

Chairperson: Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr.
Clerk: Carol Mueller, 278-4228
Research Analyst: Julie Esch, 278-4430

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSIT

Wednesday, December 3, 2008 - 9:00 A.M.
Milwaukee County Courthouse - Room 201-B

MINUTES

SCHEDULED ITEMS:

PRESENT: Supervisors Clark, Borkowski, Weishan, Jursik, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair)

Public Hearing - 1

1. 08-T22 Public Hearing on Milwaukee County's 2009 Section 85.21 Specialized Transportation Assistance Program for Counties grant application. Opening Statement by the Transportation, Public Works and Transit Chairman.
(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)

The Committee took no action on this informational item.

Presentations - 2

2. 08-T23 From the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), a verbal report on the I94 south quadrant of the Mitchell Interchange reconstruction.
(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)

There was no representative in attendance from the WisDOT. The item was laid over to the next meeting.

The Committee took no action on this informational item.

3. 08-T30 (08-475) Recommendations from the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority (RTA) on continued functions and responsibilities, as presented to the Governor and Wisconsin State Legislature in a report dated November 15, 2008.
(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)

APPEARANCES:

Ken Yunker, Deputy Director, Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC)

Julia Taylor, Greater Milwaukee Committee

Carl Mueller, Mueller Communications

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

George Torres, Director, Transportation and Public Works

Lee Holloway, Chairman County Board

The following registered to speak:

Tom Rave, Executive Director, Gateway to Milwaukee

Bill Johnson, UEDA

Jim Goulee, Quality of Life Alliance

Kerry Thomas, Transit Now

The following registered in favor of the RTA with written comments:

Ed Werstein, Spotted Eagle Inc.

Megan Carr, Transit Now

Catherine Madison, Center for Economic Development UWM

Alison Horn, Policy Associate, Environmental Lay & Policy Center

Ms. Taylor gave the Committee an overview of how the RTA was created and the contents of their recommendations to the Governor (copy of full RTA recommendations attached to original minutes).

Committee members voiced concerns regarding the recommendations. These included but were not limited to: the use of the Milwaukee County recently passed sales tax advisory referendum money for the RTA, the lack of minority representation, non equitable representation of each region, bonding authority granted to the RTA, protection of Federal and State funding for local transit needs, disproportionate costs by county, lack of State to fund regional transit instead of municipalities, lack of support by Milwaukee County's representative, Racine County partially included in the funding of the regional costs, RTA encompasses north to south plan but doesn't include east to west expansion, lack of public input (referendum) in Racine and Kenosha on sales tax funding, opposition of key senators not supporting RTA and how the RTA polled a small portion of the whole populace.

The Committee is not opposed to an RTA but would like more input and equality in funding throughout the region.

Mr. Yunker explained the 2003-2005 State Budget included legislation that passed authority and funding for commuter rail on to the counties and not the State. He also stated that a RTA would have access to more Federal funding.

Chairman Holloway stated that the members present from the RTA have no experience running a bus system. He is not opposed to a RTA, but is pro Milwaukee County bus system. The RTA and Transit could each be competing for Federal funding. The County Board represents Milwaukee County. The Board's intent in regards to the sales tax referendum was to give property tax relief and make Transit, Parks and EMS services whole. He also stated the County Board needs to save these quality of life services and be true to the citizens of

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

Milwaukee County.

Supervisor Weishan made a motion to reject the RTA recommendations (see full motion below.) Supervisor Jursik made a motion to lay over the motion to reject. Upon clarification she made a motion to lay over the item.

MOTION BY: (Jursik) Lay over the item. **(Vote 2-5)**

AYES: Jursik and Larson - 2

NOES: - Clark, Borkowski, Weishan, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair) - 5

EXCUSED:

Motion failed.

MOTION BY: (Weishan) Reject the recommendations made to the Governor and Wisconsin State Legislature as enumerated in the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority's November 15, 2008 report as they are in conflict with Milwaukee County's goals for a securely funded and expanded bus transit system. The outstanding issues include proportional representation on the RTA, non-elected versus elected membership of the RTA board, funding mechanisms and administration of funding. Authorizing and directing the Director of Intergovernmental Relations to communicate Milwaukee County's position regarding these recommendations to the Governor and Wisconsin State Legislature. **(Vote 6-1)**

AYES: Clark, Borkowski, Weishan, Jursik, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair) - 6

NOES: - Larson - 1

EXCUSED:

Economic & Community Development - 2

4. 08-427 From the Acting Director, Economic & Community Development, requesting authorization to declare vacant highway land located at the southeast corner of West Rawson Avenue and Highway 100 in the City of Franklin as excess and to accept the offer to purchase from Sacred Heart for \$150,000. **(Also to the Committee on Economic and Community Development.)**

APPEARANCE:

Craig Dillmann, Acting Director, Economic and Community Development

MOTION BY: (Borkowski) Declare land excess to Milwaukee County needs. **(Vote 7-0)**

AYES: Clark, Borkowski, Weishan, Jursik, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair)—7

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED:

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

5. 08-T24 (08-476) From the Acting Director, Economic & Community Development, a report on the reuse of the land beneath the elevated freeway structures in the Marquette Interchange, I794 and other Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) controlled right of way in downtown Milwaukee. **(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

APPEARANCES:

Craig Dillmann, Acting Director, Economic and Community Development
Claudia Peterson, Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Mr. Dillmann spoke to the Committee on the plans of the Department to hold public hearings for more public input prior to issuing a request for proposals. They will return to the Committee for approval of their recommendations in 2009.

Ms. Peterson will work with Milwaukee County to develop these areas to their fullest potential.

There will be an area available for parking use by jurors and employees included in the plans.

MOTION BY: (Clark) Receive and Place on File. **(Vote 7-0)**

AYES: Clark, Borkowski, Weishan, Jursik, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair)—7
NOES: - 0

Transit - 2

6. 08-T25 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, and the Managing Director of the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS), an overview of the MCTS Security Program. **(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

APPEARANCE:

Anita Gulotta-Connelly, Managing Director, Milwaukee Transport Services

The Chairman requested Items 6 and 7 be heard together.

Supervisor Clark Chair for these items.

Ms. Connelly explained to the Committee the goal of MCTS is to make riding the bus safe for both passengers and employees. She highlighted the report to reflect all the different ways that this is being done. There is great cooperation between MCTS and all law enforcement entities. Additionally, there is a private security firm and the Guardian Angels that ride the buses to help monitor troubled routes.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

The Sheriff has been issuing citations to discourage minor infractions from escalating.

Members of the Committee feel there is a need to show the public the full story of arrests, charges and penalties that result from the incidents. It is also the responsibility of the media to report the full story including the follow up.

Ms. Connelly is discussing a new program with the District Attorney that would offer rewards for information that leads to prosecution of the individuals involved in violence on the buses.

The Committee took no action on this informational item.

7. 08-T08 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, and the Managing Director of the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS), an update of Homeland Security funds available through the Transit Security Grant Program. **(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

APPEARANCE:

Nancy Senn, Department of Transportation and Public Works

Ms. Senn informed the Committee of the success Milwaukee County has had with this program. These funds will be used for three major projects. They include hiring a Planning Coordinator position at MCTS, video collaboration with the City of Milwaukee and the continuation of an existing program on terrorist actions.

The Committee took no action on this informational item.

Airport - 5

8. 08-431 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, requesting authorization to enter into a base operator agreement between Milwaukee County and Mercury Aviation under the standard terms and conditions for a second fixed base operator of similar class and size at General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA).

APPEARANCES:

Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA)

Dave Herbst, Executive Vice President Mercury Aviation

Douglas Drescher, General Manager, Signature Flight Support

Mr. Bateman informed the Committee that this would be a second fixed base operator at GMIA. Mercury Aviation intends to build a \$2.5 million aviation terminal along Layton Avenue. Additionally, their business plan could include purchasing the current Skyway hanger.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

Supervisor Clark inquired about any Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) component in the agreement. Mr. Bateman explained Federal Aviation (FAA) regulations are not subject to DBE.

Mr. Herbst spoke briefly to the Committee on the company's commitment for hiring employees locally. Their intent is to work with their employees to create aviation careers.

Mr. Drescher is not opposed to competition but is worried that two fixed base operators may not weather the current financial atmosphere.

MOTION BY: (Borkowski) Approve (Vote 6-1)

AYES: Borkowski, Weishan, Jursik, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair) - 6

NOES: - Clark - 1

EXCUSED:

9. 08-432 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, requesting authorization to increase the rental rate for the Air Freight Building at General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA).

APPEARANCE:

Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA)

MOTION BY: (Clark) Approve (Vote 7-0)

AYES: Clark, Borkowski, Weishan, Jursik, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair)—7

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED:

10. 08-433 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, requesting authorization to enter into a two-year agreement commencing January 1, 2009 with two additional one-year options for renewal but not beyond December 31, 2012, with Weiss and Company Marketing Communications, LLC (WCMC) and Harvest Public Relations and Marketing, Inc. (HPRM) for marketing, public relations and advertising services for General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA).

APPEARANCE:

Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA)

MOTION BY: (Clark) Approve (Vote 7-0)

AYES: Clark, Borkowski, Weishan, Jursik, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair)—7

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED:

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

11. 08-355 (a)(a) An adopted resolution authorizing and directing the creation of 27 Airport Snow Removal Operator – Seasonal positions. **(Report back from the Director, Transportation and Public Works on an operational plan for usage of the positions.) (INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

APPEARANCE:

Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA)

Mr. Bateman answered questions regarding plowing done outside the airport. The sidewalks adjacent to the airport are the only outside areas handled by airport snow removal operators.

MOTION BY: (Sanfelippo) Receive and Place on File. **(Vote 7-0)**

AYES: Clark, Borkowski, Weishan, Jursik, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair)–7

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED:

12. 08-T27 (08-477) From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, a report on Milwaukee County’s position with Midwest Airline and/or Skyway Airlines regarding the restructuring of lease agreements with Midwest. **(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

APPEARANCE:

Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA)

Mr. Bateman displayed maps (copy attached to original minutes) to clearly identify the areas that Midwest and Skyway occupy in the airfield, air cargo and the terminal.

As Midwest’s seat and passenger count goes down due to their corporate plans to change the size of their planes, other airlines have seen increases.

MOTION BY: (Jursik) Receive and Place on File. **(Vote 7-0)**

AYES: Clark, Borkowski, Weishan, Jursik, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair)–7

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED:

Highway - 1

13. 08-434 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, requesting authorization to rescind Resolution File 01-60, local cost sharing and participation on County Trunk Highway improvement projects and replace it with a new County Trunk

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

Highway Participation program.

APPEARANCES:

Brian Dranzik, Budget and Policy Administrator, Transportation, Public Works
Thomas Taylor, Chairman, Intergovernmental Cooperation Council of Milwaukee County (ICC)

Mr. Dranzik explained how the current plan often caused delays due to multiple municipalities disagreement on participation. The new plan allows Milwaukee County to complete reconstruction/rehab based on the recommendations in Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's (SEWRPC) long-range transportation plan without delays. Municipalities will be provided a chance to add enhancements and do maintenance at their expense.

Mr. Taylor relayed to the Committee that a meeting took place with the County Board Chairman on this issue. He directed him to meet with the County Executive. The County Executive supports the plan the Department proposed. Mr. Taylor also spoke to the problem of County Trunk Highways shared between multiple municipalities. Road repair progress is hindered due to the lack of the municipalities reaching an equitable agreement. The ICC was in unanimous agreement with the recommendations of the County Executive. The current plan submitted by the Department takes into consideration the long-range plans of SEWRPC and should address the concerns of the ICC.

MOTION BY: (Clark) Approve (Vote 7-0)

AYES: Clark, Borkowski, Weishan, Jursik, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair)—7

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED:

Transportation and Public Works - 2

14. 08-T28 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, a report on Bus Rapid
(08-478) Transit (BRT). **(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

APPEARANCES:

Brian Dranzik, Budget and Policy Administrator, Transportation, Public Works
Dan Boehm, Director of Administration, MCTS

Mr. Dranzik gave a Power Point presentation (copy attached to original minutes) to explain the program and routes that Milwaukee County is considering as a project eligible for funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) "Very Small Starts" Program. The Fond du lac and National Avenue routes meet the criteria for consideration for funding under this program.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

The BRT uses easily identifiable buses, offers express service with limited stops, public information at stations on next bus information and has easy to use fare boxes. Vehicles used for BRT take approximately one year to build. The Department will partner with Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) to submit a request in spring of 2009 to the FTA for the Very Small Starts Program.

Mr. Boehm said the BRT would replace the current established routes on Fond du lac Avenue. Other routes not eligible for this program are being considered for BRT under the remaining \$91.5 million of Federal Transit Administration money.

Questions and comments ensued.

MOTION BY: (Clark) Receive and Place on File. **(Vote 7-0)**

AYES: Clark, Borkowski, Weishan, Jursik, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair)—7

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED:

15. 08-T29

From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, a report on future expansion needs of the water distribution system on the County Grounds based on an analysis by Graef, Anhalt, Schloemer & Associates (GAS). **(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

APPEARANCES:

Jack Takerian, Director, Facilities Management

Glen Bultman, Research Analyst

Mr. Takerian gave an overview of the report. He distributed a copy of the study done by Graef, Anhalt, Schloemer & Associates, Inc. (copy attached to original minutes). Some of the recommended updates have been completed. Others are funded in 2009 and will be requested in 2010 capital improvements. Costs for these projects will be paid back through water rates charged to users.

Questions and comments ensued regarding tenants paying for the upgrades upfront.

Mr. Bultman informed the Committee that discussions with Mr. Bill Hatcher, of the Medical College, are reviewing this issue.

The Committee took no action on this informational item.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

Fund Transfers

16. 08-1 A summary of fund transfers being presented to the Finance and Audit Committee.
(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)

The Committee took no action on this informational item.

This meeting was recorded. Committee files contain copies of the subject reports, communications, resolutions, and ordinances, which may be reviewed upon request to the Chief Committee Clerk. The official copy of these minutes, along with the audio recording of this meeting, are available in the County Board Committee Services Division.

Length of meeting approximately: 9:05 a.m. until 12:55 p.m.

Carol Mueller
Committee Clerk

Staff Present:

Supervisor Lee Holloway, Chairman County Board
Mr. George Torres, Director, Transportation, Public Works
Mr. Craig Dillmann, Acting Director, Economic and Community Development
Ms. Anita Gulotta-Connelly, Managing Director, Milwaukee Transport Services
Mr. Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA)
Mr. Brian Dranzik, Budget and Policy Administrator, Transportation, Public Works
Mr. Dan Boehm, Director of Administration Milwaukee Transport Services
Mr. Jack Takerian, Director, Facilities Management
Mr. Glen Bultman, Research Analyst
Ms. Julie Esch, County Board Research Analyst

DEADLINE FOR TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSIT COMMITTEE

The next regular meeting for the Transportation Committee is **January 21, 2009**. **Items for the agenda must be in the Committee Clerk's possession by the end of the business day on Tuesday, January 13, 2009.**

ADA accommodation requests should be filed with the Milwaukee County Office for Persons with Disabilities, 278-3932 (voice) or 278-3937 (TTY), upon receipt of this notice.