



EAST CORRIDOR OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MEETING Minutes
Tuesday January 9,, 2007
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

MTA Conference Room, 130 Nestor Street (Enter off of Driftwood)
Nashville, TN

MTA Bus Routes 25 or 44 stop at the front door of the building where the meeting takes place

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Paul Ballard-Chairman	Governor Appointee
Rob Shearer	City of Mt. Juliet
Jeff Baines	City of Lebanon
Tom Brashear	Wilson County
Diane Davidson	TDOT
Mike Choate	TDOT
W.T. Farquhar	RTA
Allyson Shumate	RTA
Terry Bebout	TSG
Kevin Walker	RTA – Neel Schaffer
Roger Farley	Governor Appointee
John Lovelady	Sprint
Kris Rather	Sprint
Terri Heidebreicht	Sprint
Steve Hughes	Sprint
David Boggs	Sprint

Mr. Paul Ballard called the ECOC to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. on February 13, 2007.

1. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

2. Approval of January 9, 2007 ECOC meeting minutes

Mr. Ballard called for a motion for approval of the minutes from the January 9, 2007 meeting. Tom Brashear made the motion to accept the minutes. Diane Davidson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Equipment Lease

Mr. Farquhar briefed the committee on the spare locomotive lease issue. The original plan was to lease a locomotive from the Tennessee Central Railroad Museum (TCRM) to cover the need for west end back up power. Actual operations

have shown the effort necessary to maintain a locomotive on the west end greatly exceeds the utility derived from such a unit. The service can be more reliably protected by maintaining both spare locomotives in Lebanon.

A lease has been negotiated for the use of a second spare at a rate of \$300.00 / day when used and \$2500 / year payable quarterly to have it ready for service.

Mr. Rob Shearer made a motion to recommend the RTA Board approve the lease for the back up locomotive with the Nashville and Eastern Railroad Corporation. Tom Brashear seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Development at Riverfront Station

Mr. Farquhar briefed the committee the development beginning at the Riverfront Station with the beginning of the ball park and office space. The development plans call for the current bus turning facility to be closed for a period of 6 – 22 months while a parking structure is built over the area east of the Shelby Street Bridge. The bus turnaround is intended for use when special events are held at Riverfront Park. This practice will not be able to continue without severe impacts to the commuter service.

This was an information item only.

5. Marketing Update

Ms. Shumate briefed the committee on the recent marketing efforts. The “Friends Ride Free” campaign, was held during the week of January 22 – 26. Ridership for the week of the promotion was up 38%. This will be held again February 19 – 23. Select Kroger stores will be selling tickets beginning February 18, 2007. Staff is also working on a contract with Vanderbilt to sell discounted tickets to their faculty and staff. Press releases are sent out on a regular basis and news coverage has been very positive and frequent.

6. Insurance Renewal

Mr. Farquhar briefed the committee on this item. Staff has begun the process of working with our insurance broker, Marsh, Inc., to provide information to the risk markets about the service. A strategy session is scheduled for the last week of February with Marsh to better understand what levels of coverage are feasible and affordable this coming year. Data on incidents, passenger miles and claims made have been provided. A risk mitigation analysis was conducted in early and November all recommendations have been implemented. One of the major items in the risk mitigation was to install cameras in the cab of the locomotives and cab cars to record incidents in real time. A demonstration of this was provided to the committee.

7. January Operations and Ridership

Mr. Bill Farquhar reviewed the numbers with the committee.

8. Other Business

Steve Hughes of Sprint provided a presentation to the committee. Sprint is offering to place equipment on the train to make it a hot spot for wireless internet connections. They stated the market they are going after is much the same as the Music City Star, which are people who want to get more productivity out of their day. They offered to provide this in exchange for exclusive advertising for wi-fi with the Music City Star.

Diane Davidson made a motion for staff to negotiate the details with Sprint on this service. Tom Brashear seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:15 a.m.