

Chairperson: Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr.
Clerk: Carol Mueller, 278-4228
Research Analyst: Brian Dranzik, 278-5290

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSIT

Wednesday, May 7, 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)

Transit - 3

1. 08-T07 From the Public Policy Forum, a report detailing funding issues facing Milwaukee County Transit System. **(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

Appearances:

Rob Henken, President, Public Policy Forum
Anita Gulotta-Connelly, Managing Director, Milwaukee Transport Services
Thomas Nardelli, County Executive, Chief of Staff

Mr. Henken gave a summary of the Executive Summary including the charts and graphs. Mr. Henken read the following paragraph to the Committee. "The primary purpose of this report is to ensure that policymakers understand and acknowledge the dimensions of the problem facing Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS). What is most critical is that they act immediately to implement realistic short-term and long-term fiscal solutions, or develop a plan for strategically ramping down transit service in a manner that will cause the least harm to riders and the local economy." He went on to highlight not only the key findings but also Paratransit and ridership issues. Mr. Henken gave three options covered in the report, get by year-to-year, use property taxes from other services and/or decrease service and increase fares and finally, paratransit services would be reduced or fares increased.

Supervisor Jursik stated the Committee, as a political body needs to respond to this report. The County is an arm of the State and due to State mandates, funding is pulled from all areas of county government to cover these mandates. The debate on mass transit needs to change as it is part of the transportation infrastructure, and funding must be removed from property taxes. She suggested that the Board adopt a policy statement supporting the transit system whereby it

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

directs the County Executive to present no cuts on routes or funding for the next transit budget. She volunteered to take the lead on the policy statement. Additionally, she said the Board must take a leadership role and find a plan that addresses the needs of transit.

Supervisor Borkowski added it is time to make a commitment to keep transit viable. He noted that it is time to look for alternate energy sources to try to contain the effects of future rising costs of fossil fuels.

A lengthy discussion ensued on the \$91.5 million in federal funds, Other Post Employee Benefits (OPEB), the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and the Kenosha, Racine Milwaukee (KRM) connector.

Supervisor Mayo requested that Mr. Dranzik prepare a report for the June cycle, showing the reduction in MCTS bus routes and fare increases since 1998.

The Committee took no action on this item.

2. 08-T06 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, and the Managing Director, Milwaukee County Transit System, (MCTS) a report regarding the consolidation and renaming of trip routes, servicing large high schools whereby they are presented in a single route guide. **(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

Appearance:

Anita Gulotta-Connelly, Managing Director, Milwaukee Transport Services

Supervisor Clark was Chair during this item.

Ms. Connelly explained how this is just a change in presentation of the routes for large high schools. These routes are open to all citizens. The route schedules easily identify the complete timetable for each specific school.

The Committee took no action on this item.

3. 08-T08 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, a report on Transit Security Grants utilizing Homeland Security money to fund Milwaukee County Transit System security programs during 2008 and 2009. **(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

Appearances:

Nancy Senn, Transportation Services DTPW

Anita Gulotta-Connelly, Managing Director, Milwaukee Transport Services

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

Ms. Senn gave an overview on the receipt of Homeland Security Grants that the County applied for and received since 2005. The 2008 grants will not be awarded until the end of May. If successful, some of the money will be used to hire a planning coordinator position for the life of the three-year grant. Additional funds will be used for exercise programs to test implementation of procedures and in collaboration with the City of Milwaukee, a video surveillance system in real time. She also stated that any training includes Wackenhut employees who are contracted with MCTS for security issues.

Airport - 6

4. 07-283 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, requesting approval to enter into agreements with Host International, Inc., and Creative Host, Inc., (now called SSP America Inc.) for the operation of new food and beverage concessionaires at General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA) commencing November 1, 2008.
(a)(b)

Appearances:

Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport

George Torres, Director, Transportation and Public Works

Frieda Webb, Director, Community Development Business Partners

For the benefit of the new members to the Committee, Mr. Bateman explained the process to this point to acquire concessionaires at GMIA. He further explained the changes made from each proposed contract to the recommended contracts before the Committee.

Supervisor Clark asked questions regarding the changes from national to local vendors, corresponding proceeds paid to the County and the length of the contracts. She also made an amendment to the resolution as noted below.

Supervisor Weishan asked for a comment from the Department regarding this change in language. Mr. Torres noted that this is standard protocol because there is strict language that must be adhered to. The language "good faith effort" is appropriate, and a process is in place for the Community Development Partners Office to review all the efforts made by the vendors to meet the wording in good faith. He asked that Ms. Webb comment on the language.

Ms. Webb stated they had great cooperation with her office, the airport and the potential bidders. She also said that her department would appreciate any assistance to the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal. The goal is a ceiling that can be exceeded without any repercussions. Supervisor Mayo asked Ms. Webb to address the question of the amendment. Ms. Webb said that they appreciate the amendment and recommend it.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

MOTION BY: (Clark) Amend the resolution, strike through the language “to make a good faith effort” on lines 64 and 106 of the resolution. **(Vote 2-5)**

AYES: Clark and Jursik -2

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

EXCUSED: - 0

Motion failed.

MOTION BY: (Weishan) Approve as submitted. **(Vote 6-1)**

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

NOES: - Clark -1

EXCUSED: - 0

5. 08-176 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, requesting authorization to reimburse the moving expenses of the successful candidate for the position of Airport Operations Manager, if required, up to 90% of the total cost, not to exceed \$15,000, and shall be reimbursed only if the candidate currently resides more than 50 miles from Milwaukee County.

Appearance:

Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport

MOTION BY: (Borkowski) Approval **(Vote 6-1)**

AYES: Clark, Borkowski, Weishan, Jursik, Larson, and Mayo (Chair) –6

NOES: Sanfelippo - 1

EXCUSED: - 0

6. 08-177 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, requesting authorization to enter into a lease agreement with Airport Atrium Operating Associates, not to exceed three years, for the lease of approximately 4,595 square feet of basement level space in the Airport Atrium Building.

Appearance:

Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport

Mr. Bateman said the Noise Mitigation program starts up again in 2009. There is significant product to store. If other space becomes available, the airport will consider relocation of the storage area.

MOTION BY: (Borkowski) Approval **(Vote 7-0)**

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

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED: - 0

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

7. 07-T04 From the Director of Transportation and Public Works, a fourth update on the acquisition and reuse plan of the 440th Air Force Reserve Wing.
(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)

Appearances:

Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport
Tony Snieg, Deputy Director, General Mitchell International Airport
Brian Dranzik, County Board, Research Analyst

Items 7 and 8 were discussed together.

Mr. Snieg gave an overview of the process on military base closings to enlighten the new Committee members. He explained that Milwaukee County would like to acquire the property for future runway expansion. Under the guidelines of the Base Relocation and Closure (BRAC) Act, homeless providers have first option to stake a claim on the property. The Hunger Task Force has submitted a request to utilize space on the base. There is a legally binding agreement with the Hunger Task Force to lease a portion of the property for \$1 that was signed and submitted to HUD this month.

Until the official closing of the base, Milwaukee County would like to take over as caretaker.

The Committee took no action on this item.

8. 07-448 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, requesting approval to enter
(a)(b) into an agreement with the City of Milwaukee that identifies goals and objectives established in the 440th Base Redevelopment Plan that are in the mutual interest of the County and City of Milwaukee.

Appearances:

Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport
George Torres, Director, Transportation and Public Works
Brian Dranzik, County Board Research Analyst

This agreement puts goals the Local Redevelopment Authority has already established on paper. Those goals are to lease out the vacant base property for economic development to support airport functions. Ultimately the property would be used for runway expansion.

Supervisor Borkowski had concerns regarding who was authorized to sign the agreement for the County. Mr. Torres is the representative for Milwaukee County with authority to sign the documents. Both Corporation Counsel and the City of Milwaukee's legal counsel have reviewed the documents.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

MOTION BY: (Borkowski) Approval (Vote 7-0)

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

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED: - 0

9. 06-395 (a)(h) Adopted 2007 Budget Amendment (1B027) directing the Airport Director to submit semi-annual capital improvement project status reports to the Committees on Finance and Audit and Transportation, Public Works and Transit beginning in April 2008. **(Also to the Committee on Finance and Audit.) (INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

Appearances:

Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport

Tony Snieg, Deputy Director, General Mitchell International Airport

Mr. Snieg explained that there isn't much activity in the first quarter of the year. The capital funding is associated with the carry-over process that doesn't take place until the end of May.

The Committee took no action on this item.

Transportation and Public Works - 2

10. 08-178 From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, requesting passage of a resolution that designates one week in May each year, (May 18-24, 2008) which week shall coincide with American Public Works Association (APWA) National Public Works Week to acknowledge the efforts of Milwaukee County Transportation and Public Works' employees.

Appearances:

Fay Roberts, Assistant Director, Transportation and Public Works

George Torres, Director, Transportation and Public Works

Vince Forrest, Aegis Corporation

After the initial roll call, Ms. Roberts and Mr. Forrest gave a brief presentation regarding the "County Mutual Roadeo" and the positive feedback from participants.

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

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

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED: - 0

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

11. 07-111 (a) From the Director, Transportation and Public Works, a status report on the implementation of the Green Print resolution provision within the Department of Transportation and Public Works. **(Also to the Committee on Parks, Energy and Environment.) (INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

Appearance:

Greg High, Director, Architecture Engineering and Environmental Services

Mr. High gave a review of the progress of the Energy Performance Contracts. He explained that some buildings are not viable for the program.

Supervisor Mayo said the Department should follow the guidelines of the resolution. Only the Board can make changes to a resolution. If the Department has problems with the legislation, they should put their concerns in the report.

Supervisor Dimitrijevic was very disappointed in the report and the monitoring of energy savings. It appears that the Department is giving excuses on why this initiative can't be done instead of finding ways to promote and implement the green print legislation.

Mr. Torres said the position of Director of Environmental Services and Sustainability has not been filled yet. The job description has been created. The Department is asking for some latitude until the position is filled to try to meet the goals of the initiative.

Supervisor Dimitrijevic noted that if the Department is having difficulties, it is their responsibility to contact the Board to discuss the issues. If the department needs resources they need to come to the Board. This relationship needs to work better.

Supervisor Mayo requested a meeting with the Department and concerned parties. He also requested the Department come back next month addressing the concerns from the discussion.

The Committee took no action on this item.

Fund Transfers

12. 08-1 A summary of fund transfers being presented to the Finance and Audit Committee. **(INFORMATIONAL UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)**

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

Appearance: George Torres, Director, Transportation, Public Works and Transit

The Committee took no action on this item.

Appointment - 1

13. 08-180 From the County Executive appointing Mr. George Torres to the position of Director, Department of Transportation and Public Works.

Appearances:

Thomas Nardelli, County Executive, Chief of Staff

George Torres, Director, Transportation and Public Works

Mr. Nardelli relayed the County Executive's regrets for not being able to attend the meeting. The Chief of Staff talked highly of Mr. Torres and was very impressed with his knowledge of the division.

Supervisor Borkowski stressed that Mr. Torres needs help. There are currently numerous management positions vacant in the division.

MOTION BY: (Borkowski) Approval (Vote 6-0)

AYES: Clark, Borkowski, Weishan, Larson, Sanfelippo and Mayo (Chair) –6

NOES: - 0

EXCUSED: - Jursik-1

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: 9:05 a.m. until approximately 11:50 a.m.

Carol Mueller
Committee Clerk

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

Staff Present:

Ms. Fay Roberts, Assistant Director, Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW)
Ms. Anita Gulotta-Connelly, Managing Director, Milwaukee Transport Services
Mr. Thomas Nardelli, County Executive, Chief of Staff
Ms. Nancy Senn, Transportation Services DTPW
Mr. Greg High, Director, Architecture Engineering and Environmental Services
Mr. George Torres, Director, DTPW
Mr. Barry Bateman, Director, General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA)
Mr. Tony Snieg, Deputy Director, (GMIA)
Ms. Frieda Webb, Director, Community Development Business Partners
Mr. Brian Dranzik, County Board Research Analyst

DEADLINE FOR THE TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSIT COMMITTEE:

The deadline for agenda items for the next regular meeting (June 11, 2008) is
Wednesday, May 28, 2008.

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.