

Minutes

Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority (CIRTA)
May 26, 2010, 9:00 – 11:00 AM
IndyGo – Indianapolis Public Transit Corporation
1501 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46222
IndyGo Board Room

Members Present:

Ron Deer
Larry Hesson
Gil Holmes
Don Adams
Sue Ritz
Mike Terry
Jerry Bridges
Christine Altman
Bill Kirchoff
Mike Hale

Members Absent:

David George
Bob Sterrett
Rob Thoman
Marta Moody
Chuck Fewell
Linda Sanders
Ben Ledo

Staff:

Ehren T. Bingaman

A quorum was recognized by the chair and the meeting was called to order at 9:07 AM.

The minutes of the March 24, 2010 CIRTA Board meeting were presented for consideration. *S. Ritz moved to adopt the minutes as presented, M. Hale seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

Board members and staff introduced themselves for the public that was present.

B. Kirchoff and E. Bingaman presented the finance report for the first quarter of 2010. A board member asked why revenue was below projections. E. Bingaman replied that the period ended March 31, 2010, and that revenues had been received the following month, but that the activity didn't actually occur during the period and thus revenues were not presented. The Q2 report presented in July will reflect more revenue activity consistent with the budgeted revenue. B. Kirchoff presented that a draft budget had been developed. After the executive committee reviews it, E. Bingaman will distribute the draft budget electronically to the board before presenting at the July 28, 2010 board meeting.

Under old business M. Terry presented information about IndyGo's financial situation. He reported that IndyGo's current limitations result from short collections in property tax and property tax caps. He is hopeful that IndyGo will not have to take actions to reduce service or increase fares. C. Altman stated she thought it was unfair that IndyGo is in the cross hairs and that this is a direct result of property tax caps. She stated that Indiana needs to allow local governments to have other sources of revenue and that IndyGo is important to a regional transit system. L. Hesson stated that IndyGo is the best system we could possibly have given the limited funds. G. Holmes stated that the underinvestment in IndyGo is a result of actions by past administrations and that it seemed like an almost intentional effort to erode the transit system, especially given the investments that have been prioritized over mass transit in past years. R. Deer added that Indiana needs to be careful about property tax caps and understanding their long term impacts. It was suggested that the CIRTA Board offer a letter of support and a call for action from the City of Indianapolis Marion County Council and Mayor Ballard to take action to preserve IndyGo. M. Terry stated that the issue was planned for the IndyGo board meeting on Thursday, May 27, but was not sure if a vote would be taken. D. Adams suggested CIRTA develop a position statement. J. Bridges summarized that the letter focus on the lack of tools available for IndyGo, that the situation is not a reflection of poor operational practices at IndyGo, that further tools for funding are needed, that action be taken by the Mayor's office of Council to prevent cuts and fare increases, and point out that you get what you pay for and the underinvestment in transit is resulting in inferior volume of service to the region. E. Bingaman agreed to draft a letter and distribute electronically to the board for the sign off and approval.

Anna Tyszkiewicz, Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Project Manager for the North East Corridor – Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) presented on the status of the project. She gave a high level overview of timelines and identified that project deliverables were on time and that the documentation process for the corridor was underway. Summer of 2011 is the targeted completion time for the DEIS.

There was no new business to report at this time

E. Bingaman presented the executive director's report in writing to the board. E. Bingaman reported that the express bus service contract for the remaining year was currently being bid by IndyGo. He also added that CICS was under a contract through May 2011 and that an assessment of whether to rebid or bring services in house was under way.

For service provider updates and other business C. Altman presented that Hamilton County Express was excited about its new 86th Street service and connections with IndyGo.

Roscoe Brown shared a call for projects for June 21st at 2:00 PM at IndyGo in the Board Room. M. Terry added that he had met with some local foundations to educate them about the grant so that they might help applicants with local match.

S. Ritz shared that Boone County had received it's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA or Stimulus) money and that new vehicles and software is being installed and operating now. J. Bridges shared that Madison County's money was in and that their 6 new vehicles were on the way. He also added that he liked how RLS had handled the operational analysis and was looking forward to that plan wrapping up.

D. Adams moved to adjourn, B. Kirchoff seconded. The motion passed by consent.

Respectfully submitted for consideration: Jerry Bridges, Secretary – July 28, 2010