

**Victoria Regional Transit Commission  
Minutes of the Meeting  
Held at BC Transit  
520 Gorge Road East  
Tuesday, June 19, 2018  
9:00 AM**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Susan Brice, Chair  
Mayor Richard Atwell  
Mayor Barbara Desjardins  
Mayor Alice Finall

**REGRETS:** Councillor Geoff Young  
Mayor Carol Hamilton  
Mayor Lisa Helps  
Mayor Maja Tait

**BC TRANSIT STAFF:** Brian Anderson, Vice President Operations & Chief Operating Officer  
Ryan Dennis, Supervisor, Sales and Revenue Development  
Jonathon Dyck, Communications Manager  
Dave Guthrie, General Manager Victoria Operations  
Adriana McMullen, Transportation Planner,  
Lindsay Taylor, Senior Transit Planner,  
Levi Timmermans, Manager Infrastructure, Planning & Projects  
James Wadsworth, Planning Manager  
Cara Weirmier, Executive Assistant (*Recorder*)

**OPEN SESSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Susan Brice.

**Moved by Mayor Finall and seconded by Mayor Desjardins to APPROVE the agenda as presented**

**CARRIED**

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 27, 2018**

**Moved by Mayor Desjardins and seconded by Mayor Finall to APPROVE the minutes as presented**

**CARRIED**

**3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

*None*

**4. CHAIR'S REMARKS**

The Commission is excited to be the first community in the province to pilot electric buses. The 40-foot BYD battery-electric bus will be entering revenue service shortly and is available for viewing after the meeting.

**DELEGATIONS**

- a) Better Transit and Transportation Coalition – Request for Friday, Saturday and holiday late night service to run to 3:00 a.m.

**Motion by Mayor Desjardins and seconded by Mayor Atwell to direct staff to work with the Coalition and report back at a future meeting with costs and considerations**

**CARRIED**

- b) Accessible Transit Advisory Committee – Request the Commission consider the following;
- 1) Revising the Taxi Saver program to make it more accessible and cost effective for users
  - 2) Accepting the BC Bus Pass for handyDART services

- 3) Adding two more days of late night handyDART service per week

**Motion by Mayor Desjardins and seconded by Mayor Finall to direct staff to report back on potential service and costing options**

**CARRIED**

**5. 2017/18 FINANCIAL AND PERFORMANCE REPORT – for APPROVAL**

***Brian Anderson***

Passenger and advertising revenues were \$1.3 million above budget at year end. Expenses were \$10.1 million below budget at year end, primarily due to fuel being \$3.14 million lower than expected and timing of payments related to the Douglas Street bus priority lanes. The Transit Fund ended the year at \$3.8 million.

The Operating Reserve Fund (which can be used to offset inflationary impacts of existing service) ended above budget at \$19.4 million.

**Motion by Mayor Atwell and seconded by Mayor Desjardins to APPROVE the report as presented**

**CARRIED**

**6. 2019/20 SERVICE EXPANSION – for APPROVAL**

***James Wadsworth***

To align with the investments and targets identified in the Transit Future Plan, it is recommended that the Commission purchase eight buses and approve an additional 20,000 service hours for implementation in the Fall of 2019. A workshop session is proposed for later in the fall to review each of the proposed enhancements in more detail and determine which initiatives to move forward with either through expansion or re-allocation of existing service hours.

**Motion by Mayor Atwell and seconded by Mayor Finall to APPROVE the additional buses and service hour expansion in principle, with a Commission discussion to take place at the next meeting to review options to allocate those hours.**

**CARRIED**

**7. SCHOOL-AGED YOUTH TRANSIT PROGRAMS – for INFORMATION**

***Ryan Dennis***

As requested by the Commission at the February 2018 meeting, this report summarized youth transit options being offered in Kingston Ontario, Edmonton Alberta and Seattle Washington.

**Motion by Mayor Hamilton and seconded by Mayor Finall to RECEIVE the report as presented, with direction that staff share this information with the regional school districts.**

**CARRIED**

**8. SERVICE UPDATE – for INFORMATION**

***Dave Guthrie***

The volume of construction activity in the Region has impacted transit service reliability, primarily due to buses running behind schedule and missing connections. BC Transit and municipal staff are working continuously to respond to service issues as they arise.

Of special note, the success of Car Free YYJ continues to grow and this year the attendance was comparable to Canada Day fireworks with equal requirement for additional service.

**Motion by Mayor Atwell and seconded by Mayor Desjardins to RECEIVE the report as presented.**

**CARRIED**

**9. PLANNING UPDATE - for INFORMATION**

***James Wadsworth***

Fall service changes include seasonal increases in service to match ridership demand and an expansion of 10,000 annualized service hours. September 2018 will include the addition of two

new routes to the transit system. The first is the Route 9 connecting Camosun College Interurban campus with the University of Victoria. The second is the Route 87 servicing Dean Park and Sidney. The report also highlighted a number of service enhancements to the Saanich Peninsula, including routes that service the Victoria International Airport.

**Motion by Mayor Desjardins and seconded by Mayor Finall to RECEIVE the report with direction to staff to report back in the fall regarding any change in ridership and customer feedback related to the airport service.**

**CARRIED**

**10. TRANSIT FUTURE PLAN UPDATE – for INFORMATION**

***James Wadsworth***

The Transit Future Plan Progress Update highlights transit improvement initiatives completed in the last year, as well as initiatives that are being planned for the next several years. An overview of the progress and highlights of the Transit Future Plan were presented.

**Motion by Mayor Desjardins and seconded by Mayor Finall to RECEIVE the update for information.**

**CARRIED**

**11. INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE – for INFORMATION**

***Levi Timmermans***

A review of ongoing and recently-completed infrastructure projects was presented.

**Motion by Mayor Finall and seconded by Mayor Atwell to RECEIVE the update for information.**

**CARRIED**

**12. IN CAMERA – Land Update**

The Commission received an update on land matters supporting transit activities in the Region.

**ADJOURNAMENT**

**Motion by Mayor Finall and seconded by Mayor Desjardins to ADJOURN**

**CARRIED**

**Meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.**

**Next meeting scheduled for September 18, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.**