

MINUTES  
PUBLIC HEARING  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 2007, AT 3:00 P.M.  
ILLINOIS TERMINAL  
45 EAST UNIVERSITY AVENUE, CHAMPAIGN

PRESENT

Al Anderson, Chair

RECORDING SECRETARY

Rena Lee Lenz

PRESENT BOARD MEMBERS

Willard Broom  
John Chato  
Yuki Llewellyn

Paul Lucas  
Ron Peters

ABSENT BOARD MEMBER

Vicki Ford

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER PRESENT

Pam Voitik, Campus Services Division, University of Illinois

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER ABSENT

Justin Randall, University of Illinois Student Senate

IN ATTENDANCE

William L. Volk, Managing Director  
Thomas J. Costello, Assistant Managing Director  
Karl Gnadt, Director of Market Development  
Jan Kijowski, Marketing Director

BUSINESS TO BE CONDUCTED

Anderson called the meeting to order. He stated that the primary purpose of the meeting was for a public hearing on the proposed fare adjustments. He asked members of the public who wished to speak to please sign in. He then called on the members of the audience to speak.

Dale Woodworth, 111 West Washington, Champaign stated that a 17.5% increase in fares was ridiculous and questioned whether the U of I students would be paying an increase also.

Volk explained that the U of I contract expires in August of 2008 and that there would be negotiations between the District and U of I before then.

Robert Dunn, 804 South Urbana, Urbana, stated that he was an annual pass purchaser. He questioned whether there would be improved services with the fee hike for annual passes being increased from \$200 to \$235.

A great deal of discussion followed. Volk explained that in 2000 a policy was adopted for reviewing fares and that for 12 to 15 years there were no adjustments. Now, on a regular basis, we are doing increases in small amounts rather than large ones. We have not adjusted fares for three years. The base fare is not changing at all. The increases are in the discounted fares. He also added that the District's finances are open to the public and that our yearly audits can be looked at any time. He also discussed the service changes that would go into effect this Fall and some of the proposals being looked at for next year.

Dale Woodworth also suggested that the District should wean itself away from using diesel fuel.

Volk explained how the District was using 5% soy diesel; looking at purchasing hybrid buses; and how the capital program functions with Federal and State funding.

Robert Dunn suggested using smaller buses out to Willard Airport and Wal-Mart in Urbana, as he thought it would be more cost efficient.

Volk explained that the District does have a grant in for five 30 foot buses and that 75% of the cost was actually in personnel costs.

Dale Woodworth also questioned how many yearly passes were sold on a yearly basis. Staff did not readily have that information available, but did call the District's main office to get it. The numbers obtained were as follows: 304—Adult Passes, 1096—Seasonal Passes, and 178—School Passes.

Michael Jeffries, 302 South Second, Champaign questioned the need for an increase in the fares.

Volk again explained that it was due to inflation, cost of wages and benefits, and a substantial increase in fuel costs to provide the service, etc.

Some additional discussion followed.

Anderson closed the public hearing at 3:35 p.m.

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SECRETARY

APPROVED:

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CHAIR