Lisa Farris opens the meeting on October 15 at 10:00 am with the following board members present:

Lisa Farris, Chair/Treasurer, Jim Freeman, Co-Chair, Ian Turner, Board Director, and Hailey Mack, Secretary. Additional city staff present include Kade Marquez, Transit Coordinator, Rachel Huntsman and Darrell West, BMPO Director. Aimee Zimmer, COO of Grand Peaks Medical and Dental also in attendance. Arnold Cantu is absent.

Discussion Items- Lisa Farris, Kade Marquez, Aimee Zimmer, and Ian Turner

* Lisa Farris discussed violation of Idaho Open Meeting law that occurred during the September 17, 2024, board meeting. The violation was due to a discussion item leading to an action item that was not included on the posted agenda as an action item. The action taken at the September 17 board meeting was void. The violation was self-recognized by Board Director, Ian Turner on October 1, 2024, and was placed on the October agenda as an action item.
* Lisa provided a financial update as of October 15, 2024.
  + Bank of Commerce Business Checking balance is $403,675.18.
  + Bank of Commerce CD of $600,000.00 matured on 9/24/24 with a balance of $616,066.84.
  + The previous $250,000 fund has been rolled into a new CD with 5.25% over 180 days.
  + The remaining $366,066.85 funds from the previous CD have been deposited into the Bank of Commerce Business Checking.
  + Bank of Commerce Business Savings balance is $39,128.81.
  + LGIP – main account balance is $169,150.00
  + LGIP – senior donations account balance is $0
  + LGIP – old TRPTA account balance is $651.24
* Kade introduced Aimee Zimmer, Grand Peaks Medical and Dental COO. Aimee provided information on Grand Peaks plans to build a new clinic near Costco and explained the need to provide rides to their patients to specialty doctor appointments. Grand Peaks currently has a clinic in Rexburg and Saint Anthony with a temporary clinic in Idaho Falls. The number of patients that could possibly need transportation ranges from 3,500 to 11,000 unique patients. Kade discussed the possibility of voucher purchases to allow ride to and from doctor appointments for their patients. Discussion continued around the opportunities of growth for both organizations and the need to draft a memorandum of understanding.
* Kade provided a Ridership Report for the month of September stating a lower rider count but an increase in revenue. The lower rider count may be due to school being in session or a stronger economy. The increased revenue is due to the booking/technology fee and the senior donations. The average wait time for on-demand rides is 16 minutes, the best wait time that GIFT has offered. The number of no shows has also continued to decrease with changes implemented including charging the card on file. Upcoming, Kade is looking to purchase three more vans with the Carbon Reduction grant. Also working to partner with CEI for students and employees, however we are currently waiting for CEI Administration to make decisions. The future demand is unknown based on the possible agreements with CEI and Grand Peaks. Also announced, GIFT has been inducted into the Hall of Fame for Innovation in Transportation.
* Kade suggested since ridership is currently down, but we expect it to increase in a few months with the possibilities on the horizon that now is a good time to provide goodwill within our community. Kade recommends that GIFT provides free rides to community members to certain community events. Some possible events are Boo at the Zoo, Homeless Standdown, and Festival of Trees. The free rides should be considered marketing, and an opportunity to introduce GIFT to possible new riders.
* Ian is working on updating the by-laws and will send out an updated copy for the board to review. Discussion ensuednon the purpose of the by-laws and the difference between by-laws and policy. Send all suggestions to Ian to work towards the completion of the updating bylaws project.

Action Items voted

* Approved to acknowledge Open Meeting law violation that was self-identified. Moved by Jim Freeman, seconded by Ian Turner, and all were in favor.
* Approved to allow Kade Marquez, Transit Coordinator, access to the Bank of Commerce account to see transactions on the accounts. Moved by Jim Freeman, seconded by Ian Turner, and all were in favor.
* Approved September 17, 2024, board minutes with 2 minor changes. Moved by Jim Freeman, seconded by Lisa Farris, and all were in favor.
* Approved allow the GIFT Board Chair, Co-chair and Transit Coordinator to work with Grand Peaks Medical and Dental on an Memorandum of Understanding to provide rides to patients within GIFT’s service area. Moved by Ian Turner, seconded by Jim Freeman, and all were in favor.
* Approved to offer free promotional rides to one community event a month for the last three months of the 2024 year. Moved by Lisa Farris, seconded by Ian Turner, and all were in favor.
* Approved Financials 9/18/24 through 10/15/24. Moved by Lisa Farris, seconded by Hailey Mack, and all were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 10:57am that was moved by Lisa Farris, seconded by Ian Turner, and all were in favor.