

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ARIZONA TRANSIT ASSOCIATION

Monday, August 14, 2006
Hassayampa Inn
Prescott, Arizona

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Simonetta called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Councilman Bob Luzius welcomed the Board to the City of Prescott.

II. ATTENDANCE

Rick Simonetta, President
Paul Miller, Vice President
Nate Peterson, Treasurer
Alan Wulkan, Past President
Jim Dickey
Jerry Fay
Dave Barber
Jeff Meilbeck
Larry Miller
Dave Boggs
Debbie Cotton
Richard Gaar
John Anderson, Executive Director
Becky Rutledge, Administrative Assistant
Stuart Goodman, Goodman-Schwartz
Councilman Bob Luzius, City of Prescott

III. ACTION ITEMS

A. June 23, 2006 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Larry Miller moved approval of the June 23, 2006 meeting minutes.

Second: Alan Wulkan

Action: Approved Unanimously with the correction that Dave Boggs was not in attendance at the June 23, 2006 board retreat.

B. Financial Report – Fiscal Year End as of June 30, 2006

The Fiscal Year End financial report for 2005-06 is under review and revision. The 2006-07 budget is also under revision and review.

Action Required: Prepare 2007 budget to include balance sheet and/or net worth statemen for review at September Board meeting.

C. AzTA Board Vacancy and Appointment

John Anderson received a letter of resignation from Board member Steve Tyminski. This resignation was due to workload and personal commitments. Vacant Board positions are filled by appointment with an individual who had been nominated at the last Annual Conference but did not get on the Board at that time.

Richard Gaar was a “write-in” nomination at the last Annual Conference and in accordance with the AzTA By-Laws should be appointed to fill the vacancy.

Motion: Dave Boggs moved Richard Gaar be appointed to the Board of Directors in the vacant position.

Second: Paul Miller

Action: Approved Unanimously

IV. UPDATES AND OTHER BUSINESS

A. AzTA Board Schedule

John Anderson reviewed the tentative Board meeting schedule for 2006-07. John requested a count of those who could not attend the October 16th Board meeting in Rio Rico. Those Board members not able to attend the October 16th meeting are: Alan Wulkan, Jeff Meilbeck, and Mike Sabatini. Two Board members were not sure: Larry Miller and Paul Miller.

Action Required: *Staff will ensure the October 16th Board meeting has a quorum.*

The meeting in Casa Grande in January is still tentative. Richard Gaar reported the Rural Transportation Summit is scheduled for January in Casa Grande. Nate Peterson attended the Rural Transportation Summit last year and recommended the Board attend this event. It was suggested AzTA hold our monthly meeting in conjunction with the Summit.

Action Required: *Richard Gaar will provide the date(s) for the Summit when available.*

B. ADOT Board Schedule

Action Required: *Jeff Meilbeck will have an official request sent to ADOT inviting the ADOT Board to hold their April meeting in Sedona on April 20th.*

C. ADOT-PTD Update

Jim Dickey reported on a reorganization within his department. Scott Friedson will concentrate just on rail activities.

Liz Votino's last day was last Friday so Jim has a new administrative support position available.

The Rural Transit Needs Study kick off meeting will be Monday, August 21, with Cambridge as the lead consultant. Cambridge was also lead on the development of Move Arizona long range plan. Nate Peterson is the AzTA representative at the Advisory Committee level. TranSystems was selected as a sub-contractor on this study.

Action Required: The Education/Communication Committee should evaluate results from the ADOT Rural Transit Needs Study and possibly prepare information boards for use at AzTA Legislative Day at the Capitol.

Action Required: Jim Dickey and Nate Peterson will present the Rural Transit Needs Study proposal at the next Board meeting.

Larry Miller would like to have a map of the state developed that would show the communities in the state that do not have transit. Councilman Bob Luzius indicated the population in the Quad-City area will be over 430,000 people by 2030.

Action Required: Jim Dickey will ensure incorporation of this graphic into the Rural Transit Needs Study scope of work.

The Rail Assessment and Inventory at the state level is scheduled to be complete by December 2006. All of the major lines, short lines and similar railroads in the state are being photographed and logged by GPS. ADOT will have a very active database once this assessment/inventory is complete.

ADOT will reopen the high-speed rail study from Phoenix to Tucson in order to update the cost analysis. Due to ADOT staffing, updating the cost analysis will be at a later date.

ADOT will make a presentation at the League of Cities and Towns Conference next week. This is a first for ADOT and transit. ADOT will be talking about the LTAF II program in this presentation.

The Public Transportation Division has had two proposals to move to the governor's office.

Budget Proposal:

- To supplement the Arizona Rides Council for staffing,
- Matching funds for ADOT planning money, and
- \$750k to initiate three more connector services and to sustain the pilot connector services nearing their three year end.

Legislative Proposal:

- Reorganize the State Infrastructure Bank to include transit and
- Establish a railroad right-of-way purchase bank similar to the State Infrastructure Bank.

AzTA should know if the governor's office concurs by the November Board meeting. Bill introduction will be the second week of January. There will be at least one hearing on the bills before the AzTA Legislative Day at the Capitol on February 21, 2007.

D. Legislative Day at the Capitol Update

Stuart Goodman encouraged AzTA to take advantage of the opportunity to educate the legislature about transit. It would be nice for the legislature to have a "take away" pamphlet, "Understanding Arizona Transit", that gets into 5310/5311/LTAF II, etc. The legislature would then use this pamphlet as a resource in the future. The "take away" materials could even include colored maps and/or a CD.

Action Required: Larry Miller will call Terry Gruver to let her know the Education/Communication Committee is in charge of preparing the "take away" materials and large displays with transit information. The Education/Communication Committee will present this packet for approval at the January Board meeting.

John Anderson reviewed the particulars for the AzTA Legislative Day at the Capitol. RTAC has decided not to co-host this event. Phoenix Tent Rentals will be setting up a large tent on the Senate lawn on February 21, 2007.

Carrabas will grill and serve a buffet luncheon. Each legislature and staff will be formally invited. The invitation will include pre-printed tickets for the luncheon. AzTA membership will also be invited to schedule a meeting with their legislature and attend the luncheon. We anticipate feeding approximately 350 people. There will not be a charge to our members or legislature for the lunch.

There will be large signs displaying pertinent transit information and "take away" materials.

E. 2007 Annual Conference discussion

Jeff Meilbeck reported the Annual Conference Committee met yesterday, Sunday, afternoon. The conference will be held at the Poco Diablo Resort in Sedona. The Committee has decided this conference should provide a “service to all members” and “vendor/sponsor care and recognition”. A possible theme of “Reaching New Heights” was discussed.

Jeff Meilbeck asked each Board member, “As managers, what information would be helpful to include in educational sessions?” These ideas should be communicated to Jeff Meilbeck as soon as possible.

The Committee’s goal is to have a “Save the Date” brochure designed and distributed by October.

F. Strategic Plan

STRATEGIC PLAN COMMITTEES

Funding: Alan Wulkan, Co-chair
Jim Dickey, Co-chair

Advocacy: David Boggs, Co-chair
Mack Luckie, Co-chair

Education: Nick Promponas, Co-chair
Terry Gruver, Co-chair

Organization
Infrastructure: Nate Peterson, Co-chair
Carlos deLeon, Co-chair

Action Required: Each committee chair and co-chair will produce a work plan by September 15, 2006. This committee work plan will outline priorities, activities, additional resources (\$) required, and timeline. The work plan will be reported to Rick Simonetta by September 15.

Action Required: The Strategic Planning Task Force will pull all the work plans together and establish a twelve- month timeline. This timeline will be adopted at the October board meeting.

The committee chairs will recruit their members. Staff will work with the committee chairs to make this a successful process.

V. NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. at Gannett Fleming’s office in Phoenix, Arizona. Gannett Fleming will be hosting a lunch for the AzTA Board at noon.

VI. Quad-City Transit Meeting

Quad-City Guest List

City of Prescott Councilman Bob Luzius
City of Prescott Councilman Bob Bell
City of Prescott Administrative Assistant Patti Crouse
City Manager of Prescott Steve Norwood
Town Manager of Prescott Valley Larry Tarkowski
Mayor Rowle Simmons - Prescott
Mayor Karen Fann – Chino Valley
Vice Mayor Mike Flannery – Prescott Valley
Norm Davis, Public Works – Prescott Valley
Lisa Barnes, Prescott Alternative Transportation
Mike Willet & Sandy Willet with Yavapai County
Jodi Rooney – CYMPO Administrator
Lindsey Bell – Interested community member
Doris Piatak - Interested community member
June Ruth - Interested community member
Jack Wilson - Interested community member
Casey Rooney
Bill Feldmeier

1. Opening Remarks and overview of AzTA Mission, Vision, History – Rick Simonetta
2. Partnering with ADOT, Rural Arizona needs, Funding opportunities – Jim Dickey
3. Comments from Quad City officials and guests
4. Joint discussion

VII. ADJOURNMENT

President Simonetta adjourned the meeting at 1:15 p.m.