

FOREST-ONEIDA-VILAS TRANSIT COMMISSION MINUTES

June 19, 2015

ATTENDANCE: Bill Freudenberg, Ed Hammer, Fred Radtke, Chuck Hayes and Erv Teichmiller. Absent: Bob Mott, Larry Berg, William Connors, Jr. and Bob Shepherd. Also present were Dianne Jacobson, Janell Schroeder and Susan Richmond. Dave Lowe was present by phone conference.

CALL TO ORDER: Teichmiller called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Health & Aging Building 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: Hayes made a motion to approve Agenda in any order as per the chair with a second by Radtke. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Radtke made a motion to approve the AMENDED Minutes of April 22, 2015 and the Minutes from our Regular Meeting dated May 15, 2015 with a second by Freudenberg. Motion Carried.

FOREST COUNTY MEMBER STATUS: Teichmiller read a letter and Resolution received from Forest County to withdraw their membership in the Transit Commission. Teichmiller stated his disappointment in this action. With no Forest County members present, Janell Schroeder spoke on behalf of Forest County stating that they felt they would lose too much of their local services and felt they would not be getting as much service as Vilas and Oneida. Jacobson asked if Forest County had considered the financial hardship this would cause by withdrawing. Schroeder stated that this was considered and had, in fact, been discussed at both the COA meeting and at the Forest County Board Meeting. The Forest County members were also concerned that this withdrawal might have a negative impact on the future working relationship between the counties. After discussion, Forest County decided it would be better to withdraw our membership now, before the Transit Commission was dependent on our funding. Schroeder also stated that they realize Forest County will have some financial responsibility for up to this point in time, but hopes no more major expenses will incur as of today for Forest. Freudenberg and Hayes both stated that for the 90 days that Forest remains a partner that they would be obligated to a 1/3 of the financial responsibilities. Hammer and Hayes also stated that they did not feel there would be any need to make any major purchases for the Transit Commission within Forest County's 90 day obligation

Radtke felt Forest County should have given a written statement with bullet points as to why they were withdrawing as he did not understand this request.

Freudenberg stated that we need to move forward now. Hayes stated that we should accept this withdrawal with regret.

Hammer made a motion that we received and approve the withdrawal of Forest County with regret and have the remaining two Corporation Counsels start working to amend the Charter to reflect this change that will take effect in 90 days, with a second by Freudenberg. Motion Carried.

ELECTION FOR OFFICER VACANCY: Resignation letter was received by William Connors, Jr. as Treasurer. There was a motion to accept this resignation by Hayes with a second by Hammer. Motion Carried.

Hayes nominated Bill Freudenberg as Treasurer. With no other nominations, Hammer made a motion and Hayes seconded unanimous ballot for Treasurer. Motion Carried.

TRANSIT BY-LAWS: Changes to the By-Laws are as follows:

Amendment on page 1: Officers, change the terms and election of officers to be done at the first meeting of calendar year.

Hammer asked for a revision to change #7: Employment Status from Tri-County to "Commission area".

Teichmiller added to #10a: All amendments to By-Laws would be an Agenda item and be distributed with Agenda to members. Remove the last sentence from 10a.

Jacobson read over all changes that will need to be completed and will send out with the Agenda for the July meeting.

There was a motion by Radtke to approve the By-Laws with amendments noted and a second by Hammer. Motion Carried.

CHECKING ACCOUNT: Since there are only two counties involved now, there was discussion to decide on the bank that will hold the checking account. There was a motion by Hammer with a second by Freudenberg to open the checking account at **Peoples State Bank**. Motion carried. Jacobson confirmed that the Tax Payer Identification number has been received. The Treasurer and Vice Chairman will be the signors with the Chairman acting as alternate. This should be opened by the July meeting.

Jacobson stated that Corporation Counsel suggested that we hire an attorney as soon as possible. Jacobson suggested that Teichmiller check to see what attorney other Transit Commissions use in the north woods as we may only have to have him on telephone conference when we need to ask questions.

TRANSIT CONSULTANT AGREEMENT: There was a change made as follows: "Transit Commission" instead of individual county. Also instead of mailings to Sue Richmond, it should state "Transit Commission, c/o Dianne Jacobson". The dollar amount was approved at May's meeting not to exceed \$5,500.00. There was a motion to approve Contract with Lowe with the suggested amendments by Freudenberg with a second by Hayes. Motion Carried.

Contract was signed by Teichmiller and Jacobson will send the original to Dave Lowe for his signature.

TRANSIT MANAGER RECRUITMENT: Teichmiller asked Lowe if we needed a full time employee. Lowe stated that we definitely should have an FTE to get this up and rolling. Discussion was held if we started full time and then reduced the hours later on. It was felt this would be hard to find a professional. Discussion held on whether or not we could contract with

someone. Lowe stated that he really wanted to attract a skilled professional individual for this position. Teichmiller suggested that we work on an initial budget first and then decide on wages for hiring. There was a motion by Freudenberg to table Items 9 and 10 with a second by Hayes. Motion Carried.

Next Meeting will be July 8, 2015, at 1:00 p.m. in Rhineland.

For July's meeting Jacobson will have Transit Commission expense vouchers ready for distribution.

For the next Agenda we will be discussing budget so we can determine financial amounts for recruitment of a Transit Manager and moving forward. Final By-Laws will be sent with Agendas for July's meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Susan Richmond, Director
Vilas County Commission on Aging