



GREATER IDAHO FALLS TRANSIT

dba TRPTA TARGHEE REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
PHONE: 208-612-8323

BOARD MEETING | April 18, 2023 | 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Idaho Falls City Annex Building - Building Div. Conference Room

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Michelle Ziel-Dingman, Lisa Farris, and Arnold Cantu

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Rick Cloutier

Agenda

- Kade Marquez - Board discussion/recommendation of Fee Resolution increase allowing up to \$15 for special events.
 - Michelle Ziel-Dingman motioned to recommend and support the \$15 special event fee as already approved by the Idaho Falls Fee Resolution, seconded by Arnold Cantu. Unanimous approval.

- Kade Marquez - Board discussion/recommendation of Fee Resolution allowing an additional dollar discount for call center scheduled rides. N/A unless we can assure disabled patrons needing the call center would not be charged extra.
 - Call center contract will have to be renegotiated soon. The operational side of the call center continues to be overbudget because taking these calls are costly and we want to encourage folks who can use the app to do so.
 - Lisa Farris motioned to recommend and support the \$1 fee for call center scheduled rides.

- Kade Marquez - Board discussion/recommendation allowing GIFT to hire an intern through the city process. City Intern - current city policy allows for a 40 hour/week intern for up to 5 months OR a 19.5 hours/week for up to 1 year. As of now, grant money will pay for the salary but Kade will let us know if GIFT needs to contribute to the program.

Reasoning for hiring an intern:

 - Senior citizen outreach planned for this summer.
 - Discount account auditing is needed to submit national transit database reports that supports a positive outcome for site reviews.
 - Arnold Cantu motioned to recommend and support hiring a GIFT intern, seconded by Lisa Farris, unanimously approved.

- Kade Marquez - Updates:
 - No negative change to ridership with the fee increase. Our highest ridership was last month with 8,650 rides in March 2023. 7,600 was the ridership in December 2023.
 - The vehicle donated by ITD needed some significant repairs and those are complete. Already burned through a couple of tires due to a poor alignment. Went to a new provider as a result.
 - Kade is working diligently to better understand the long-term match required by FTA. Based upon the information we have now, our 1st year would have cost us \$650,000 in match (instead of the \$300,000 that was originally budgeted by ITD and research done by the MSU project). We're estimating that by June 2024 we will need about \$650k of local match to be comfortable.
 - Looking for a dealership that could possibly donate a new vehicle or two.
 - \$20,000 Foothills Dental sponsorship deal on the new van donated by ITD.
 - INL is bringing in over 600 interns this summer so it should be interesting to see how that impacts our ridership since most of them won't have vehicles.
 - One of the contracted van got into a fairly minor accident but the insurance is covering to replace it and we will have to rewrap it.
 - We have been contacted by several events to use the GIFT vehicles for service and the special event fee will be really helpful.
 - Many riders are calling rides and requesting a cash ride and not having money...the drivers should refuse the ride but many are paying out of their pocket and Kade is working on options (such as vouchers for seniors, the demographic we're having the most challenges with).
 - Working on a customer service training that is approved by FTA to continue to work on improving our service. Trying to battle fatigue.
 - Downtowner contract will be re-upped shortly and Kade will be asking for amendment that provides a pathway to add more vehicles.
 - Wait times lower than they ever been.
 - Not sure how summer ridership will be.
 - Kade interested in if there's interest in rides 9 p.m. – 12 a.m. on Friday and Saturdays.
 - GIFT put out a survey to all of the users to be in compliance with the National Transit Database.

- Financial Update - Lisa Farris, Treasurer
 - ACTION ITEM: Board approval of financial report by Treasurer.
 - Motion to approve by MZD, seconded by Lisa Farris, Unanimous approval.
 - Current balance is \$318,692.75

- Review and update of TRPTA by-laws signed on 4/24/20 (Assumed Business Name: Greater Idaho Falls Transit – GIFT). Signed and Certified copy needed (request from City Clerk).
 - Motion to approve the approve the amended TRPTA (GIFT) bylaws as presented made by Lisa Farris, seconded by Michelle Ziel-Dingman.

Other

For a program, service, or activity of the City of Idaho Falls that is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to the City's ADA Coordinator: ADA/Section 504 Coordinator, Lisa Farris, Email:

Lfarris@idahofallsidaho.gov 680 Park Avenue Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 612-8323 or Fax: (208) 612-8520 TTY: (800) 377-3529 or Idaho Relay 711.

Contact should be made as soon as possible, but no later than 48 hours before the start of the meeting.