

START Board Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2021 from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Jackson, WY

The START Board held a virtual meeting via Zoom. Upon roll call the following were found in attendance of the virtual meeting:

IA: Call to Order and Roll Call: START Board: Cathy Kehr, Anna Kerr, Susan Mick, Cate Watsabaugh, Jared Smith, Ty Hoath, Wes Gardner, Benjamin Goldberg and Brett Simic

Staff: Larry Pardee, Lea Colasuonno, Sandy Birdyshaw, Darren Brugmann, Jeff Deal and Courtney Schwartz.

Liaisons: Arne Jorgensen – Town of Jackson, Doug Self – Teton Valley

Absent: Luther Probst – Teton County Liaison

IB: Meeting Minutes. START Board agrees unanimously and the February 11th meeting minutes were adopted as written.

II: PUBLIC COMMENT. Judd Grossman made public comment stating that he would like to know when the Operations Committee Meetings are held. Mr. Grossman reported that 51 buses run down Rancher all day and feels as though the START Board has been complacent in addressing the issue of serving Rancher and Hansen not only efficiently, but appropriately. Mr. Grossman believes that micro-transit would solve these problems.

III. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS. Chair of Committee **BOLDED.**

A. Executive/Finance (Jared Smith, Ty Hoath, Susan Mick, Cathy Kehr)

The Executive and Finance Committee meets the 4th Thursday of each month from 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm.

Updates on conversations with TVA, JHMR, Teton Village Service future modifications and entering into an annual agreement. High level conversations and discussions with Jackson Hole Airport Staff about a potential pilot program, conversations around a pilot project out to Grand Teton National Park and enhancing services with Grand Targhee were also held.

Follow up since Board meeting: It was established that committee meetings are open to the public and information will be posted on the website. This information can be found on the START Bus website.

<https://www.jacksonwy.gov/571/START-Board-Committee-Meetings>

B. Operations (Wes Gardner, Jared Smith, Ty Hoath, Brett Simic)

The Operations Committee meets the 1st Thursday of each month from 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm.

An RFP is being prepared by the Transit Director for micro-transit and the technology affiliated that can fully serve the START Bus system. This RFP will be available for review by the START Board at the April START Board meeting. Mr. Grossman's public comment was also addressed by Chair, Wes Gardner, that the Circulator Route will remain in the spring and summer 2021 schedule and until micro-transit can be implemented.

Winter 2021/2022 priorities were mentioned that included increased commuter service, increased service from Stilson to the Village, micro-transit in east Jackson that also services the new transfer station.

C. Advocacy/Outreach (Susan Mick, Cate Watsabaugh, Anna Kerr, Susan Mick, Wes Gardner)

The Advocacy and Outreach Committee meets the 1st Tuesday of each month from 10:00 am – 11:00 am.

The Transportation Director and Transportation Demand Manager are positions listed the ITP and are under consideration by both Commission and Council for inclusion in the FY22 Budgets of both bodies. Job descriptions for Transportation Director and Transportation Demand Manager are currently being crafted by the Advocacy/Outreach Committee and agreed to send a letter of support for both positions that will be drafted for consideration at the April meeting.

Bringing forward more funding options to complete more route plan items, HOV legislation follow-up that will be brought back to committee at next meeting with possible position statement provided were mentioned. Northern South Park was not discussed too deeply as there are no LDR's around transit in the approval of that subdivision.

D. Marketing/Education (Ty Hoath Anna Kerr, Brett Simic, Benjamin Goldberg)

The Marketing Committee meets the 4th Tuesday of each month from 11:00 am – noon. At this time, the Marketing Committee remains undecided on who will serve as Chair.

Priorities that were communicated from the Marketing Committee included messaging, language, and brand identity. Communication to the public and advertising micro transit, development of a media kit on how to partner with START to further engage the community was also discussed. Any items regarding advertising is currently waiting on an update from the Town. Promoting START Bus in general, employer pass program roll out once process is established and passes are developed are also priority items.

VI. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. START Board Bylaws – Resolution No. 1

Motion made by Susan Mick, 2nded by Ty Hoath, to approve Resolution 1 – Bylaws of the START Joint Power Board, March 11, 2021. START Board agrees unanimously. Motion carries.

B. Authorization Resolutions – Federal Grants for FY22

Motion made by Ty Hoath, 2nded by Susan Mick, to approve Authorization Resolution 5311 and 5310/5339 – Federal Grants for FY22. START Board agrees unanimously. Motion carries.

C. COVID-19: Passenger Capacity

Motion made by Susan Mick, 2nded by Ty Hoath, to reaffirm the START Bus passenger capacity levels approved on December 30, 2020. START Board Agrees unanimously. Motion carries.

V. MATTERS FROM BOARD

A. County Liaison: Luther Probst: Absent.

B. Town Liaison: Arne Jorgensen: Encourages the START Board to use their voice sooner than later in the North and South Park discussion. Discussion designating the Town Liaison is expected to be made on Monday, March 15th.

C. Teton Valley Liaison: Doug Self: No updates.

C. Matters from Board: The BUILD Grant was successful and the Stilson Transit Center, Driggs Transit center and a priority-based signal are top priority. Cate Watsabaugh volunteered to coordinate a safe and outdoor START Board social event.

VI: MATTERS FROM STAFF

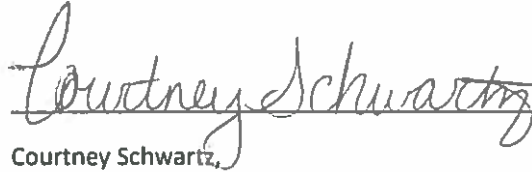
Staff recommendations involving the preliminary budget have been submitted to the Town Manager.

The START Board received a letter from Riley Miller, a student from Wilson, WY, explaining a recent research project that was sparked by the arrival of the 8 new electric buses. The START Board decided to respond with a letter inviting Riley Miller to tour the START Bus facility and electric buses. A number of Board members expressed interest to attend this tour.

VII: EXECUTIVE SESSION. Not needed.


VIII: TIME AND PLACE FOR NEXT MEETING. April 8, 2021, 11:30 – 1:30 pm. Virtual.

IX: ADJOURNMENT. Motion made by Susan Mick to adjourn, 2nded by Jared Smith. Meeting adjourned.

 4/9/2021
Courtney Schwartz, Date

Administrative Assistant (Minutes Editor)

The undersigned duly qualified and acting chairman of the Southern Teton Area Rapid Transit Board certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes approved at a legally convened meeting of the Southern Teton Area Rapid Transit Board.

 4/9/21
Jared Smith, Chair Date