

BAY AREA RURAL TRANSIT
OFFICIAL BART COMMISSION MINUTES

March 16, 2023, at 4:00 PM
BART Office Center

A. CALL TO ORDER

A General Meeting of the Bay Area Rural Transit Board was held on Thursday, March 16, 2023, by Remote/Zoom and in person at the Bay Area Rural Transit office. Chairperson Carl Doersch called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Roll Call: Present: Beagan, Doersch, Niemis, Oswald, Pufall 5

Absent: Benton, Berlin, Lawyer 3

Excused:

B. Adoption of Agenda

Motion was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Richard Pufall to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

C. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Richard Pufall to approve the January 19, 2023, Minutes. Motion Carried

D. Public Comments

Carl Doersch stated there is too much snow. No other public comments were made.

E. Managers' Report

1. Electric Buses

Pat Daoust updated the board that a meeting with WisDOT and Phoenix Motor Cars is set for next week to discuss the electric bus contract. BART may drop the current contract with Phoenix Motor Cars due to long wait on the buses and may go with a contract set up by the Michigan DOT, the meeting is set to discuss the available options for getting the electric buses from Phoenix or going with a different vendor. Pat Daoust also explained that the Price County facility will be fitted with an EV charger as well as another EV charger being built in Phillips by partnering with Price County like the one in Washburn. A discussion followed.

2. EV Charger

Pat Daoust updated the board that the Washburn EV charger has made \$162.31 in net profit since it started last August. A discussion followed.

3. Staffing

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Pat Daoust informed the board a new driver and dispatcher are currently being trained in. A current driver had a medical episode that resulted in collisions with two vehicles resulting in minor damages and no injuries, the driver involved is out on leave until late May and must be cleared before returning to work. BART is interviewing to add another part time driver. A discussion followed.

4. Price County Facility

Pat Daoust informed the board that the FTA is working on the last part of the MEPA study regarding noise levels at the construction site. The contractors have sent out billings to BART and WisDOT will be meeting with Pat Daoust next week to discuss how to go about paying these bills. A discussion followed.

5. Charter

Pat Daoust informed the board that Red Cliff Tribe is the last partner to sign off on the addition of Price County to the BART charter. The decision is currently at the Red Cliff Tribe legal team. Pat Daoust informed the board that he attended a Phillips City Council meeting last week and they are continuing their financial support for BART. A discussion followed.

F. Projects Needing Attention

1. Procurement Policy

Pat Daoust presented to the board the procurement policy that BART should adopt as it follows FTA and WisDOT guidelines. Motion was made by Jeremy Oswald and seconded by Tom Niemis to approve the procurement policy. Motion carried.

2. ADA Policy

Pat Daoust presented to the board the update in the current ADA Policy. Colleen Beagan suggested adding vaping/e-cigs to the smoking section. Motion was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Jeremy Oswald to approve the ADA policy update with the vaping/e-cigs addition. Motion carried.

F. Finances

Pat Daoust went over the 2023 financial reports. BART is up in revenue so far this year. Workmans comp line item is up from previous year. Motion was made by Jeremy Oswald and seconded by Tom Niemis to accept and place on file the 2023 financial reports. Motion Carried

G. Reports, Comments, Questions

Pat Daoust informed the board that the Solar Panels need to be commissioned yet before use with Xcel planning to commission them next Tuesday. A discussion followed.

H. Adjourn

There being no further business, motion to adjourn was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Richard Pufall. Motion carried. BART Board Adjourned at 4:44 p.m.