

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

**March 25, 2021,**

**ATTENDANCE:** Steven Schreier, Marv Anderson, Chuck Hayes, Billy Fried. Milt Klingsporn and Dawn Winquist via Zoom. Absent Fred Radtke. Present: Roger Youngren, Transit Manager; Joel Gottsacker, Manager ADRC of Oneida County. Others present Rachael Perry of The Lakeland Times. Grant Bornbach of Advanced Medical Transportation via Zoom.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Schreier called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at The Vilas County Court House 330 Court St. Conference Room B, Eagle River, noting this meeting was properly posted in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law and meets the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Motion by Hayes to approve the agenda in any order as per the chair with a second by Anderson. All ayes. Motion Carried.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Motion by Anderson to approve Minutes of February 25, 2020. Second by Fried. All ayes. Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION:** none

**LEASE AT 3611 HIGHWAY 47 AND OPTIONS:** Youngren received a new lease for the 3611 Highway 47 building. It's a one-year lease with the owner having a 90-day out clause if the building sells. There is an accepted offer on the property with contingencies to be met by midnight on March 25, 2021. The potential buyer is on the Planning and Zoning agenda for April 7, 2021 for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP). Fried said that if the town declined the CUP then typically the county would follow the town's recommendation. Youngren suggested that OVTC sign the lease. Anderson made a motion to sign the lease. Second by Winquist. Fried asked to have a 90-day notice out clause for OVTC. Anderson amended his motion to: OVTC to ask for language in the lease that allows OVTC anytime within the lease to give a 90-day notice to terminate the lease. Second by Hayes. All Ayes. Motion carried. Commission returned to original motion from Anderson to sign the lease. All ayes. Motion carried. Youngren is continuing to look at other properties. Youngren gave a comparison handout of three different properties. Fried suggested to look at purchasing a property considering the low interest rates. Schreier suggested bringing WisDOT into these conversations. Youngren said there wasn't a capital request in the 2021 WisDOT budget.

**SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION SERVICES UPDATE:** Bornbach joined the meeting at 9:34 a.m. Youngren had no new information. Waiting for WisDOT to approve the 2021 budget. Gottsacker had nothing new to add. Schreier would like to see data on possible passenger numbers. He asked for both ADRCs and OVTC to keep track of service requests.

**UPDATE ON CHARTER AND BY-LAW REVISIONS:** The OVTC Executive Committee met on March 5, 2021 to discuss the revisions. Schreier asked the board members to go through the revisions. Some are housekeeping changes to match Wisconsin State statutes. Hayes will pass the charter on to Jack Albert, Vilas County Corporate Council, and will have a sit-down meeting with him to discuss the potential revisions. Once the charter is completed the by-laws should be easier to revise.

2021 ACTUAL VS BUDGET THROUGH FEBRUARY 2021: OVTC owes the ADRC of Oneida County \$124,167 for the return of 2020 85.21 money. Youngren stated the check was signed but he is waiting for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2020 reimbursement from WisDOT. General consensus for Schreier and Youngren to reach out to Wisconsin State Representative Mary Felzkowski for her help to facilitate receipt of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter reimbursement. Gottsacker asked if the 2021 reimbursement would be the same as 2020. Youngren said that the reimbursement rate for 2021 is 84%. The Eagle Eye Manitowish Water/Boulder Junction route has been discontinued effective March 1<sup>st</sup>. Youngren said the Eagle Eye Manitowish Water/Boulder Junction route expenses are still in the budget and was asking WisDOT for a correction to the budget. Schreier suggested a future agenda item to discuss the OVTC relationships with towns and the board's expectations.

REPAYMENT TO BOTH COUNTIES: Youngren will repay both counties \$5,000 once OVTC receives the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter reimbursement. Youngren will schedule an update to the county boards along with the repayment.

COVID-19 UPDATE and RIDERSHIP REPORT: Ridership dropped from 1652 in February to 1444 in March largely due to pandemic issues with route. Headwaters is very vigilant taking temperatures and following proper COVID-19 protocols. Youngren stated that some of the drivers have been vaccinated with more on a wait list.

CLOSED SESSION: Schreier questioned what necessitated the closed session. The topic is driver wages and is not specific to an individual performance. Both Youngren and Newman thought that anything to do with wages should be in closed session. Break at 10:19 a.m. Reconvene at 10:24 a.m. Vilas County corporate Council Jack Albert joined the meeting. He said the agenda item is not about a specific person and should be kept in open session. The commission decided to pass over this agenda item and schedule it for next session.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, April 14, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Vilas County Courthouse.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

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

Respectfully submitted by:

Barbara Newman  
Office Manager