The Transit Authority Board Meeting for February 10, 2021 was called to order at 12:02 P.M. by President Jenny Dinsmore.

II. January 13, 2020 Minutes

Terri Cutright Made a Motion to approve the minutes as presented from the January 13, 2020 board meeting. Ron Bane seconded the Motion.

For: All  Opposed: None

III. Presentations:

A. Proposed Section 125 Benefit Plan

CEO Bruffy tabled this until the March 10, 2021 Mountain Line Transit Authority Board Meeting.

B. Transportation Plan Update

CEO Bruffy introduced Josh Sikich, from HDR Engineering to present information from the Strategic Transportation Plan.

Josh Sikich presented a slide show for the board members with background information and how the planning process works. He also explained to the board members how many different ways that the data is collected in order for them to make recommendation for improvement. He stated that
there are five key initiatives, improve how buses travel, improve street infrastructure to support transit, improve customer information, engage with emerging technology and new mobility, and partner to support access opportunity. He completed his presentation with a question and answer session.

C. AIM Grant Update

Josh Sikich presented the board members with an update on the “Coordinated Customer Payment Study” which is funded by the AIM Grant. This will be an extension to the Transit Plan by working with Mountain Line Transit, MMPO, City of Morgantown, and WVU. Identify existing conditions, technology solutions, and work with agencies to integrate mobility across all providers.

D. Driver of the Month

The Transit Authority Board announced the Authority’s January Driver of the Month, Mr. John Blosser. The Authority also recognized Thomas Jones, Robert Smith, Anne Cramer, and Michael Kingan for their outstanding performance during the month of January.

E. Rider of the Month

The Transit Authority Board announced Jackie Sequence as the February Rider of the Month nominated by the Mountain Line Transit Citizen’s Advisory Committee. The next Mountain Line Transit Citizen’s Advisory Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, March 17th, 2021 via Zoom at 1:00 PM.

CEO Bruffy stated that William Watkins, and Mickey Thrasher were hired as Full-Time Drivers. Sharon Emery was hired as Part-Time Customer Service Representative.

IV. Opportunity for Public Comments:

None

V. Monthly Data Summaries and Correspondence

Mountain Line reports the total passenger trips to date this calendar year as of January 2021 were 24,319 compared 72,188 total passenger trips to date for calendar year 2020. The total passenger trips were down 66%. The total number of service days for the month of January 2021 was 31. Total passengers for January 2021 were 19,242 down 66% compared to January 2020. Disabled passenger trips were down 38%, senior passenger trips were down 50% and WVU passenger trips were down 83% compared to January 2020. During the month of January 2,990 passenger trips were provided using the Property Pass Tax passes. During January 2010 the Transit Authority traveled 118,038 miles.

NewFIT provided 107 passenger trips during January 2021.

State Opioid Response (SOR) had 319 passenger trips in January 2021. There have been 1,283 total trips since our first rider in March 2020.

VI. Financial Report

No Report
VI. Old Business:

A. Proposed Section 125 Benefit Plan
Tabled until March 10, 2021 Mountain Line Transit Authority Meeting.

B. Hazard Duty/Vaccination Plan

CEO Bruffy stated that the Hazard Duty Pay is approved through to the March 2021. This will be on the March board meeting agenda for vote. Transit has been moved into to a lower group to receive the COVID vaccination at this time we are not sure when that will happen.

Jenny Dinsmore read an email that she had received from Lee Smith, Executive Director of the Health Department concerning the plan from the governor has mandated to which groups receive the vaccination first. They will get everyone vaccinated as they receive the vaccines and will announce which groups are to be vaccinated.

C. Bus Shelter Update

CEO Bruffy stated that there have been two bus shelters installed at the bottom of 8th street.

VII. New Business

A. COVID-19 Bus Service Pause Criteria

CEO Bruffy stated that we have had to cut service hours due to COVID and employees having to quarantine due to being exposed. The system has operated at level F several times due to drivers having to call off. He requested that the board give him some guidance on what to do if Mountain Line Transit would have a time that they would not have enough drivers for level H.

Terry Cutright requested to issue a press release that states that the board has discussed extensively how to operate if there is a shortage of drivers due to COVID. The staff has been notified to contact the Board members so that they can have an emergency board meeting to make a decision as to how to operate the service.

B. Bus Cleaner/Fogger Position (Night Shift $15.00)

CEO Bruffy requested that the Mountain Line Transit Authority Board Members consider raising the pay per for the Bus Cleaner/Fogger Position night shift $15.00 per hour.

James Manilla Made a Motion to authorize the CEO to change the wage per hour for the Bus Cleaner/Fogger Position which is a nightshift position to $15.00 per hour. Marly Ynigues seconded the Motion.

For: All  Opposed: None

C. 5307 Funding Resolution

CEO Bruffy stated the board reviewed the 5307 Funding Resolution.
Denny Poluga Made a Motion to authorize the CEO to apply for the 5307 Funding Resolution. Marly Ynigues seconded the Motion.

For: All 
Opposed: None

D. 5310 Funding Resolution

CEO Bruffy stated the board reviewed the 5310 Funding Resolution.

Denny Poluga Made a Motion to authorize the CEO to apply for the 5310 Funding Resolution. James Manilla seconded the Motion.

For: All 
Opposed: None

E. 5311f Funding Resolution

CEO Bruffy stated the board reviewed the 5311f Funding Resolution.

James Manilla Made a Motion to authorize the CEO to apply for the 5311f Funding Resolution. Denny Poluga seconded the Motion.

For: All 
Opposed: None

IX. Board Member Reports and MPO Update

MPO Report

CEO Bruffy stated that the Comprehensive Master Plan will start for the County it will be a yearlong process. The DOH is beginning construction on the mile ground project at the roundabout end and airport end building retaining walls.

Board Member Reports

Marly Ynigues stated that people at Unity Manor are having a hard time getting to the grocery stores due to COVID and they are only transporting five people at time on the Unity Manor bus. They have to come over to the Westover depot to transfer to a bus to get them to the store.

CEO Bruffy stated that there is other bus service that would be more direct and he will have someone take care of letting them know what’s available.

X. Next Board Meeting

March 10, 2021

XI. Adjournment

James Manilla Made a Motion to adjourn at 01:40 p.m.