



May 18, 2023

AMES TRANSIT AGENCY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Ames Transit Agency Board of Trustees met on May 18, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the CyRide Conference room. Pro-Tem President Beatty-Hansen called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. with Trustees Janes, Lee, Norton, Roberts, and Schainker present.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 27, 2023, MINUTES:

Trustee Schainker made a motion to adopt the April 27, 2023, Transit Board minutes as presented; Trustee Norton seconded the motion. (Ayes: 6 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

RECOGNITION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

Director Neal introduced our three new board members. Deb Lee is the mayoral appointee, Emily Roberts is the Student Government President, and Jian Janes is the Student Government presidential appointee.

TRANSIT BOARD ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND AAMPO REPRESENTATIVE:

Director Neal requested nominations from the floor for the president position. Trustee Schainker nominated Trustee Beatty-Hansen for the role of president. Trustee Norton seconded. No other nominations were brought forward. (Ayes: 6 Nays: 0)

Director Neal requested nominations from the floor for the vice president position. Trustee Norton volunteered himself for the position if there were no other nominations. Trustee Schainker seconded. No other nominations were brought forward. (Ayes: 6 Nays: 0)

Director Neal requested nominations from the floor for the AAMPO position. Trustee Roberts nominated Trustee Janes. Trustee Schainker seconded. No other nominations were brought forward. (Ayes: 6 Nays: 0).

HIRTA DIAL-A-RIDE CONTRACT:

Director Neal requested approval to enter into a new contract for CyRide's paratransit service, Dial-A-Ride. In March, the board approved entering into a new contract. A new three-year contract with options to extend the contract for two additional years was prepared and reviewed by Legal and Risk Management.

Director Neal recommended approval of Alternative #1 to enter into a new Dial-A-Ride (DAR) contract with HIRTA for a contract period of three years with an option of two additional years. Operating DAR services this way has proven to be a cost-effective way of serving individuals that need specialized transportation and keeps the service consistent for passengers.

Trustee Schainker made a motion to approve Alternative #1; Trustee Roberts seconded the motion. (Ayes: 6 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

State Grant and Public Transit Infrastructure Grant (PTIG) Applications:

Director Neal requested approval to submit the Iowa DOT State and Public Transit Infrastructure grant applications. Applications are due June 1, and if approved by the board, funding would be available for the FY 2024 budget year to support operating and capital needs. State Transit Assistance is expected to be \$1,027,333 and is guaranteed funding with no local match requirement. Section 5310 funding is included in the operating budget and capital plan and is anticipated to be approximately \$424,000. Section 5339 funding is for bus replacements and is competitively selected. If CyRide is awarded funding that exceeds the amount programmed into the CIP, it would be brought before the board for formal consideration. PTIG projects are competitively selected at the state level, and CyRide would be notified if selected during FY 2024. The funds would go toward a Fire Mitigation building improvement project for lanes 1 and 2 for \$400,000.

Director Neal recommended approval of Alternative #1 to submit the FY 2024 State grant and PTIG grant applications as presented. These applications support transit services in the Ames community and lower the overall local commitment to the funding partners.

Trustee Norton made a motion to approve Alternative #1; Trustee Schainker seconded the motion. (Ayes: 6 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

SECTION 5307 FORMULA FUNDING GRANT APPLICATION:

Director Neal requested approval to file and execute CyRide's annual Section 5307 grant application to the Federal Transit Administration. The total Formula 5307 funding, including STIC funding, is \$4,226,994, up approximately 2.2%. In order to access this funding, CyRide needs to submit a grant application detailing specific operating projects being supported by the funding, which are payroll and fuel.

Director Neal recommended approval of Alternative #1 to allow CyRide to submit an application to access federal formula funding and continue to operate and provide the services upon which the community depends.

Trustee Lee made a motion to approve Alternative #1; Trustee Janes seconded the motion. (Ayes: 6 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

MONTHLY REPORT:

Conflict of Interest form: The city requests all board members fill out and submit a conflict of interest form by May 31.

Fuel Purchase Contract: CyRide is working with the Purchasing Department to release an invitation to bid for the purchase of diesel fuel for next year. The bid results and request for award of contract will be brought to the June board meeting.

ROADEO: CyRide's annual ROADEO is June 3 from 9 a.m. to noon. Board members were invited to attend.

Battery Electric Bus Open House: The BEB Open House was held on April 29. There was an excellent turnout, and community members were able to ride the new vehicle and experience the quiet and clean performance. The buses are anticipated to be in service starting mid-June.

Quarterly Report: Director Neal presented the quarterly report. Ridership continues to rebound and improve and is almost 3.4 million passengers year-to-date.

Summer meeting dates:

- June 15, 4:00 p.m.
- July 20, 4:00 p.m.
- August 17, 4:00 p.m.

Adjourn: Trustee Lee made a motion to approve adjourning at 4:35 p.m.; Trustee Schainker seconded the motion. (Ayes: 6 Nays: 0) Motion carried.

Bronwyn Beatty-Hansen, President

Cheryl Spencer, Recording Secretary