

## **ONEIDA-VILAS TRANSIT COMMISSION (OVTC) MINUTES**

**November 30, 2018**

**ATTENDANCE:** Erv Teichmiller, Bob Mott, Steven Schreier, Ed Hammer, Fred Radtke, Milt Klingsporn and Chuck Hayes. Others Present: Roger Youngren, Pat Daoust of Bay Area Rural Transit, Dianne Jacobson of Oneida County Department on Aging, Sue Richmond of Vilas Commission on Aging, Carrie and Rich Linzmeier of StarGazer Limousine and Brian Jopek of the Lakeland Times.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Teichmiller called the meeting to order at 8:57 a.m. am at the Transit Commission Building, 1831 N. Stevens Street in Rhinelander, noting this meeting was properly posted in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law and meets the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion by Radtke to approve Agenda in any order as per the chair with a second by Schreier. All ayes. Motion Carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Radtke to approve Minutes of September 21, 2018 with a second by Hammer. All ayes, Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Carrie Linzmeier said they purchased a couple of new vehicles due to aging fleet in order to stay competitive. She was interested in updates regarding new routes and voucher system.

### **TRANSIT MANAGER UPDATES:**

- a) **FEDERAL MONEY RECEIVED:** Received \$200,526 for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2018 from WisDOT (Wisconsin Department of Transportation). Anticipating 4<sup>th</sup> quarter money in February or March of 2019. Paid both Peoples State Bank and BART loans.
- b) **REVISED BUDGET WITH ADDITIONAL SERVICES (Line by Line Items):** Core routes will be three days per week on Monday Wednesday and Friday. Maps to be printing including departure times. The new routes include services for the Food Pantry, Senior lunches and Dialysis patients. Transit Manager talking to townships and other businesses. Land O' Lakes and St. Germain towns gave \$1,500 each. Daoust will calculate dollars under budget that we might keep. Deviated fixed routes will cause reduction of buses for on demand rides. Budget due to WisDOT by December 14<sup>th</sup>.
- c) **PROPOSED FARE INCREASES:** New fares based on Zones (number of miles). No increase for same basic ride with five miles of city center. Transit Manager to have informational meetings. Jacobson stated that the new routes and the fares are good news. Not every town is a stop but call in stops are available for towns on the routes. Deviated route means that the bus can go  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile off of route to pick up customers. Drivers aren't to go down new driveways unless preapproved by the Transit Manager. Motion by Hayes to authorize new routes and fares. Second by Radtke. All ayes. Motion carried.
- d) **PROPOSED WAGE INCREASE FOR EMPLOYEES IN 2019:** Commission members received a copy of the new employee handbook. Hammer made a motion to increase part-time employee's wages by \$0.20 for loss of holiday pay and no other pay increase until 2019. Second by Mott. All ayes. Motion carried. Transit manager stated that new drivers start at \$11.00 per hour.

- e) EFT HEALTH INSURANCE DISCUSSION: Two options to qualify. Insurance must be offered to everyone including part-time employees plus 75% of the employees must take the insurance. All premiums are more expensive than our current plan.
- f) FREE RIDES FOR VOTING NOVEMBER 6, 2018: Twenty total rides were given. We received good publicity for the campaign.
- g) UPDATE ON BUS STORAGE – RHINELANDER: The old Mazda dealership is \$500 per month plus utilities. Transit Manager is looking at costs of utilities. WPS reported Jan of 2019 gas \$400 and electricity \$950. It's important to get the mechanic and buses out of the snow. Headwaters allows us to do some repair work at their building. Mott made a motion to authorize Transit Manager to sign lease if the building is adequate for repair work and storage contingent upon money in the budget for the next six months. Second by Hammer. All ayes. Motion carried. Bus grant still in the works and won't find out until April or May.
- h) RIDERSHIP NUMBERS: 21% increase from previous month. Not sure why, but all areas seem busier. Discussed having a PR campaign to include new routes.

CONTRACT WITH AGING DEPARTMENTS: Both Vilas and Oneida presents contract for 2019. Vilas County share to stay the same Oneida County to give \$1,728 more in 2019. Motion by Hammer to sign agreements. Second by Schreier. All ayes. Motion carried.

TRANSIT MANAGER REQUEST FOR DAYS OFF: Motion by Mott to approve Youngren's request for December 17 to December 28 off. Second by Hayes. All ayes. Motion carried.

LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS: Board Chair asked if OVTC is continuing the employee monthly newsletter and if so, would like copies sent to the board.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Transit Committee meeting on January 11, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

*Minutes reflect the recorder's notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate committee.*

Respectfully submitted by:

Barbara Newman  
Office Manager