Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Cache Valley Transit District
Wednesday, February 27, 2019
5:45 pm
Bridgerland Technical College
1301 North 600 West, Logan, Utah
Room 806/808

Present: Holly Broome-Hyer, Glen Schmidt, Lieren Hansen, Ron Natali, Sue Sorensen, Jeannie Simmonds, Jeff Turley, Lloyd Berentzen, Cecelia Benson, Shaun Bushman, Heidi Harper, Roger Jones, Gregory Shannon, Dean Quayle, and Lyle Lundberg

Excused: Erik Ashcroft, Craig Wright, Patrick Jenkins, and Rodger Pond

Others: Todd Beutler, Curtis Roberts, and Charise VanDyke

Regular Meeting Agenda

1. Call to order: Board Chair Holly Broome-Hyer

2. Acceptance of Minutes: Holly Broome-Hyer asked for a motion to approve the minutes and agenda. Dean Quayle moved; Cecelia Benson seconded. Item 9 was added to the agenda (Presentation from BRAG). Vote was unanimous.

3. Approval of Agenda: Holly Broome-Hyer moved the approval of the agenda with the minutes. Vote was unanimous.

4. Next Board Meeting: March 27, 2019 at BTECH Main Campus

5. Questions and Comments for Management and Board (3 minutes or less): Lloyd Berentzen asked what had been found out about consent agendas; it was confirmed that as long as a board member asks for something to be pulled from the agenda it should be pulled out.

Board Business

6. Recognize past Chair and outgoing Board Member – Holly Broome-Hyer, Chair: Holly Broome-Hyer, current board chair, recognized Roger Jones for his service as board chair for the past two years; she highlighted some of his milestones and accomplishments. Holly recognized Norman Larsen for his service on the board for the past four years and highlighted some of his accomplishments.

Approved 3/27/2019
7. Swearing in of the new Board Member, Gregory Shannon: Nicole Tuttle, HR, swore in the new board member. Gregory Shannon introduced himself.

8. Presentation from Neighborhood Housing Solutions – Kim Datwyler, Executive Director: Neighborhood Housing Solutions (NNHC) works with individuals who make less than 80 percent of the local median income (many make a lot less than that). Affordable housing is becoming an issue in Utah; rent has almost doubled for many of their clients, while income has not. There has been an almost 100 percent increase in the need for their services. An individual is only supposed to pay 30 percent of their paycheck on rent; many are paying more than that. NNHC also works with very low-income individuals with physical disabilities who only make 600 dollars or less a month—these individuals pay 30 percent of whatever they earn towards housing—if no one helps these individuals they become housebound quickly. Kim Datwyler expressed how they are grateful to have CVTD as a partner in the community to help individuals with disabilities to be independent and help lower-income individuals save money on transportation costs; NNHC has also worked with CVTD to put a stop and shelter in a location that really needed it. Kim gave an example of someone that both entities have helped together. A woman in her 20’s, who had to live in a nursing home, was able to get into her own place and get around the valley (using the paratransit services) because she was able to use both NNHC and CVTD. She now has her life back. Kim talked about another NNHC program that enables people to get into their own homes by working together with a group of people that all build their houses together. Some questions and discussion between Kim and board members about the different aspects of these programs.

9. Presentation from BRAG – Zac Covington, Regional Planner and Debra Smith, Senior Companion Program: One of the biggest needs that BRAG has identified is access to medical services, mostly for residents outside service areas of both CVTD and UTA. Some people have tried to start up transportation businesses just for medical services, but there is not enough of a market so they usually quit and leave. BRAG started a medical voucher program in 2014 to address this need. BRAG provides service vouchers for about 25 clients to get to medical services (including helping some individuals get down to the Wasatch front for cancer treatment or veteran services). Clients self-select their own driver (usually a friend or family member) and the driver is reimbursed (currently 40 cents a mile). So far, BRAG has been fairly successful in getting funding from various sources. UTA started a program similar to theirs because they liked BRAG’s so well. Zac Covington said that he has talked to Todd Beutler about the possibility of BRAG and CVTD coordinating together to reach out to rural areas in a cost effective way for this program (versus expanding the system). Debra Smith spoke about some of the clients BRAG has had with this program. Transportation is an issue for senior citizens; if a senior can have transportation it will keep them independent and in their home (vs the costlier option
of $54,000 a year to put them in a nursing home). Lives are transformed; it is significant to keep people well and in their home. Debra talked about how Zac keeps applying to different grants to keep the program going. Discussion between the BRAG staff and board members about how these vouchers work and the coordination of services in the valley. Todd Beutler added that BRAG would be looking for some funding from CVTD for this program, which the board can make a decision about later.

10. Presentation on Transit Basics 101 – Tyler Wilkinson, CVTD Compliance Services
Supervisor: How they look at transportation from a planning viewpoint is to examine what perspectives are present, if they compete, and what the point of balance is between the two. In CVTD’s case, there are two perspectives present: transit dependent passengers and choice passengers, so the needs, desires, and expectations of both passenger types needs to be taken into account. For those who are transit dependent, they need the bus to operate to all possible destinations and a large span of operating hours; they are okay with transfers and long trips, they will fit their schedule around the transit schedule, and they will figure out how to use the system. For choice passengers, they want to get to their destination as fast as possible, they only need/want the routes for specific times, they want a travel time similar to their car, they want public transportation to fit their schedule, and they will not try to ride if it seems complicated. Both passengers need a service that is safe and reliable. Bottom line is that transit dependent passengers need coverage, and choice passengers want convenience. Lloyd Berentzen asked what percentage of choice and dependent passengers CVTD has. Todd Beutler answered that in the previous Short Range Transit Plan (before the latest one in 2017), they found that it was about 50-50; the system was growing during that time and the consultant recommended that they invest in making the system more frequent. They didn’t so that ratio slipped back to a 60-40 ratio (60 transit/40 choice). Some discussion about how to choose which passenger to serve. Jeannie Simmonds commented that those numbers do slip back and forth and that the board’s standing makes a difference in where those numbers are at; the board will have to decide where to focus to maximize what they provide. Todd Beutler added that it is important for them to work towards a goal that does not change year to year (especially from a planning/operations perspective). Jeannie Simmonds added that the board will be balancing the needs that they hear about and the health of the valley; they will have to find a path that meets most of those needs.

11. Board Chair’s Report: Holly Broome-Hyer talked with the board about the possibility of bringing in Susan Radwin (who originally trained the board on governance) to train on how to function as a board, especially when there are differences; she asked board members if they preferred a four or eight hour training.
12. General Manager’s Report: Todd Beutler informed the board that they should start hearing radio ads in the next week (on four or five radio stations). Additionally, the staff put together a community events criteria (which helps meet the external relationships part of the policy manual), so that board members can examine other events to provide service for (like the service provided for Summerfest, Cache County Fair, etc.). There would be an application process, but board members could seek out community events that they feel could fit. The application process would be from June to July to allow time to be put into the budget for next year. Discussion about the process and logistics. Todd Beutler commented that one of the things that has made the North Logan Pumpkin Walk so successful is that the bus gets priority and a dedicated lane, so that it becomes more convenient to people than their car.

13. **Adjourn:** Board Chair Holly Broome-Hyer adjourned the meeting.