



## **Oxford - University Transit Meeting**

**July 13, 2011**

**Members Present:** Mike Black, Donna Gurley, George Price and Jim Whindham

**Others Present:** Tim Akers, Ron Biggs, Frances Saralvarez, Lynn Connerly, Melanie Addington, Richard Brooks, Dick Burkepile, Robert Cain and Deborah Robinson

**The meeting was called to order by Chair Donna Gurley.**

***Chair Donna Gurley called for a motion to approve the agenda; Commissioner George Price made a motion and Jim Windham seconded the motion.***

**The minutes for the June 8, 2011 meeting were approved.**

***Chair Donna Gurley called for a motion to approve the minutes; Commissioner Jim Windham made a motion and Commissioner Mike Black seconded the motion.***

### **General Manager's Report**

- Mr. Ron Biggs told the Commission he was back from Indianapolis where he attended the Community Transportation Expo.
- O.U.T. transported 16,463 passengers in the month of June, monthly passes sold \$425.00 and fare \$2,433.50 with a total of \$2,858.50.
- There will be changes on the new fall schedule starting August 15, 2011. The extended Blue Route will run from Wal-Mart to Thacker Loop and the Links Apartments in the morning between 6:23 AM to 9:53 AM and in the afternoon between 2:53 PM to 6:48 PM. During the times just mentioned, there will be 3 buses running on the Blue Route and 2 buses during the other times.
- We are in the process of changing the transfer point from the Square to the transit office at the Old Armory building. There are plans to pave sections of the parking lot of the transit office preparing for the increased traffic, which will be a result of it becoming the new transfer point.

### **Planner's Report – Tim Akers**

- Mr. Tim Akers informed the Commission there would be a budget revision to transfer funds in order to have enough funds to pave sections of the parking lot for the new transfer point. There have been discussions about pouring concrete for a shelter connected to the side walk of the current O.U.T. office.
- We are in the process of procuring 15 shelters from the same company we purchased the previous shelters. The shelters should be delivered no later than September 2011.
- Mr. Akers and Mr. Biggs attended the Transit Summit in Jackson, and they were both participating speakers. They shared with the audience in Jackson how Oxford Transit Management, Inc. (O.U.T.) has become the successful transit system it is today.
- We were also informed that the FTA will be auditing O.U.T. in August.

- Mr. Akers introduced Ms. Lynn Conerly who is the new Executive Assistant of the Department of Planning and Development.
- We are currently applying for an additional \$200,000 grant for the new facility. We anticipate to start breaking ground in the spring of 2012.

### **Open Discussion**

- Ms. Deborah Robinson represented Yocona International Folk Festival, which is a 501 - C3 organization. This will be the 5<sup>th</sup> year to hold the festival in Mississippi. They are seeking assistance with transportation for their group while they are performing in Oxford.

***Commissioner Jim Windham made a motion to provide tokens at no charge for free transportation for the musicians who participate in the Yocona International Folk Festival; Commissioner Mike Black seconded the motion.***

- Mr. Dick Burkepile talked about the inconvenience between the transfer points at the Student Union. The Commission informed those present that after much discussion, the current bus stops are the safest stops the University and O.U.T. agreed upon. He also mentioned there was a 26 minute wait between the Green Route and the Blue Route at the University, and the intense heat during the day makes the wait difficult. Mr. Burkepile suggested that the schedule be adjusted to reduce the wait between the Green and Blue Route at the Student Union. Mr. Biggs will review the schedule to see what can be done.
- Mr. Richard Brooks praised the bus service and commended the drivers for being professional and courteous.

***There being no further business before the Commission, Chair Donna Gurley adjourned the meeting with unanimous yeas upon a motion by Commissioner Jim Windham and seconded by Commissioner George Price.***