

BAY AREA RURAL TRANSIT

OFFICIAL BART COMMISSION MINUTES

January 18, 2024, 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, January 18th, 2024, 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, Benton, Doersch, Lawyer, Niemis, Oswald, Pufall. 7

Absent: Berlin, Trimner. 2

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 Richard Pufall and seconded by Tom Niemis to approve the November 16th, 2023, minutes. Motion Carried

D. Public Comments

No public comments.

E. Projects Needing Attention

1. 2022 Audit Report

April Anderson of CLA presented the 2022 Audit Review to the board. Please see Pat Daoust for more information on this audit. A discussion followed. Motion was made by Tom Niemis and seconded by Nate Lawyer to accept the 2022 audit and place it on file. Motion Carried

F. Manager's Report

1. Electric Buses

Pat Daoust informed the board the EV Charger for Price County has been delivered; installation is postponed until spring 2024. Electric buses are still on schedule for delivery sometime this year. A discussion followed.

2. Small Bus Procurement

Pat Daoust informed the board that he had written a joint procurement with Namekagon Transit and Bad River Transit for seven to ten buses. BART will be purchasing three buses to start and two are set up for future purchases. This procurement is currently out for bid and due in February. A discussion followed.

3. Fares

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Pat Daoust informed the board that BART is still working with GenFare to set up new fares on the electronic fareboxes as well as the possibility of a phone App capable of paying for fares. A discussion followed.

4. Accident

Pat Daoust informed the board that bus 117 was in a head on collision with a small car in December 2023. No injuries were reported and all repairs to bus 117 are complete. A discussion followed.

5. EV Charger

Pat Daoust informed the board the EV charger in Washburn had \$252.83 worth of charging used in December 2023. A discussion followed.

6. Price County Facility

Pat Daoust updated the board on how the Price County Facility is coming together. All plumbing fixtures are in and still waiting on the air handling unit to be delivered and connected. Building inspection has been completed which allows occupying status. A discussion followed.

7. Veterans Fares

Pat Daoust presented to the board about offering a reduced or free fare for Veterans. Mark Abels Allsion asked Pat Daoust about offering a reduced fare for Veterans. Pat Daoust states various transits throughout Wisconsin are doing different levels of price/fare reduction for Veterans. A discussion followed.

G. Finances

Pat Daoust went over the 2023 financial reports. Ridership continues to increase and is at or above pre-COVID numbers. Revenue is up from last year as well. BART overall is \$104,000 underbudget for 2023. Motion was made by Tom Niemis seconded by Colleen Beagan to accept and place on file the 2023 financial reports pending an audit. Motion Carried

G. Reports, Comments, Questions

Jeremy Oswald notified the board there will be a new Bayfield County representative as he will be stepping down in April 2024. A discussion followed.

H. Adjourn

There being no further business, the motion to adjourn was made by Nate Lawyer and seconded by Tom Niemis. Motion carried. BART Board Adjourned at 4:52 p.m.