

A regular meeting of the St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission was held on the 17th day of November, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. at the Metro Bus Operations Center. Chairman Ringsmuth presided with the following present:

Commissioners:	1. Paul Ringsmuth
	2. Carolyn Garven
	3. Mark Campbell-arr. 4:03
	4. Dave Kleis
	5. Steve Hennes
Executive Director:	David W. Tripp
Director of Operations & Technology:	Tony Kellen
Director of Planning & Marketing:	Tom Cruikshank
Administrative Secretary:	Libby Dykema
Others:	Hazel Youngman
	Arlene Wirth
	Gary Korneck
	Berta Hartig
	Terry Markfort

Additions or Changes to the Agenda. Add #13: Employee Transit Fare Program Price Adjustments. **Commissioner Kleis moved, and Commissioner Garven seconded a motion, to approve the Agenda as Amended. Motion carried.**

Consent Agenda. **Commissioner Hennes moved, and Commissioner Kleis seconded a motion, to approve the Consent Agenda which included the October 20, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes, the October 21, 2009 Public Hearing Special Meeting, October 2009 Balance Sheets, and October 2009 List of Bills. Motion carried.**

New Business.

8.) Consideration of FY2010 Revisions to Operating Budget. Mr. Tripp explained that revisions to the operating budget needed to be made now that Metro Bus was awarded the contract to operate the Northstar Link demonstration project. It changed the total Operating Expense upwards \$6,410 to \$8,538,655, however also changed the total Operating Revenues upwards \$34,810 to \$8,567,065. A pink revised Revenue page from the FY2010 Budget was reviewed, with revised numbers for how the Preliminary Levy revenues can be separated into the Operating, Capital, Contingency, and "Banked for 2010 route expansion" accounts. Commissioner Ringsmuth asked if the County has provided the preliminary levy rate for payable 2010 yet, and if it's higher or lower than the estimated rate that was set in September; Mr. Tripp replied that the payable 2010 rate is slightly lower than what was estimated. **Commissioner Garven moved, and Commissioner Campbell seconded a motion, to approve the revised FY2010 Operating budget which reflects the final decisions regarding the operation of the Northstar Link Demonstration Project and the changes it made on the expense and revenue projections for that budget and the breakout of the property tax levy of \$1,105,238.** Commissioner Kleis expressed his discomfort in revising the levy amount at this time as the final levy certification doesn't have to be set until the December meeting. Mr. Tripp

agreed, stating that at that time they would also have the state contract and we'll know much more about our funding situation for FY2010. **Motion was withdrawn by Commissioners Garven and Campbell.**

9.) Operations Reports.

a.) October, 2009 Ridership Mr. Kellen said ridership for the Fixed Route system continues to slide. He compared October riderships from 2006, 2007 and 2008 and discovered that system-wide there were 31 passengers per hour in 2006, 32.5 in 2007, 32.5 in 2008 and 30.48 in 2009. So for the month of October, ridership is only slightly down from 2006.

b.) Discussion of Revenue Loss from State Mandated Program. Mr. Tripp explained that with the state mandated Service-Connected Disabled Veterans Ride Free Program, Metro Bus has lost approximately \$54,000 in local revenue. In the month of July, 3,200 free rides were taken, in August there were 4,300, in September 4,600 and in October there were 5,400. Met Council was reimbursed for their losses, but Greater Minnesota was not. **Commissioner Garven moved, and Commissioner Ringsmuth seconded a motion, to proceed with communications with both Mn/DOT and our legislative delegations asking for equity consistent with what Met Council received. Motion carried.**

10.) Consideration of Job Description and Pay Scale for Facility and Grounds Technician Position. Mr. Korneck explained that Metro Bus has been contracting with Alexander Office Maintenance to clean the Transit Center interior and with Lyon Janitorial to clean the Operations Center. By discontinuing those contracts and creating a part-time Building and Grounds Technician, Metro Bus will save \$740 per month, and improve cleaning standards for the interior Transit Center, the parking pad, the smoking shelter, and enhance the general curb appeal. **Commissioner Campbell moved, and Commissioner Hennes seconded a motion, to approve the creation of the Part-time Building & Grounds Technician position, job description, and wage scale, effective immediately. Motion carried.**

11.) Consideration to Sell 1985 Trolley Bus (Duluth's \$1 bus). Mr. Tripp described the Trolley as a 24-year-old, 8.2 Detroit Diesel, non-lift equipped, non-air-conditioned dinosaur. While it is nostalgic, it's not being run and is just taking up space. Possibly someone in the private sector would want to use it. Commissioner Campbell suggested wide-spread advertising to get the most money for it. Commissioner Kleis wondered about renting it out, and it was agreed upon to look into renting out the newer trolley. **Commissioner Campbell moved, and Commissioner Garven seconded a motion, to authorize the sale of the 1985 Trolley Bus. Motion carried with Commissioner Kleis opposed.**

12.) Northstar Link Update. Mr. Cruikshank updated the Board that the Northstar Link and Northstar Line are up and running with happy passengers. There were 67 riders yesterday (on opening day) and hopefully ridership will continue to grow. The news from the media standpoint has been very fair and positive.

13.) Employee Transit Fare Program Price Adjustments. Price adjustments need to be made for the Employee Transit Fare Program because of the recent fare increase. Effective December 1, the 31-Day pass would go from \$30 to \$32, the 10-Ride pass would go from \$6 to \$6.50, the DAR 31-Day pass would increase from \$50 to \$53, and the DAR 10-Ride pass would go from \$16 to \$18. **Commissioner Hennes moved, and Commissioner Kleis seconded a motion, to approve the Employee Transit Fare Program price changes effective December 1, 2009. Motion carried.**

Adjournment. Commissioner Ringsmuth adjourned the meeting at 5:01p.m.