

A regular meeting of the St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission was held on the 19th day of March 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at the Metro Bus Operations Center. Commissioner Kleis presided with the following present:

Commissioners:	1. Dave Kleis
	2. Rick Miller
	3. Ryan Fitzthum
	4. Kurt Hunstiger
	5. John Libert
Chief Executive Officer:	Ryan Daniel
Chief Administration Officer:	Sunny Hesse
Chief Operations Officer:	Dave Green
Director of Finance:	Paula Mastey

Additions or Changes to the Agenda: **Commissioner Hunstiger moved, and Commissioner Fitzthum seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.**

Consent Agenda:

- 5.) Minutes of February 20, 2024, Regular Meeting
- 6.) February 2024 Balance Sheet, Income Statement
- 7.) February 2024 List of Bills

8.) February 2024 Ridership Reports for Fixed Route, Dial-a-Ride, and Northstar Link
Commissioner Miller moved, and Commissioner Hunstiger seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Open Forum: No one spoke.

General Business.

9.) Consideration of Policy Update: 9.5 Leaves of Absence Without Pay. Sunny Hesse informed the Commissioners that this policy update is to clarify language within the policy to more accurately reflect what Metro Bus considers to be an extended leave of absence. **Commissioner Hunstiger moved, and Commissioner Miller seconded a motion to approve Policy Update: 9.5 Leaves of Absence Without Pay. Motion carried.**

10.) Ratification of Teamsters Collective Bargaining Agreement 2023-2026. Sunny Hesse noted that Metro Bus and Teamsters Union were able to come to an agreement on a new three-year contract. Members of the Teamsters Union voted to approve the contract on March 16, 2024. Metro Bus and the Teamsters Union had fifteen regular negotiation meetings as well as one mediation session to resolve the 2023-2026 Collective Bargaining Agreement. **Commissioner Libert moved, and Commissioner Fitzthum seconded a motion to approve Teamsters Collective Bargaining Agreement 2023-2026. Motion carried.**

11.) Land Acquisition Update. Dave Green spoke to the Commissioners about the recent purchase of two parcels of land located in Waite Park, MN. That will become the future site of a Metro Bus western transit hub. Metro Bus was able to close on the deal January 16, 2024. **No Motion.**

12.) Recognition of Metro Bus ACEC Award – Land Acquisition. **No Motion.**

Department Update. Procurement Manager, Gary Korneck noted that Metro Bus currently has three fixed route buses going into production at New Flyer. The first of the three was scheduled to start today. The three buses have a 12–16-week completion projection. The Minnesota Office of Transit has agreed to

fund an additional three buses in 2024 for Metro Bus as well. There were also 8 Dial-a-Ride buses that were in production and have been outstanding since 2020. Supply chain issues and a lack of available Ford chassis have been the biggest culprit for the delays. These buses have also seen a 40% cost increase over the last four years due to several issues. Metro Bus would like to upgrade the CNG fueling system as it does not currently have a backup compressor or heat at the fuel islands for the winter months. The vending services request for proposal will be completed in the first few days in April.

Adjournment. Commissioner Miller moved, and Commissioner Hunstiger seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.