

GUNNISON VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

MEETING MINUTES

August 11, 2023

Gunnison Board of County Commissioners Room

A. INTRODUCTION

Janet Farmer called the meeting to order at 8:01 am

Board members in attendance: Janet Farmer, Jason MacMillan, Liz Smith, Steve Morris, Boe Freeburn, Laura Puckett Daniels (ZOOM)

Also present are Scott Truex, Leia Morrison, Bill Tomcich (Air Planners), Jon Galle (Alpine Express), Danny Bartelli, Cindy Barbour, Rick Lamport, and community members

CONSENT AGENDA

B. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

C. APPROVAL OF JUNE 30, 2023, MEETING MINUTES

D. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT

E. CORRESPONDENCE

1) SkyWest letter of appreciation

F. OLD BUSINESS

1) Air program reports

2) Bus program reports

Liz Smith ***moved to approve the consent agenda*** Jason MacMillan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

F. OLD BUSINESS

3) Airport Update

Rick Lamport reported that they are still working on the food for the terminal. Someone is lined up to run the food service, but they are awaiting kitchen appliances/etc. He also reported that the airport was very busy with the helicopters for the Lowline Fire.

4) Tourism and Prosperity Partnership Association (TAPP) - Jeff Moffett reported that they are feeling great about summer, especially with the July load factors.

5) Bus service update

Scott Truex reported that June ridership was up 25% over last year and 31% over last year in July. We did work out an agreement with Lacy on concrete for the maintenance facility. There have been some issues with the fueling station, and Alpine helped us out and brought over buses from Montrose to help with that shortage. We have two of our diesel buses running. We

have been receiving requests for bike racks to accommodate wider tires. We are looking into this. The CASTA Conference is in Crested Butte from September 12-15th this year.

6) Bus Storage Facility Construction Update

Scott Truex reported that the fence had been relocated and completed. We are waiting on some small components and hope to have a CO within the next few weeks. We will be working on a covenant change with the HOA. After the board meeting, we will have a small ribbon cutting on Friday, September 15th.

7) 2023 Fall Air Service Update

Bill Tomcich reported that July was especially busy, with a near all-time record load factor for the month of July. Denver had an 88.1% load factor, and Houston had a 75% load factor. Overall, we had an 86.9% load factor for July. August load factors are now looking much stronger than they did at our last board meeting. The daily flight this fall will be an overnight which should perform better due to more connection options. Bill reported that we are having the strongest summer ever regarding the load factor.

8) Revisit of authorization for Board Chair to sign a contract with United Airlines for winter 2023-24 air service between Gunnison and Houston – Scott Truex requested that we put this off until the next meeting.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

H. COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF

Scott Truex is starting to work on the budget with the county. There was a small water leak in the Lazy K housing.

I. New Business

1) 2023-24 Winter air service discussion

Bill reported that American has pushed back the start date to December 20th and will operate twice daily during the holidays. JSX does have their flights loaded with one-stop service through Austin, originating from Lovefield.

2) Authorization for Board Chair to sign a contract with American Airlines for winter 2023-24 air service between Gunnison and Dallas – Bill Tomcich and Scott Truex – we may include this in next month's agenda, or we may remove it.

3) Request for approval of bus window art for Elk Mountains Backcountry Alliance –Keith Bauer and Scott Truex – Silent Tracks has rebranded, and this is what will be replacing that art.

Boe Freeburn ***moved to approve the bus window art for Elk Mountain Backcountry Alliance***, and Liz Smith seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

4) Discussion with Housing Authority regarding possible temporary use of empty GVRTA Lazy K units – Andy Kadlec and Scott Truex

Andy presented to the board that the Housing Authority is asking for the board to consider temporary or potentially long-term housing for the residents who are being displaced from Frontierland mobile home park. Discussion ensued.

Liz Smith ***moved that the RTA board authorize the board chair to sign a Master Lease Agreement with the Gunnison Housing Authority for six Lazy K units as a short-term solution, with the board revisiting this topic on November 3, 2023,*** and Jason MacMillan seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

- 5) Authorization of the Board Chair to sign a Master Lease Agreement with AEX, Inc. in order to allow AEX, Inc. to lease Lazy K Unit 110-A to their employees providing services for the GVRTA – Scott Truex – motion & decision requested

Liz Smith ***moved to authorize the chair to sign a Master Lease Agreement with AEX,*** and Boe Freeburn seconded.


The motion passed unanimously.

- 6) Draft Scope of Work for RFP to develop an operating and capital plan for GVRTA's commuter bus service – Scott Truex

Scott shared the scope of work for a future RFP with the board and there were no suggested additions.

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 am

These minutes are the final version approved by the Board of Directors of the Gunnison Valley Transportation Authority at its meeting on September 15, 2023.



Liz Smith, Secretary