

Windham Region Transit District
Regular Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, September 22, 2017 – 3:30 p.m.
Windham Region Transit District Board Room
28 South Frontage Road, Mansfield Center, CT
REGULAR MEETING MOTIONS and MINUTES

Board Members Present: Marge Roach, Terry Coonradt, Tom Currier, Tom King, Yolanda Negron, Benjamin Wiles

Board Members Absent: Alex Marcellino

Staff Present: John Rayman, Dagmar Noll

Guests Present: None.

Public Present: Joanne Haddad, Windham; Ray Haddad, Mansfield; Kristen Merrill, Lebanon; Kyra Trudeau, Windham; Shayla Trudeau, Windham; Shonda Trudeau, Winham; Karen Mailloux, Windham; Gerald Mailloux, Windham; Susan Boker, Windham; Mariah Lopez, Windham; Cynthia Cooper, Windham; Nelson Bakken, Hampton; Patricia Bakken, Hampton; James Flores, WRTD; Wendy Kurcinik, Chaplin; Donna Trahan, Colchester; Tanya Husick, Mansfield; Eric Sanderson, Northeast Connecticut Transit District; Gaspar Nazario, Mansfield; Neftali Rivera, Windham; Leon Brown, Jr., Windham; Shondra Trudeau, Windham; Darlene Haddad, Windham

1. Call to Order

M. Roach called the meeting to order at 3:30p.m.

2. Public Participation

James Flores, Windham, a WRTD bus driver, spoke in support of Rose Kurcinik and with a concern that corporate profit has become more important than employees and WRTD. He asked the Board to show support the employees and to give Rose a substantial severance package.

Joanne Haddad, Willimantic read a letter on behalf of Rose Kurcinik sharing her history with the Dial-A-Ride and WRTD. She requested that the Board investigation her dismissal.

Ray Haddad, Mansfield, spoke in support of Rose Kurcinik. He asked the Board to investigate Rose's dismissal and ensure that she receives due process.

Darlene Haddad, Windham, spoke about her family's personal positive experience with Dial-A-Ride and in support of Rose Kurcinik.

Gaspar Nazario, Mansfield, a WRTD bus driver, spoke in support of Rose Kurcinik and her support of him as an employee over the years.

Pedro Vasquez, Windham, A WRTD bus driver, spoke a concern about the current WRTD Personnel Policy which says that an employee may be immediately fired at any time for any reason. He asked that the Personnel Policy be revised to a system with intermediary warning steps.

Donna Trahan, Colchester, spoke in support of Rose Kurcinik.

Kristen Merrill, Lebanon, spoke in support of Rose Kurcinik. She asked the Board to give Rose a substantial severance package and not to renew First Transit's contract.

Susan Boker, Windham, spoke in support of Rose Kurcinik. She asked the Board to investigate Rose's dismissal.

Tom Currier, Columbia, read a statement from Dennis O'Brien, legal advisor to WRTD, expressing concern about Rose Kurcinik's dismissal.

Dagmar Noll, Windham, a WRTD dispatcher, requested that the Board move their meetings to a time when more employees may participate and also involve employees in developing policies that effect their jobs.

3. Secretary's Report

a. Approval of Minutes from the 7/28/2017 Regular Meeting of the Windham Region Transit District Board of Directors

T. Coonradt MOVED to approve the minutes from the 7/28/2017 Regular Meeting of the Windham Region Transit District. T. Currier SECONDED. MOTION PASSED with Yolanda Negron abstaining.

4. Correspondence

Kevin Pratt, Windham, sent a letter in support of Rose Kurcinik asking that she be reinstated.

5. Chairman's Report

None.

6. Reports of Officers and Staff

a. Report from J. Rayman, Administrator

J. Rayman reported that WRTD has some body-on-chassis on order to replace old stock; most of our fleet has been deep-cleaned; bus shelters have been scoured of graffiti and cleaned; the need to use smaller vehicles than usual on many of our services has affected our ability to transport our usual passenger load.

Y. Negron MOVED to move item 9 after agenda item 6. T. Currier SECONDED. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

7. Executive Session

a. Discussion and possible action concerning attorney client privileged communication concerning personnel matter, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes §1-200(6)(E)

T. Coonradt MOVED to go into Executive Session for Discussion and possible action concerning attorney client privileged communication concerning personnel matter, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes §1-200(6)(E). T. Currier SECONDED. MOTION PASSED unanimously. The Board entered into Executive Session at 4:20 PM with Administrator J.

Rayman in attendance. J. Rayman stepped out of Executive Session at 5:02 PM. J. Rayman returned into Executive Session at 5:03 PM. J. Rayman stepped out of Executive Session at 5:05 PM and returned into Executive Session at 5:06 PM. The Board came out of Executive Session at 5:30 PM.

B. Wyles MOVED that Rose Kurcinik be reinstated as an employee of WRTD on paid administrative leave for a period of the lesser of (a) time as is required to negotiate a mutually acceptable separation agreement and (b) 90 days. Yolanda Negrón SECONDED. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Yolanda Negrón MOVED to table all following business until the next meeting. T. Coonradt SECONDED. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

8. Old Business

- a. UCONN-Storrs Extra Service
- b. UPASS Agreement

9. New Business

- a. Technology
- b. Danielson-Willimantic Run
- c. Staffing
- d. Board Meeting Dates 2018

10. Adjourn.

The meeting adjourn at 5:33 PM.

Next Meeting: 3:00pm, October 27, 2017

Respectfully submitted by Dagmar Noll for T. Currier