



Bis-Man Transit Board

Special Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2022, 1:30 PM

Via Zoom & In-Person at 3750 East Rosser Ave. Bismarck, ND 58501

Attending: Lynn Wolf Glenn Lauinger
DeNae Kautzmann Karel Sovak
Lacey Long Steve Heydt
Royce Schultze Andrew Stromme

Not Attending: Helen Baumgartner

Staff: Deidre Hughes Mike Mundahl
Taylor Kitzan Tom Reisenauer

Guests: Susan Dingle Trevor Vannett
Julie Horntvedt Kathy Temchak
Pam Treib Carol Cristilli
Lynden Ring Jodie Welle
Jeannie Pedersen Cathy Job



Meeting called to order at 1:30 PM.

President Lynn Wolf explained that the reason this meeting was called is that the DCIL Advocacy Group for paratransit riders has scheduled an open meeting about the proposed holiday hours. President Wolf stated the hours are proposed as they were voted upon at the July Regular Board Meeting. The holiday hours for every holiday were set from 10 AM to 2 PM. DeNae clarified to the Board that the Holiday Hours are 10 AM to 2 PM on all holidays, no matter what day of the week the holiday falls on. Royce commented that he could not make the July meeting due to being on vacation and that he did not agree with the 10 AM to 2 PM Holiday Hours as it was not a viable option and riders would not have enough time to be with their families. Royce suggested possibly not servicing holidays such as Labor Day or Memorial Day and having longer hours on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. DeNae explained that the reason that the Board voted on the new hours is that the service is not being utilized outside those hours. DeNae commented that this meeting was to discuss another option and asked Deidre to explain what she had in mind.

Holiday Hours – Paratransit & General Public Option: Deidre explained that extending the hours from 10 AM to 4 PM and allowing the general public to use the service by scheduling a ride at least one day in advance would maximize the service that National Express is providing, and would be a comprehensive option for the disabled and elderly individuals that are relying on the service since it would be extending the hours.

DeNae moved that Bis-Man Transit offer alternate Holiday Hours from 10 AM to 4 PM for every holiday to all public transit riders for all holidays depending on paratransit riders and advocates' response by the August Board Meeting. Steve seconded the motion.

Steve commented that he agreed with the option that Deidre gave to maximize the service by including the general public and giving them the ability to schedule rides and that he felt that it was cost-effective.

Andrew asked what increase in riders Transit would expect with the proposed option compared to when it was offered during the pandemic and if it was received well by riders. Deidre answered that when the service was first offered during the pandemic, we were not seeing much ridership on any mode of transportation, but she does anticipate that it will now be more popular. Deidre also commented that some fixed route riders will not utilize the demand response service because of the cost and that they also have other services, such as Uber and Lyft, that paratransit riders may not be able to use.

Glenn asked if the motion included holidays that fell on a Sunday. DeNae answered yes. Deidre commented that she had already spoken with Craig about the additional hours on a Sunday and that he would be comfortable staffing those times. Glenn asked if this decision would have to have a Public Hearing and City Commission approval. Deidre answered that this decision would not have to, but a full-Service Hour change would. Deidre commented that she was still in contact with Jannelle Combs on that issue.



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info@bismantransit.com



701.258.6817



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Steve asked to clarify that the Holiday Hours were still set as 10 AM to 2 PM and that the motion made in this meeting was only for discussion at the August Regular Board Meeting. President Wolf answered yes. Steve commented that he wants to make sure that Transit makes the best use of its resources when it comes to a final decision on Holiday Hours.

After discussion on the motion, the Motion carried unanimously.

Steve moved to adjourn the meeting. Karel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.



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