

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 2018, 6:00 P.M.
SORTA/ Metro
602 Main Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Heidi Black, Maurice Brown, Brendon Cull, Blake Ethridge, Allen Freeman, Robert Harris, Roderick Hinton, Thaddeus Hoffmeister, Kreg Keesee, Pete McLinden, Gwen Robinson, and Kathleen Wyenandt

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary Miller

STAFF MEMBERS: Dwight Ferrell, Donna Adkins, Al Bens, John Edmondson, Dave Etienne, Patrick Giblin, Paul Grether, Darryl Haley, Adriene Hairston, Sallie Hilvers, Mary Huller, Brandy Jones, Maria Jones, Mark McEwan, Ted Meyer, Mary Moning, Heather Morris, Jeff Mundstock, Julie Motsch, Demarcus Peters, John Ravasio, Cindy Resor, David Riposo, Ronald Salerno, Shannel Satterfield, TJ Thorn, and Mike Weil

OTHERS: Kimberly Schaefer (Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP), John Braine (City-DOTE), Troy Miller (ATU),

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Keesee, SORTA Board Chair, called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

HEARINGS FROM CITIZENS

Mr. Keesee asked if there were any citizens present who would like to address the Board.

See the attached for public comments

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 20, 2018 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Robinson made a motion that the minutes of the February 20th meeting be approved as previously mailed and Ms. Black seconded the motion.

By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ms. Black reported on the Finance Committee meeting that was held on March 13, 2018, and presented the following to the Board:

Proposed Resolution No. 2018-19: Approval of Excess Workers Compensation Insurance

Ms. Black moved for adoption and Mr. Brown seconded the motion. This resolution authorizes a one (1) year contract with Assured Partners on behalf of SORTA for excess workers compensation insurance for the period of April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019, at a cost not to exceed \$106,500. Also, approving expenses for additional premiums of \$18,500, as a result of anticipated audited wages for the prior year policy, bringing the total cost not to exceed \$125,000.

By roll call vote, the Board approved Resolution No. 2018-19.

Proposed Resolution No. 2018-20: Approval of the Preliminary 2019 Budget and City Funding Request

Ms. Black moved for adoption and Mr. Brown seconded the motion. This resolution approves the preliminary 2019 budget of \$100,044,405 and funding request to the City of Cincinnati of \$52,100,000 for operating purposes and an additional \$2,000,000 from reserves in order to balance the preliminary 2019 budget.

By roll call vote, the Board approved Resolution No. 2018-20.

PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Cull reported on the Planning and Operations Committee meeting that was held on March 13, 2018, and presented the following to the Board:

Proposed Resolution No. 2018-21: Acceptance of Fare Increase Public Meeting Comments and the Title VI Fare Increase Equity Analysis

Mr. Cull moved for adoption and Ms. Black seconded the motion. This resolution accepts the transcript of the December Public Meeting Comments and Summary, and the attached Title VI Service Equity Analysis. Also, the Title VI Fare Equity Analysis will be properly documented in the minutes of the SORTA Board meeting. Mr. Meyer will present details regarding the Title VI Survey Results at the Planning and Operations Committee in April.

By roll call vote, the Board approved Resolution No. 2018-21.

Proposed Resolution No. 2018-22: Approval of Extended Warranty for Streetcar Ticket Vending Machines (TVMs)

Ms. Black moved for adoption and Mr. Etheridge seconded the motion. This resolution approves a three (3) year contract with Genfare for the provision of extended warranties for nineteen (19) streetcar ticket vending machines, at a cost not to exceed \$190,171. He noted purchasing the extended warranty for the TVMs will minimize any repair costs for TVM components and will help to ensure that the TVMs are in good working order.

By roll call vote, the Board approved Resolution No. 2018-22.

Proposed Resolution No. 2018-23: Approval of Modification to Pest Control Services Contract

Mr. Cull moved for adoption and Ms. Black seconded the motion. This resolution approves a modified agreement between SORTA and Terminix Pest Control for recurring weekly service of insect treatment and bed bug eradication for shelters and benches at Government Square, for an additional cost of \$22,500, bringing the total contract cost not to exceed \$145,404.

By roll call vote, the Board approved Resolution No. 2018-23.

BRIEFING ITEMS**Monthly Financial Report for February 2018**

Mr. Riposo presented the February 2018 financial reports. Total revenues were \$7.8 million, which is favorable to budget by \$32,000. Total expenses were \$7.6 million, which is favorable to budget by \$207,000 or 2.7%. The final result was a net favorable variance of \$263,000 for the month. Fare revenue was favorable to budget by \$23,000 or 1.7% for the month. Mr. Riposo then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

He also presented the Cincinnati Bell Connector financial report for February 2018. Total revenues were \$299,210, which is unfavorable to budget by \$31,318 or 9%. Total expenses were \$320,160 which is favorable to budget by \$10,368 or 3%. The end result is a net unfavorable variance of \$20,950 for the month.

Mr. Riposo then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances. The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

Ridership Report for February 2018

Mr. McEwan presented the February 2018 ridership reports. Total ridership for the month of February was 1,092,444, which was below budget. On-time performance was 83.5% for local routes, against a goal of 88%. Local routes are carrying 18.7 passengers per hour, against a goal of 20.7 and express routes are carrying 13.9 passengers per trip, against a goal of 16.2. Missed Trips for the month was 222 against 60,570 total trips.

The February Access ridership report; total ridership for Access was 17,658, -2.6% below budget. On-time performance was 88.3% against a goal of 93.0%.

The Cincinnati Bell Connector ridership report for February 2018; total preliminary ridership was 22,428, 36.1% and 12,664 below budget. Average Headway (Peak/Off Peak) was 12:55/15:15 against a goal of 12:00/15:00.

The Board accepted the report as presented.

Rail Update for February 2018

Mr. Grether presented the February 2018 rail update. The report included safety metrics, marketing communications highlights, ridership & operations summaries, and the current fleet status. In February, 13 citations were issued.

February ridership summary includes: weekday ridership at 12,648 riders, Saturday's 6,130, and Sunday's ridership 3,650, with a preliminary total of 22,428 for the month of February. The key statistics for the streetcar, included trips scheduled (2,100), trips operated (1,852), missed trips (248), blockages (125), signal failures (2), close calls (12), TAA (20) and charters (0). Current fleet status: Vehicle 1177 out of service until further notice due to major incident on January 19, 2018; Vehicle 1179 out of service due to wheel issues.

The Board accepted the report as presented.

CEO BOARD UPDATE

Mr. Ferrell highlighted the Independent Financial Review being conducted by Ernst & Young for an in-depth review of SORTA's financial situation. The review began in February and is expected to end in May. He deferred the remaining contents of his report; stating information was available in the Board books.

The Board accepted the update as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Mark Saaman from the Better Bus Coalition presented a Rush Hour Pilot Project to the Board. This project designates the right lane on Main Street as a bus only lane during rush hour periods for the purpose of reducing traffic congestion. Mr. Saaman asked for the SORTA Board and staff to support the proposal by sending a letter of acknowledgement of support to the City of Cincinnati. The Board agreed and directed staff to send a letter of support.

Mr. Brown made a motion that the Board go into Executive Session, as provided in Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(4), "Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees," and Mr. Cull second the motion. By roll call vote the Board approved the motion and went into Executive Session at 7:25 P.M.

Mr. Brown made a motion that the Board return to regular session and Ms. Robinson second the motion. The Board approved the motion and returned to regular session at 7:50 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at 8:30 A.M., the SORTA/Metro Board Room, 602 Main Street, Suite 1200, Cincinnati, Ohio.

APPROVED:

ATTESTED:

Handwritten signature of Kreg Keese in black ink, consisting of the letters 'K', 'g', 'W', and 'K' in a stylized, cursive font.

Kreg Keese
Chair, SORTA Board

Handwritten signature of David A. Riposo in black ink, featuring a large, looped initial 'D' followed by 'A. Riposo' in a cursive script.

David A. Riposo
CFO/Secretary Treasurer