

**GOLD LINE JOINT POWERS BOARD
MINUTES
January 22, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Karwoski called to order the Gold Line Joint Powers Board (JPB) meeting at 10:31 a.m. The meeting was held in the 3M Community Room at the Sun Ray Library, located at 2105 Wilson Ave, St. Paul, Minnesota.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Washington County Commissioner Stan Karwoski
Washington County Commissioner Lisa Weik
Ramsey County Commissioner Rafael Ortega (joined at 10:40 a.m.)
Ramsey County Commissioner Jim McDonough

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Andy Gitzlaff, Brian Isaacson, Erica Ellefson, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Oehler,
Kevin Magnuson, Kris Longhenry, Lyssa Leitner, Mike Rogers, Sara
Allen, Tabatha Hansen

Others Present: Brian McClung, Chris Beckwith, Marc Briese, Shannan Watson

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was moved by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Weik. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2019 meeting was moved by Commissioner Weik, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. All in favor. Motion carried.

Strategic Communications Contract

Sara Allen presented a follow up to the Strategic Communications Contract, first approved at the November 20, 2019 meeting. The deadline for the Request for Proposal (RFP) was January 8, 2020, of which four applicants responded. After joint review with both Washington and Ramsey County staff, two consultants were interviewed. After interviews, due to demonstrated ability to manage and develop strategic messaging and advocacy, and experience with creation and maintenance of a strategic communications plan, staff would like to recommend for approval, MZA+Co. Brian McClung was present on behalf of MZA+Co.

A motion to approve MZA+Co. was moved by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Weik. All in favor. Motion carried.

Brian addressed the board and thanked them, stating his group was grateful for the work they've been involved in for the previous four years, and excited for the opportunity to continue.

Approval of Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Cost, Budget, Scope, and Schedule at 30% Design

Sara Allan wanted to remind everyone, as stipulated in our funding commitments, that the project office is here to seek approval at 30% design, and they will also return at 60% and 90%.

Kris Longhenry updated the board that we received our "Finding of No Significant Impact" on Friday, February 17, meeting the Sunday deadline. She presented a PowerPoint on the new design estimate at 30% (from the previous 15%), cost, budget, scope, and schedule of the project while noting expectations and approvals received from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). She noted that the use of electric vehicles is still being decided, as they would like to evaluate the cost and maintenance of electric, and there have been a few issues with electric chargers. Lyssa Leitner added that they would like to get through one winter in order to have an accurate evaluation of all factors. Kris wanted to make note that they are pushing the right-of-way acquisition piece as far out as possible, so there is an accurate representation of what is needed, with use of appraisals and assessments, at minimal risk.

A motion to approve the Gold Line Bus Transit Cost, Budget, Scope, and Schedule at 30% Design was moved by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Weik. All in favor. Motion carried.

INFORMATION/UPDATES

Commissioner Weik asked for an update on the Community Business Advisory Committee. Kris stated that it is in the chair's office for review, and they are meeting next week. Lyssa has updated the applicants on the status as well. They are also continuing to work with the cities. Kris stated that the report typically comes out mid-February, however they likely may not be where they need to be to get to the next phase, but it is moving forward.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting – February 2020, date TBD due to scheduling conflicts

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Weik, seconded by Commissioner Ortega, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Oehler, Clerk
