

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, November 20, 2007, 9:57 a.m.
The SORTA/Metro Board Room
1014 Vine Street, Suite 2000
Cincinnati, Ohio, 45202

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Robert W. Buechner, Stephan M. Louis, William L. Mallory Sr.,
Melody Sawyer Richardson, James R. Tarbell, Lamont Taylor

STAFF MEMBERS
PRESENT: Michael H. Setzer, H. Theodore Bergh, Marilyn G. Shazor,
William Desmond, Sallie Hilvers, Tim Reynolds, Donna Adkins,
Perriann Allen, Colin Groth, John Davis, Carole Senior, Bill Spraul

OTHERS
PRESENT: Mark Bennett, ATU; Frank Birkenhauer, Colerain Township;
Rob Langenderfer; Ed Lenihan; Chris Moran, League of Women Voters;
Reggie Victor, City of Cincinnati

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Richardson, Chair of the Board, noted the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order.

HEARINGS FROM CITIZENS

Mrs. Richardson asked if there were any citizens who would like to address the board. There were none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Buechner made a motion that the minutes of the October 16, 2007, regular meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Louis seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board unanimously approved the minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

**JOINT OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Planning and Development Committee Chair Mr. Buechner stated there had been a combined meeting of the Operations and Management and the Planning and Development committees immediately before the board meeting. The following items were presented to the Board:

1. Proposed Resolution No. 2007-53: Approval of Department of Homeland Security Grants

Mr. Buechner moved for adoption and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. This resolution approves and ratifies submission of the grant applications to the Department of Homeland Security for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 and the execution by the CEO/General Manager of the grant contracts. The resolution further authorizes the CEO/General Manager to execute the contract for the 2007 supplement.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2007-53.

2. Proposed Resolution No. 2007-54: Approval of Contract for Security Gate and Fence Installation

Mr. Taylor moved for adoption and Mr. Buechner seconded the motion. This resolution approves the bid specifications for security fencing and gates and awards the contract to Mills Fence Company at a total cost not to exceed \$43,130. The resolution also authorizes the CEO/General Manager or the CFO/Secretary-Treasurer to execute the contract on behalf of SORTA.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2007-54.

3. Proposed Resolution No. 2007-55: Approval of Contract to Upgrade Phone Service

Mr. Mallory moved for adoption and Mr. Buechner seconded the motion. This resolution authorizes the CEO/General Manager or the CFO/Secretary-Treasurer to execute a contract with AT&T Ohio to upgrade Metro's phone switches at a total cost not to exceed \$238,000.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2007-55.

4. Proposed Resolution No. 2007-56: Approval of Contract with Financial Advisor for Bus and Capital Financial Program

Mrs. Richardson moved for adoption and Mr. Buechner seconded the motion. The Board awards the contract for financial advising services in connection with the bus and capital financing program to Public Financial Management, Inc. at a total cost not to exceed \$70,000 plus expenses. The resolution also authorizes the CEO/General Manager or the CFO/Secretary-Treasurer to execute the contract on behalf of SORTA.

By roll call vote the Board approved Resolution No. 2007-56. Mr. Louis abstained.

5. Proposed Resolution No. 2007-57: Approval of Contract for Printing of Daily Dated Transfers

Mr. Buechner moved for adoption and Mrs. Richardson seconded the motion. The Board approves the bid specifications to which the printing of the daily dated transfers were solicited and awards the contract to National Ticket at a total cost not to exceed \$29,750.55. The resolution also authorizes the CEO/General Manager or the CFO/Secretary-Treasurer to execute the contract on behalf of SORTA.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2007-57.

6. Proposed Resolution No. 2007-58: Approval of CODA Software License Fee

Mr. Buechner moved for adoption and Mrs. Richardson seconded the motion. This resolution authorizes the expenditures of funds for the CODA software license fee at a total cost not to exceed \$74,911 for the years 2007 through 2009.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2007-58.

7. **Proposed Resolution No. 2007-59: Approval of JARC Application for 2008-2009 Kings Island Direct Service**

Mr. Mallory moved for adoption and Mrs. Richardson seconded the motion. This resolution authorizes staff to proceed with the application for JARC matching funds for the Kings Island Direct reverse commute service for the 2008 and 2009 seasons.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2007-59.

8. **Proposed Motion: Agreement for Labor Services**

Mr. Buechner moved for adoption and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. This resolution approves a blanket purchase order at a total cost not to exceed \$30,000 to retain the services of Thomas P. Hock of Professional transit Management Ltd., for his assistance with labor negotiations.

By voice vote the Board unanimously approved the motion.

9. **Proposed Resolution No. 2007-60: Acceptance of Public Meeting Results for the Nov. 2, 2007 Public Meeting and Final Approval of the Dec. 2, 2007 Service Changes**

Mr. Buechner moved for adoption and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. This resolution accepts the results of the Nov. 2, 2007 public meeting for the proposed possible elimination of service and directs that the acceptance of the results be properly documented in the minutes of the SORTA Board meeting.

By roll call vote the Board approved Resolution No. 2007-60.

10. **Proposed Resolution No. 2007-61: Approval of Funding for Everybody Rides Metro**

Mr. Buechner moved for adoption and Mrs. Richardson seconded the motion. This resolution authorizes the CEO/General Manager or the CFO/Secretary-Treasurer to provide up to \$250,000 to ERM in matching funds from either the City of Cincinnati or Metro's 2008 budget, contingent on ERM's JARC application being approved and other matching sources not being sufficient to meet the required funding level.

By roll call vote the Board approved Resolution No. 2007-61.

11. **Proposed Resolution No. 2007-62: Approval of the 2008 Budget, Fare Increases, Release of Legal Notice and Authorization to Hold Public Hearing, Foundation Funding, and the Revised Funding Request for 2008**

Mr. Setzer presented the proposed 2008 budget. After discussion, the board, via roll-call vote, unanimously decided to amend the budget request from a 25 cent fare increase in Zone 1 (City of Cincinnati) and a 50 cent increase in Zone 2 (Hamilton county outside city), to a 50 cent increase in Zones 1 and 2 for Metro and Access service. Mr. Buechner then moved for adoption and Mrs. Richardson seconded the motion. This resolution adopts the 2008 budget and requests the City of Cincinnati approve the recommended fare changes and provide funding for calendar year 2008 in accordance with SORTA's funding requests. This resolution also requests the City of Cincinnati appropriate \$250,000 from the transit fund to the Everybody Rides Metro foundation and authorizes the Chair or Vice-Chairman of the board to transmit the funding request to the City of Cincinnati. Furthermore, the resolution authorizes the required public hearing.

By roll call vote the Board approved Resolution No. 2007-62.

12. **Proposed Resolution No. 2007-63: Approval of Revised Public Participation Process**

Mr. Tarbell moved for adoption and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. This resolution approves the revised public participation process, effective November 2007.

By roll call vote the Board approved Resolution No. 2007-63.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Setzer reminded the board that he was making a presentation to City Council's Economic Development Committee at City Hall at noon and invited all board members to attend.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Richardson announced she received a letter from Steve Goodin in which he regretfully resigned from the SORTA board due to his Army Reserve unit being called into service for the next year. Mr. Buechner made a motion and Mr. Taylor seconded that Mr. Goodin be nominated for the Royal Coachman award.

Mrs. Richardson made a motion that the meeting be adjourned and Mr. Buechner seconded. The Board unanimously approved the motion and the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

APPROVED:

ATTESTED:

Melody Sawyer Richardson
Chair

H. Theodore Bergh
Secretary-Treasurer