Public Transit Advisory Board (PTAB) Municipality of Anchorage Minutes for Meeting of October 10, 2024 Held at Loussac Public Library, Moose Room

1. Call to Order

Ms. Sarah Preskitt called the meeting to order at approximately 5:33 p.m.

The following citizens signed in and were present for at least part of the meeting:

Maria Owens
Stewart Nagel
Sandra McMahon
Nakako Thompson
Patricia Olsen
Linda Larson
Melody Russo
Becky Stephan

The following Department staff were present:

Acting Director Mr. Bart Rudolph

2. Roll Call

The Board roll call showed that

Mr. Doug Miller was present

Ms. Sarah Preskitt was present

Mr. Kyle Mielke was present

Mr. Mike Williams was present

Mr. Michael J. Williams was absent with excuse

Mr. CB Brady was present.

Mr. Nathaniel Lackey was present.

Mr. Peter Hill was absent without excuse.

From the roll call, a quorum was declared.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Doug Miller moved that the agenda be amended by deleting items 4 through 6.

Mr. Nathaniel Lackey seconded.

After discussion, the motion to amend passed by a vote of 5 to 1, with Mr. Kyle Mielke voting "nay" and all other members present voting "aye."

The agenda, as amended, was approved unanimously.

4. Approval of the May 9, 2024, Minutes

(As explained above, this item was removed from the agenda.)

5. Approval of the June 13, 2024, Minutes

(As explained above, this item was removed from the agenda.)

6. Approval of the July 11, 2024, Minutes

(As explained above, this item was removed from the agenda.)

7. Approval of the August 14, 2024, Minutes

Mr. CB Brady moved to approve these minutes.

Mr. Mike Williams seconded.

The minutes were approved unanimously.

8. Approval of the September 12, 2024, Minutes

Mr. Nathaniel Lackey moved to approve these minutes.

Mr. Mike Williams seconded.

The minutes were approved unanimously.

9. Public Involvement Announcement:

Ms. Sarah Preskitt read the previously-distributed Public Involvement Announcement.

10. Action / Information Items:

- a. New Business
 - i. SFY2026 Alaska Mental Health Trust Grant Resolution

- Mr. Bart Rudolph explained the resolution and answered questions.
- Mr. CB Brady moved to approve the previously-distributed resolution.
- Mr. Mike Williams seconded.
- PTAB Resolution 2024-01 passed without objection.
- ii. Department Budget Resolution for Fiscal Year 2025
 - Mr. Doug Miller moved to adopt the resolution.
 - Mr. Nathaniel Lackey seconded.
 - Mr. Bart Rudolph explained the resolution and answered questions.
 - Mr. Kyle Mielke moved to amend the resolution, to add the following language immediately before the provision that begins "NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED":

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes the current challenges posed by bus operator shortages and the inability to fully utilize current unspent capital funds, the Board affirms that the current flat funding request from the Public Transportation Department (PTD) remains consistent with a long- term goal of expanding service,

Mr. Mike Williams seconded that motion.

The amendment passed unanimously, and then Resolution 2024-02, as amended, was adopted unanimously; Mr. Kyle Mielke was appointed to read the resolution to the Assembly.

iii. Discussion of Meeting Time

The Board discussed the current meeting time and location, and whether another time or location would better serve the needs of the Board and the public. The Chair stated that she would make further inquiry into the possibility of meeting at City Hall, beginning in January 2025, with a view to putting the matter on for a vote at the November PTAB meeting.

b. Reports and Updates

i. Director's and Operations Update

Mr. Bart Rudolph provided information and answered questions. Among other things, he stated PTD is in discussions with AEDC to re-open the existing Transit Center and move the Customer Service office back in.

ii. Chair Report

Ms. Sarah Preskitt made the Chair Report.

[Following the Chair Report, Mr. Kyle Mielke made a motion to reconsider the action taken on item 10.a.ii of the agenda, by inserting the actual word-for-word text into the resolution, as opposed to having the wording taken from the audio.

Mr. Mike Williams seconded.

After discussion, the motion failed by unanimous vote.]

iii. Data Dashboard

Mr. Bart Rudolph explained that all the data historically included in the Ridership Update (plus additional information) is now available as part of an interactive Data Dashboard that has gone live on the Muni website. The Board expressed great enthusiasm for the Dashboard, but decided that in future, the agenda should still contain an item related to the Dashboard, in case there are questions or concerns, or further detail to be provided, about ridership.

11. Public Comments

Nakako Thompson, Linda Larsen, Melody Russo, and Patricia Olson made comments.

12. Member Comments

All Board members present made comments.

13. Adjournment

Mr. Kyle Mielke moved to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Nathaniel Lackey seconded the motion.

There was no objection, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.