

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, April 14, 2009, 9:56 a.m.
The SORTA/Metro Board Room
602 Main Street, Suite 1100
Cincinnati, Ohio, 45202

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Minette Cooper; Margaret C. Gutsell; Gregg Hothem; Ed Humphrey;
Stephan Louis; William L. Mallory, Sr.; Christine Maticic;
Melody Sawyer Richardson; James Tarbell; Lamont Taylor

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT: Sean Rugless

STAFF MEMBERS

Marilyn Shazor, Theodore Bergh, Dante Coleman, Bill Desmond, Dave Duncan, Tim Harrington, Sallie Hilvers, Mary Moning, Donna Adkins, Perriann Allen, John Davis, Yvonne Farris, Vicki Fink, Colin Groth, Tim Harrington, Mike Restle, Tim Reynolds, Joe Routt, Carole Senior, Bill Spraul

OTHERS:

Troy Miller, ATU-Local 627; Richard Moore, Vorys Sater Seymour & Pease; Chris Moran, League of Women Voters; Mike Setzer, Veolia Transportation; Wendy Zhang, 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. Tarbell moved that the minutes of the March 10, 2009, regular meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Louis seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board unanimously approved the minutes.

MEET THE TEAM

Ms. Shazor presented Dante Coleman and Dave Duncan with a CEO coin. She also announced a new board-centered award, the Leadership Coin. The first Leadership Coin will be presented to Bill Spraul, Director of Transit Operations at a future board meeting.

Mrs. Richardson introduced and welcomed new board members Gregg Hothem, Ed Humphrey and Christine Maticic.

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

Planning and Development Committee Chair James R. Tarbell presented the action items from the combined meeting of the Operations and Management and the Planning and Development committees. The following items from the combined committee were presented to the Board:

1. **Proposed Resolution 2009-12: Appointment of Robert W. Buechner as Royal Coachman**

Dr. Gutsell moved for adoption and Mr. Louis seconded the motion.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2009-12.

2. **Proposed Resolution 2009-13: Approval of Contract for Bus Stop Sign Installation**

Mr. Tarbell moved for adoption and Ms. Cooper seconded the motion. This resolution authorizes the CEO or the CFO/Secretary Treasurer to execute a contract with Media Sign Co. to install approximately 5,500 bus stop signs at a total cost not to exceed \$121,385.00.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2009-13.

3. **Proposed Resolution 2009-14: Approval of Kings Island Park & Ride Lease**

Dr. Gutsell moved for adoption and Mr. Tarbell seconded the motion. This resolution approves a five year park and ride lease with Kings Island from January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2013 at a total cost not to exceed \$300,500.00.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2009-14.

4. **Proposed Resolution 2009-15: Approval of "Bike to Work Week" Ride Program**

Mr. Tarbell moved for adoption and Mrs. Richardson seconded the motion. This resolution approves Metro's participation in "Bike to Work Week" by offering ½ price rides on Friday, May 15, 2009, for customers who use the bike racks on the buses.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2009-15.

5. **Proposed Resolution 2009-16: Approval of Contract to Clean Government Square and Bus Stops/Shelters**

Mr. Tarbell moved for adoption and Ms. Maticic seconded the motion. This resolution approves the renewal of the Government Square and bus stop cleaning contract with Downtown Cincinnati Inc. for 2009-2010 at a total cost not to exceed \$130,602.96.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2009-16.

6. Proposed Resolution 2009-17: Designation of SORTA Depositories, Accounts and Check Signers

Mr. Tarbell moved for adoption and Dr. Gutsell seconded the motion. The Board authorized the persons shown upon the schedule by position as the persons authorized to sign checks and other instruments drawn against each bank account. The Board further designates the banks and accounts shown on the schedule as the depositories and accounts to be maintained in each depository for SORTA. The Board also revokes all previous designations of depositories, accounts and check signers.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2009-17.

7. Proposed Motion: Streetcar Operations Proposal

Mrs. Richardson moved for approval and Mr. Mallory seconded the motion. This motion authorizes the CEO to hire a consultant to assist Metro in writing a proposal to the City of Cincinnati to operate the City's planned streetcar system should Metro decide to submit a proposal.

CEO'S REPORT

Ms. Shazor updated the board on the legislative agenda. Metro has been diligently working with OPTA, state and federal lobbyists and politicians to acquire funding.

The board directed Ms. Shazor to appoint a staff member to the Hamilton Co. Regional Planning Commission.

Ms. Shazor encouraged the board to attend the Conference of Minority Transit Officials' scholarship dinner on Thursday, April 30, at The Phoenix Hotel. Kay Geiger, President of PNCBank-Ohio/Northern Ky. is the honorary chair and Robert McDonald, COO of Procter & Gamble, is the keynote speaker.

Ms. Hilvers reported on the hybrid bus launch scheduled on April 21 at Eden Park and on the "Butterfly Shuttle" which runs on Saturdays from April 25 through June 20, between noon and 5 p.m. between the Westin hotel at Fountain Square and the Krohn Conservatory.

The board members discussed the new Strategic Planning Committee. This committee will be chaired by Gregg Hothem and consist of representatives from local corporations, government, non-profits and other organizations who have an interest in transit. Mr. Hothem will make a list of possible committee members then bring that list back to the SORTA board for approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Louis asked to be replaced on the OKI executive committee and board of trustees. Board member Minette Cooper volunteered to take his place.

Mrs. Richardson made a motion that the board go into executive session as provided in Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G)(3) for conferences with an attorney to discuss personnel matters and Mr. Mallory seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the Board approved the motion and went into executive session at 10:10 a.m.

Mrs. Richardson made a motion that the Board return to regular session and Mr. Mallory seconded the motion. By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved the motion and returned to the board room to reconvene the board meeting from executive session at 10:30 a.m.

Mrs. Richardson adjourned the board meeting at 10:35 a.m.

APPROVED:

ATTESTED:

Melody Sawyer Richardson
Chair

H. Theodore Bergh
Secretary-Treasurer