

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, May 18, 2010, 9:30 a.m.
The SORTA/Metro Board Room
602 Main Street, Suite 1100
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Minette Cooper; Margaret Gutsell; J. Thomas Hodges; William L. Mallory, Sr.;
Christine Matacic; Melody Sawyer Richardson; Sean Rugless; Karl B.
Schultz; Doug Sizemore

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT: Gregg Hothem and James R. Tarbell

STAFF MEMBERS: Marilyn Shazor, Bill Desmond, Barry Frank, Darryl Haley, Sallie Hilvers,
Mary Moning, Donna Adkins, Colin Groth, Mike Restle, Deb Drayton, Jerry
Roetting, Perri Allen, Jill Dunne, Butch Gaut, Joe Routt, Don Inman, Paula
Losekamp, Carole Senior

OTHERS: Mark A. Bennett, ATU-627; Richard Moore, Vorys Sater Seymour & Pease;
Lamont Taylor; Brad Thomas, Cincinnati Streetcar

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. Mr. Brad Thomas, Founder of Cincinnati Streetcar, stated that he would like to voice his support of the motion that will be presented to the SORTA Board concerning operation of the streetcar. The Board thanked Mr., Thomas for his support.

Mr. Bennett congratulated Mr. Taylor and thanked him for his service to SORTA. He also stated that he has a concern about the headlight assemblies on the 67 new 9000 series coaches. He believes that staff intends to retrofit the headlight assemblies with LED bulbs at a cost of \$600 a pair. Metro uses approximately 245 bulbs per year at a current cost of \$3.50 each. The LED lights provide better lighting, but he is not in favor of spending \$36,000 to retrofit the buses, especially since the loss of 88 jobs.

Ms. Shazor responded that SORTA is facing deficits and it would not be prudent to bring employees back to work only to have layoffs again. Mr. Sizemore stated that he would like to see the union and management resolve these issues at the labor-management committee meetings. Mrs. Richardson agreed and stated that she would attend the next meeting of that committee. Staff was also asked to schedule a meeting between Mrs. Richardson, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Sizemore and Ms. Shazor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Matacic made a motion the minutes of the April 20, 2010 regular meeting be approved and Mr. Mallory seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board unanimously approved the minutes.

MEET THE TEAM

Ms. Shazor informed the Board that staff is participating in an exercise where an inbound Route 33 Metro bus was taken by a robbery suspect with a gun. Staff will be called out of the meeting as needed and again she emphasized that this was only an exercise.

Ms. Shazor then introduced Ms. Mary White, a new employee in the Risk Management Department and Mr. Don Inman of the Maintenance Department. Ms. Hilvers introduced Ms. Jill Dunne and Ms. Paula Losekamp, new members of the Communications Department. The Board welcomed the new team members to SORTA.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION TAKES US THERE PRESENTATION

Ms. Hilvers presented information on the upcoming campaign events to increase community awareness of how transit improves the economy, environment, energy, and quality of life. Key items were: May 27 kick off of "Tell Us Your Story"; banners being hung at Government Square; advertising on shelters; employee shirts with Metro logo; advertising trades; and rebranding of brochures. Ms. Shazor invited the Board Members to participate in any and all events and asked that they advise her of their availability. The Board thanked Ms. Hilvers for the presentation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Mr. Rugless presented the action items from the Planning and Development Committee:

1. Proposed Motion: Authorization to Serve as Operator for Cincinnati Streetcar Project

Ms. Maticic moved for adoption and Dr. Gutsell seconded the motion. Mr. Rugless stated that the City Manager assured the Committee that funding for the streetcar project would not come from the transit fund. Ms. Maticic stated that she felt SORTA should not make a commitment to operate the streetcar before doing due diligence on funding in light of the potential budget deficits. Mr. Mallory reminded the Board that the City Manager had agreed that the means to finance the project would be discussed between the two administrative staffs as part of an operating agreement. Mr. Hodges pointed out that SORTA's partnership with the City on this project is key to additional federal funds being received.

Mr. Mallory stated that he would like legal counsel to clarify the issue of his potential conflict of interest. Mr. Moore stated that unless Mr. Mallory, his business associates or family members have a financial interest in the project, there is no conflict of interest.

Ms. Maticic made a motion to amend the original motion to include, "with the understanding that the funding of the streetcar does not negatively impact the sustainability of existing services" and Dr. Gutsell seconded the motion. The Board unanimously agreed to the amendment to the motion.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved the motion as amended.

2. Proposed Resolution No. 2010-09: Approval of Clermont County Service Agreement

Ms. Maticic moved for adoption and Ms. Cooper seconded the motion. This resolution approves the agreement with Clermont County for 2010 at the current cost and service levels.

By roll call vote the Board approved Resolution No. 2010-09, with Mr. Schultz abstaining.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Gutsell stated that the Committee met on April 27. The Committee reviewed two internal audit reports, one on the Access Contract and the second covering the contract with Cincinnati Public Schools ("CPS"). The Committee also revisited risk issues resulting in the addition of two new audits being added to the 2010 schedule, one on ridership matrix reporting and a second on diversity procurements. At the recommendation of Clark Schaefer, the Committee will also be reviewing a potential charter for the Audit Committee.

REPORT ON OKI

Ms. Cooper updated the Board on information received at her attendance of OKI meetings, including future funding information. OKI is recommending SORTA receive \$4 million for park and ride facilities, \$4 million for the uptown hub, and \$3.7 million for 2014 bus replacements, for a total of \$11.7 million.

Ms. Maticic stated that she is Co-Chair of an OKI Freight Working Group that is addressing the movement of goods and services in not only this entire region, but throughout the country. This includes water, air and ground transportation service to businesses and the community.

CEO'S REPORT

Ms. Shazor provided the Board members with a news article concerning Mr. Groth and his community efforts on behalf of SORTA. She also provided photos and news articles on the flood in Nashville, Tennessee. The transit system in Nashville had no access to its facilities for one week. They were very thankful that SORTA was able to provide vehicles to assist them.

Ms. Shazor then introduced Mr. Gaut from the Planning Department. Mr. Gaut provided key findings from a survey of American Public Transportation Association ("APTA") members about recent funding issues. This included a table that describes annual budgets, budget shortfalls, and the actions taken to resolve these funding shortages for a few transit systems in our region. Mr. Gaut also informed the Board of various geographic cuts in service by systems and pointed out that some systems have not yet recovered and are on their second and third rounds of cuts.

OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Maticic presented the action items from the Operations and Management Committee:

3. Proposed Resolution No. 2010-10: Appointment of Lamont Taylor as a Royal Coachman

Ms. Maticic moved for adoption and Dr. Gutsell seconded the motion. The Board thanked Mr. Taylor for his service to the Community.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2010-10.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Richardson asked if anyone had any new business. There being none, she stated that the June Board meeting would be held at the Bond Hill facility. Subsequent to the meeting, it was decided to delay this because the facility is not air-conditioned. Therefore, the next regular meeting

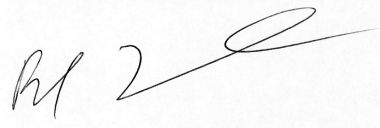
of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, June 15, 2010, 9:30 a.m., in the SORTA/Metro Board Room, 602 Main Street, Suite 1200, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Board meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

APPROVED:



Melody Sawyer Richardson
Chair



Barry E. Frank
Secretary-Treasurer