implement.

Trustee Hunter discussed the highly publicized meeting that took place at his work office with approximately 20 people expressing their concern for the Paratransit issue. He stated that those who came to that meeting traveled many hours which is what they do to accomplish their tasks. He expressed his appreciation for what UTA had done regarding this issue.

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Trustee Bartholomew expressed his appreciation for the effort staff has put into this issue. He stated that the work is important and the issue is second to none. He stated that this proposal was good and he would support it but that he is not the user of this system. He stated that the proposal should be published and distributed to those that use the system, to those that came to the hearing, and those affected by it. He stated that he would like to see feedback on the proposal.

Mr. English stated that he agreed that feedback was important. He stated that this proposal is not complete, that as they go they will be making improvements. He stated that the proposal had been explained in full to the CAT Committee. He stated that feedback was being received from those who are apart of the Future Search Committee. He stated that he is still looking for feedback from the organizations that are affected by this.

Trustee Oates thanked Mr. English for striving to pull everyone together to address this issue. He stated that he attended many of the public hearings and was thankful to those that attended and brought solutions to suggest.

Dr. Chuck Bruder, Utah Department of Human Services, stated that those from the state are grateful for the new partnership with UTA. He stated that its been a pleasure to discuss ideas, research solutions and educate UTA in the area of Human Services. He stated that the partnership is breaking new grounds to meet the needs of the community.

Mr. English stated that there are many staff members who are highly involved with this issue. He recognized many of the staff members.

Trustee Barbour complimented staff for the work they have done. She asked what the multi-use punch card would do in replacing the monthly pass.

Mr. English stated that those are details still being worked on and that when the proposal was complete he would present it to the Board.

Vice Chair Colby turned the chairmanship over to Chair Ellertson.

Resolutions

- Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Utah Transit Authority Authorizing the Execution of an Interlocal Agreement Relating to the Rail to Trails Project on the Utah Transit Authority-Owned Denver & Rio Grande Western Rail Corridor in Clearfield.

Trustee Diehl stated that the first Resolution is an Interlocal agreement with Clearfield City regarding a trail project. He made a motion to approve the Resolution. Trustee Baguley seconded the motion.

Trustee Diehl clarified that this Resolution gave the city right-of-way to put a trail on the property UTA owned. He stated that there was not railroad on it, that it was just converting a rail line to trail line.

The motion passed unanimously with 15 members present.

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- Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Utah Transit Authority Authorizing the Execution of an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with Salt Lake County Regarding a Cooperative Planning Study.

Trustee Diehl stated that this was an Interlocal agreement with Salt Lake County for a cooperative planning study. He stated the cost is \$125,000 which was set aside in the budget. Trustee Diehl made a motion to approve the Resolution. Trustee Oates seconded

The motion passed unanimously with 15 voting members present.

- Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Utah Transit Authority Amending the 2009 Budget.

Trustee Diehl stated that this Resolution is amendment number one to the 2009 Budget. He stated that there would probably be others to come. He stated that changes are necessary to balance the budget with due to the shortfalls in sales tax. He discussed some of the changes being made.

Trustee Diehl made a motion to approve the Resolution. Trustee Christensen seconded the motion.

Trustee Bills stated that on the second page there was a difference in \$3 million on the new buses and replacement category.

Jerry Benson stated that this is an accelerated purchase that came about through stimulus money allowing UTA to accomplish the bus replacement goals earlier then expected.

Trustee Henderson asked why the capital expenditures increased.

Trustee Diehl stated it was acceleration in the capital projection so the funding was moved forward.

The motion passed unanimously with 15 voting members present.

- Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Utah Transit Authority Amending the Goals for 2009

Trustee Diehl stated that this Resolution amends the goals that were set for 2009. He stated that this usually happens this time of year because UTA gets the actual end of year numbers for prior year. He discussed the end of year numbers for 2008 and the correction made the goals.

Trustee Diehl made a motion to adopt the amendment. Trustee Oates seconded the motion.

Trustee Bills stated that revenue development jumped from \$101 million to \$217 million.

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Trustee Diehl stated that staff has been working with the federal government to receive the funding. He stated that staff was not sure when the money would come in but it was received so it increased the revenue.

Chair Ellertson asked if the investment per rider goal needed to be adjusted?

Mr. Benson stated that the IPR is a number that changes with the seasons. He stated that the number typically rises in the last quarter of the year with contract expenses coming in during that time. He stated that the numbers are adjusted with the end of year numbers. He stated that staff is working to keep the IPR low.

Trustee Bartholomew stated that this is not the first time that the goals have been changed. He stated that the Planning and Development Committee discussed the issue of determining the IPR. He stated that the UTA does not control the factors that affect this number. He stated that UTA may want to look at a different way of setting goals that would reward staff for what they actually can control and for what they can do.

The motion passed unanimously with 15 voting members present.

Trustee Bills made a motion to move into Closed Session. Trustee Henderson seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously with 15 voting members present. The Board moved to closed session at 3:40 p.m.

The Board moved into Open Session at 3:52 p.m. on a motion from Vice Chair Colby and a second by Trustee Romero.

Action Taken Regarding Matters Discussed in Closed Session

Trustee Diehl made a motion to approve staff to start condemnation proceedings on the American Fork property. Trustee Oates seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously with 15 voting members present.

General Manager's Report

- Property Compliance Report. John English distributed the property report and discussed the property owned by UTA. He stated that currently UTA does not have any property that needs to be sold as excess.
- APTA Conferences in Salt Lake. Mr. English reported that UTA will be hosting two APTA Conferences. He stated that the first conference is the Sustainability Conference and the second one is the Intermodal Operations Planning Conference. He discussed some of the details of the two conferences.

Trustee Diehl left the meeting at 3:59 p.m.

- High Speed Rail. Mr. English reported that UTA is participating in the formation of an Intermountain High Speed Rail Alliance. He stated that it will transform

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transportation around the nation. He stated that they are looking at high speed rail corridors. He stated that he is preparing to sign a \$5000 a month agreement from UTA to work on planning and development of this Alliance and the work they will perform in getting federal grants to begin implementing the high speed rail.

Trustee Bills made a motion to support Mr. English and UTA's participation in the Alliance. Trustee Bartholomew seconded the motion.

The motion passed with 14 voting members present.

General Counsel's Report

- Jennifer Kohler reported that UTA received only one notice of claim since the last general counsel's report.
- Ms. Kohler stated that the General Counsel's office has been working on a number of items in regards to operations. She discussed a few of the items that the staff has been working on.

Trustee Bartholomew left the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Board Training

- CAT Annual Event Report. Trustee Romero stated that the CAT Committee had their annual event. He stated that it was a success. He reported on the issues that were discussed and the awards given at the event.
- Chicago APTA Rail Conference. Trustee Romero stated that he was privileged to attend the rail conference in Chicago. He discussed some of the activities that showcased many of the transportation options around the nation. He reported that the conference was very enlightening and that UTA is considered a diamond in the industry. He stated that many transportation agencies look to UTA as a model and want to implement many of the things that UTA does. He reported on the speakers that he heard from and the seminars he attended.

Chair Ellertson stated that the Board retreat was approaching and that he hoped to have everyone attend.

Consent

- Approval of Financial Statements of May 31, 2009. The Financials were approved by consent
- Approval of Minutes of Board Meeting of June 24, 2009. The Minutes were approved by consent

Adjournment

Trustee Henderson made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Millburn seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously with 13 voting members present. The Board adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

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