

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

**May 23, 2018**

**ATTENDANCE:** Erv Teichmiller, Bob Mott, Ed Hammer, Chuck Hayes, Fred Radtke, Steven Schreier. Absent Milt Klingsporn. Others Present: Dianne Jacobson, Sue Richmond, Evan Pretzer of The Lakeland Times and Eileen Persike of Rhinelander Star Journal. Attached is a list of people in attendance.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Teichmiller called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. at the Health and Aging Building, 100 W. Keenan St. in Rhinelander noting this meeting was properly posted in accordance with Wisconsin Open Meeting Law and meets the Americans with Disabilities Act.

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

**CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING:** Mott provided an overview of OVTC history including the need for additional transportation options in Oneida and Vilas Counties. Since the Transit Manager resigned in February 2018, an Interim Management Team (Jacobson, Richmond and Gottsacker) has been sharing responsibility of managing OVTC. Recently, OVTC entered in to Management Agreement with Bay Area Rural Transit (BART) to manage the operations.

Jacobson explained the requirements related to holding this Public Hearing to get feedback on fares and services/routes in the service area. A map of Oneida and Vilas counties was displayed with markers reflecting the citizens in attendance today and also the written comments received in advance. Reviewed prior history of how each county used their WisDOT Specialized Transportation (85.21) grant funding. The majority of that funding is now being used as required local match to create OVTC. Both Oneida and Vilas Counties continue to retain a small portion of this funding to operate their volunteer escort drivers for older adults and adults with disabilities located outside the OVTC service area.

Chair Teichmiller invited any citizen to speak and offer their comments.

Judy from Eagle River shared she appreciates OVTC she was able to quit driving two years ago. She appreciates and uses the bus between Eagle River and to Minocqua. Transit needs much more publicity, including service area and hours. Encouraged consideration of a route to Rhinelander more often than once a month. Also expressed concern that fares not increase.

Carol from Rhinelander agreed that more advertising needs to happen as many people do not know about the services. She has a 20-year-old car and uses the bus three times a day.

Gentleman from Phelps said he was from Appleton and suggested OVTC consider monthly passes and punch cards. (He was not aware OVTC had them available)

Mary from Rhinelander said she greatly appreciates OVTC and would be lost without the bus. The reduction in service at the end of 2017 was inconvenient. She understands if fares have to increase, but asked OVTC remember most passengers are on fixed incomes.

Gregg from Rhinelander Rapid Cab was asked to explain their Shared-Ride Taxi fare rates.

A citizen from Phelps expressed concern when the bus located in Phelps has to be relocated to Eagle River due to repairs and leaves participants at the nutrition site without transportation. Suggested placing a minivan in Phelps.

Betty from Rhinelander lives in a senior apartment building and suggests establishing set times when the residents can count on the bus stopping so folks can plan trips accordingly. Bus is economical and punctual and she would like to see more people ride.

Letter from Rhinelander gentleman asked OVTC to eliminate the requirement to reserve a ride one day in advance. Lack of flexibility is a problem for him.

Letter from Generations Center in Woodruff supports the value of the service and encourages more routes and services.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING 9:56 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Motion by Hammer to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2018 minutes. Second by Schreier. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS:

Teichmiller opened nominations for Board Chair. Nomination: Mott nominated Teichmiller.

Motion/Second by Hayes/Hammer to nominate Teichmiller, by unanimous consent, for Board Chair. All ayes. Motion carried.

Teichmiller opened the nominations for Vice-chair. Hayes nominated Mott at Vice-chair. Motion/Second by Hammer/Hayes to nominate Mott, by unanimous consent, for Vice Chair. All ayes. Motion carried.

Teichmiller opened the nominations for Treasurer/Secretary. Hammer nominated Schreier.

Motion/second by Hayes/Hammer to nominate Schreier, by unanimous consent, for Treasurer/Secretary. All ayes. Motion approved.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REPORT: Jacobson reported that Joel and Maria will be working with Pat Daoust, BART Manager for a smooth transition of financial management.

NEW BUS PURCHASE: All new buses on the road. Loan paid off in 28 days. Approximately \$500 in interest and \$1,400 in Peoples Sate Bank attorney's fees. OVTC will apply for new bus purchase when WisDOT opens grant application.

2018 FISCAL REPORT: The months with the most concern for cash flow is June, July, September and November. WisDOT payment 25% in June and 75% in August. FTA payment in October for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarters, November for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and February 2019 for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Teichmiller stated he will be meeting with Peoples State Bank to request a line of credit. Hammer reported on his attendance at the recent Transit Mutual Board of Directors meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Hammer stated that the acting OVTC Transit Manager should attend these meetings in the future.

BORROWING AUTHORIZATION: Motion by Hammer, to authorize Board Chair and Treasurer/Secretary to sign agreement for line of credit limited to the amount of money needed to pay accounts payable, with a second by Hayes. All ayes. Motion carried. A resolution allowing OVTC to secure a loan will need to go to both counties in June.

RIDERSHIP: Total one-way trips for April are 2,762. The PrimeTimers have purchased their own vehicle and no longer need to report on ridership or funding.

CHARTER REVISION RECOMMENDATIONS: Since the original Charter was created there have been several items identified that should be revised. Topics include the staggered three-year terms, permission for loans, audit requirement, etc. Motion by Hayes authorizing the Executive Committee to meet with the Oneida and Vilas Corporation Counsels to make changes to the Charter, second by Radtke. All ayes. Motion carried.

UPDATE ON MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH BAY AREA RURAL TRANSIT (BART): Document reviewed with discussion related to rate to reimburse for travel expenses. Motion by Mott to amend Memorandum of Agreement to reimburse travel expenses according to OVTC current rates, second by Hammer. All ayes. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: Closed Session: Motion by Hayes, second by Radtke to enter in to closed session pursuant to section 19.85 (1)(c) Wis Stats., to: consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of a public employee over which this body has jurisdiction or responsibility. (Topics – 1. Personnel Wages & Benefits) Roll Call Vote: Hayes/aye, Radtke/aye, Schreier/aye, Mott/aye, Teichmiller/aye, and Hammer/aye, 10:41 a.m.

Motion by Hayes to return to open session at 11:21 a.m. Second by Hammer. All ayes. Motion carried. No action taken in closed session.

Motion by Hammer to adjourn meeting. Second by Radtke. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

**Next meeting June 15, 2018 at 9:00 for Board Meeting and Public Meeting.**

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

Respectfully submitted by:

Barb Newman, Office Manager  
Oneida-Vilas Transit Commission