

Minutes  
Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority (CIRTA)  
March 23, 2011 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM  
Boone County Senior Services  
515 Crown Point Drive  
Lebanon, IN 46052

**Members Present:**

Mike Terry  
Jerry Bridges  
Larry Hesson  
Rob Thoman  
Christine Altman  
Hugh Smith (proxy for Marta  
Moody)  
Joe Billerman  
Sue Ritz  
Linda Sanders  
Ron Deer

**Members Absent:**

Chuck Fewell  
Bill Kirchoff  
Bob Sterrett  
Ben Ledo  
David George  
Don Adams  
Gil Holmes

**Staff:**

Ehren T. Bingaman  
Christy Campoll

**Public Present & Signed In:**

Lori Miser  
Anna Tyszkiewicz  
Rhonda Klopfenstein  
David Littlejohn  
Anita Beverly  
Jen Thomas  
Kim Irwin  
Roscoe Brown

A quorum was recognized and the meeting was called to order at 9:20 AM. The members of the board introduced themselves to the public that was present.

The minutes of the February 23, 2011 meeting of the CIRTA board were presented for consideration by J. Bridges. *C. Altman moved to accept the minutes, J. Bridges seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.*

Claims Docket #110323 was presented for payment. E. Bingaman explained that the payment to Meijer for use of the parking lot for Indy Express Bus would come from money received from the City of Carmel for this purpose. *J. Bridges moved to pay Claims Docket #110323, L. Sanders seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.*

E. Bingaman distributed a memorandum describing the current status of the process to transition Central Indiana Commuter Services to direct operation by CIRTA. M. Terry stated that \$2 million will be available to spend between May 2011 and May 2013. E. Bingaman described the changes planned for the work of the CICS staff, explaining that the staff would be divided into specialized outreach and transportation services departments. C. Altman asked what work has been done on accountability and evaluation measures. E. Bingaman said that he will work with the staff to develop these measures. C. Altman proposed that E. Bingaman work with a small group of CIRTA board members on the plan for CICS. C. Altman stated that board members should be involved because future CICS performance will impact the reputation of CIRTA. R. Thoman inquired about the amounts in the budget outlined in the memorandum. M. Terry explained the calendar cycle of the grant. E. Bingaman recognized Parsons Brinckerhoff and CICS staff for their assistance in CIRTA's analysis of the program. C. Altman stated the CICS must make a priority of promoting commuter tax benefit accounts to area employers and recommended that staff hire a tax consultant to assist and educate them in this effort. J. Bridges asked whether the transportation services and outreach staff would work closely together. E. Bingaman said yes. S. Ritz asked where the program would be housed. E. Bingaman said that CICS staff would remain in their current location through the end of the calendar year and would likely move into a new space with CIRTA staff in 2012. C. Altman stated that it is critical to properly set up employee contracts with the grant's end in 2013 in mind. M. Terry explained that the grant would be distributed to CIRTA through a sub-recipient agreement with IndyGo and that CIRTA would have a responsibility to comply with the detailed financial requirements of the agreement. C. Altman stated that the transition will present a new opportunity for cross-branding of CICS and CIRTA.

Anna Tyszkiewicz, Principal Planner, Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization spoke about the status of the Northeast Corridor fixed guideway transit project. She reported that the Alternatives Analysis and Draft Environmental Impact Statement, which are required steps in the process to obtain federal funding for the project, are currently being carried out. She reported that the Alternatives Analysis will evaluate all potential transit projects, including the no-build option, for the Hoosier Heritage Port Authority railway and that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will examine the effects of the addition of transit on the natural environment and historical buildings in the area. She also reported that a citizen's advisory committee made up of residents living near the railway has met twice and that local planning firms Eden Collaborative and Greenstreet are conducting a land use study to analyze the relationship between zoning and transit in the corridor and the potential for transit-oriented development. She stated that the study's completion will raise the score of a future New Starts funding application when it is evaluated by reviewers at the Federal Transit Administration, and that one output of the study will be land use planning toolbox for other transit agencies. C. Altman asked if there have been efforts to build relationships with planners in places like Fishers and Noblesville that will be affected by the project due to the critical role played by Boards of Zoning Appeal and Planning Commissions. Lori Miser, Director, Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization, stated that Northeast Corridor updates are on the agendas of upcoming meetings of the Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council. C. Altman asked if the Urban Land Institute is involved in the land use study. A. Tyszkiewicz answered that one of the consultants is an active member of ULI. C. Altman asked why we are conducting the Alternatives Analysis when the MPO's Long Range Plan already contains a plan for rail transit in the corridor. L. Miser answered that the examination of alternatives is required by the federal government. L. Miser stated that the future new federal surface transportation reauthorization bill may streamline the process for preparing a project to receive federal funding. C. Altman stated that Congressman John Mica, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure chair, has said that this is a priority for the bill. R. Thoman said that he is interested in seeing similar developments occur on the south side of Indianapolis in order to support future transit in the area. E. Bingaman said that we will have a better understanding of what it means to be "transit-ready" within the next six months to one year. R. Deer pointed out that it was his recollection that previous studies had addressed land use in the Northeast Corridor. L. Miser said that the federal government is not interested in any studies that are more than five years old and therefore the current study is needed. J. Bridges stated that the land use study will contribute much to the effort to build regional public transportation. E. Bingaman stated that the level of detail of the land use study will be at the block level; for example, it will look at the impact of placing a transit station at one location versus another location three blocks away, and how that station will impact nearby parcels of land.

C. Campoll reported on the county-to-county connectivity project. She stated that the transit providers in the 10-county region have met three times over the past seven months and have reached consensus on formally establishing connection points between IndyGo and transit providers in counties adjacent to Marion County, as well as marketing the availability of county-to-county public transportation through advertisement of the connection points and a regional transit guide. J. Bridges recommended that local organizations connect to the CIRTAs website so that consumers can get information about regional transit. R. Thoman recommended the services of Egov Strategies.

E. Bingaman presented a draft resolution supporting local funding for transit and shared plans to approach other organizations about passing similar resolutions in order to demonstrate the extent of community support for transit to the General Assembly. J. Bridges expressed concern that the resolution identifies Indy Connect while there are plans addressing transit in Madison and Delaware Counties which also need support. Discussion followed about the wording of the resolution. E. Bingaman stated that he will edit the resolution and present it at the next board meeting. C. Altman recommended making a fillable pdf file of the resolution so other groups can easily customize it.

E. Bingaman reported that Ron Gifford has been hired by the Central Indiana Corporate Partnership as Executive Director of the Central Indiana Transit Task Force. R. Gifford introduced himself to those in attendance. E. Bingaman reported that HB 1372, which would have enabled cities to hold referendums on creating local sources of transit funding, is dead; and that on March 31 there will be testimony before the Senate Appropriations Committee opposing the House budget's 17.8% cut to the Public Mass Transportation Fund. E. Bingaman reported that Caldwell Van Riper received a Best in Show Addy

Award for its work on Indy Connect. E. Bingaman reported that CIRTAs is likely to receive Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funds to market Indy Express Bus and that a fiscal ordinance will be required in order to amend the budget to spend this money. E. Bingaman stated that the Job Access Reverse Commute funding application for reverse commute to Carmel and Fishers is moving forward. C. Altman and M. Terry asked whether Janus Developmental Services would be the recipient of those funds

C. Altman asked if any transit providers had updates to share. M. Terry suggested that providers regularly give 5-minute updates at future CIRTAs board meetings. C. Altman asked C. Campoll to coordinate updates from one or two transit providers at future board meetings. C. Altman directed C. Campoll to make sure that transit providers are listed in the 211 directory. R. Brown reported that IndyGo hosted a Call for Projects meeting for Job Access Reverse Commute and New Freedom grants on February 15, 2011, and that the due date for proposals is April 22, 2011. S. Ritz reported that former inmates in Boone County have taken BATS to connect with IndyGo to get to a GED testing site, and that it is important for outlying county transit agencies to educate their dispatchers and schedulers about connectivity with IndyGo.

J. Billerman reported that he has accepted an offer for a job in Colorado and will be leaving his role as Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1070 representative on the CIRTAs Board of Directors. M. Terry reported that J. Billerman will be replaced by Tim Cox. J. Bridges acknowledged J. Billerman's contributions as a board member and thanked him on behalf the other members of the Board for his service.

*C. Altman moved to adjourn at 10:55 AM. J. Billerman seconded. The motion carried by consent.*