

Front Range Passenger Rail District
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2022
11:00-12:00

Chair Souby called the meeting to order at 11:00 and Director Mulvey 23took role.

Jim Souby – present
Jill Gaebler – present
John Graham – present
Dennis Flores - present
Will Karspeck- present
Johnny Olson – present
Sal Pace- present
Jim Tylik- excused
Nathan Anderson – present
Luis Lopez – present
Debbie Mulvey – present
Julie Mullica- present
Joan Peck – present
Chris Nevitt- present
Daneya Esgar- present
Debra Johnson- present
Amber Blake – present
Josh Laipply- present
Jose Soto- excused
Claire Levy- present
Rob Eaton – present
Randy Wheellock- present
Dale Steenbergen – present
David Harris – present

Chair Souby added an agenda item from Director Pace under new business – adopted motion

On a motion by Jill Gabler and seconded by Josh Laipply the Board approved last month's meeting minutes.

No public comments were had and Chair Souby closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

Treasurer Nevitt provided a brief financial report to the Board.

Financial report for 2022 on what we spent

GM Karsian went through the draft budget for 2023 and what is included. Ongoing issue for hiring staff and joining PERA to be determined in future meetings. The district will have around \$1.9M in their account once the full funding amounts are transferred from CDOT. With two staff hired, along with other monthly expenses, the monthly budget for the district will be around \$28.5K. For the 2023 fiscal year, the district will spend around \$332K. Director Lopez inquired about future audit requirements and GM Karsian reported that the District is under federal and state auditing requirements, but the Board must adopt a budget first for 2023.

Treasurer Nevitt reminded the Board that the budget is new and we are building the train as it goes down the tracks. This fiscal year will be illustrative on what expenses are necessary. Also, budgets may change in the future based on federal funds coming to the and through the district.

Treasurer made a motion to adopt the draft budget. Seconded by Chair Souby. Motion passed unanimously.

The Directors moved on to Old Business.

Chair Souby asked GM Karsian to review the updated committee lists. GM Karsian said there would be new, consistently scheduled meetings for the committees as the work increases for the District. GM Karsian will send out a list of the committee members and the scope of the committees before next board meeting.

Director Levy reminded the Board that they adopted the bylaws but there are some edits that still need to be considered and drafted. GM Karsian said he would work with Director Levy on getting the details organized to bring to the Board for a larger conversation.

Directors moved to new business. Director Pace made a motion and Director Lopez seconded:

Motion to direct the General Manager:

- to explore with HNTB, in conjunction with CDOT and the FRA, the scope and the cost included within or parallel to the service development plan connectivity to Trinidad, including but not limited to the SW Chief reroute connectivity to state of New Mexico, and connectivity to Greeley and potential connectivity to Cheyenne, Wyoming; and, further
- to explore amending the existing service development plan scope and cost to complete the key components necessary to seek funding from the federal government, including ridership, capital costs, technology and planning in a faster timeframe than currently established.

Director Pace brought up the discussion and motions around expanding the Service Development Plan to include Trinidad and Greeley. Also, directors discussed the benefits and challenges to expediting the service development plan to finish sooner than late Spring, 2023. The official motion:

Director Pace mentioned that there is no direction to decide right now, this is an information request. There were some minor changes to the amendment language, so the amended language was approved and the final motion was seconded by Director Olson. It passed unanimously and GM Karsian will report back to the Board in the January board meeting.

Natriece Bryant presented to the Board on the redevelopment efforts of Burnham Yard. The Burnham Yard property is an old vacant rail property situated on the consolidated main rail line (which FRPR would use), and RTD light rail tracks. The teams at CDOT and Colorado Transportation Infrastructure Office bought the railyard to maximize the transportation options available for the land. Natriece is leading the broad stakeholder efforts on redeveloping the neighborhoods and how the Burnham Yard redevelopment will operate. This was the first of a number of Board presentations around the variety of infrastructure projects along the FRPR corridor.

With all business completed for the meeting, Chris Nevitt made the motion to adjourn, Deborah Mulvey seconded it and the meeting adjourned.

Copies of the July district board meeting, meeting minutes, and virtual chats can be found on the FRPR website and by contacting us at FRPRdistrict@gmail.com.