

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, February 19, 2013, 9:00 a.m.  
SORTA/Metro Mt. Adams Board Room  
602 Main Street, Suite 1200  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

**BOARD MEMBERS**

PRESENT: Frank Bowen; Suzanne Burke; Jason Dunn; Gregg Hothem; Ken Reed;  
Gwen Robinson; Lamont Taylor; Brandi Stewart; Brad Thomas

**BOARD MEMBERS**

ABSENT: Todd Cooper, William R. Mallory, Sr., Karl Schultz, Joe Zimmer

STAFF MEMBERS: Terry Garcia Crews; Donna Adkins; Perriann Allen; Bill Desmond;  
Shawn Donaghy; Jill Dunne; Ca'Sandra Erdman-Oncay; Inez Evans;  
Butch Gaut; Darryl Haley; Tim Harrington; Sallie Hilvers; Lou Ann Hock;  
Mary Moning; Mike Ongkiko; Wright Parkes; John Ravasio;  
Alex Reed; Mike Weil

OTHERS: Joe Curry, ERM Foundation; Tony Osterlund, Vorys Sater Seymour &  
Pease; Nick Sunyak, City of Cincinnati

ATU Local 627: See attached list

**CALL TO ORDER**

Suzanne Burke, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Reed made a motion that the minutes of the January 15, 2013, regular meeting be approved as previously mailed, and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. Ms. Stewart asked that her name be added to the list of board members present and also that the date be changed from 2012 to 2013. By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

Mr. Reed made a motion that the minutes of the January 25, 2013, special meeting be approved as previously mailed, and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. Ms. Stewart requested that she and Mr. Mallory be added to the minutes as participating in the meeting via phone. By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

**HEARINGS FROM CITIZENS**

Ms. Burke asked if there were any citizens who would like to address the board. Mr. Miller informed the board they would receive a letter in the mail soon inviting them to the ATU Local 627's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party on April 13th. Mr. Miller also explained that other union members were going to discuss the other topics that were referenced in the materials Mr. Hoskins distributed to the board.

Mr. Harper discussed the number of operators available on the board on Feb. 12 at Queensgate showed Metro had an abundance of manpower and it was not necessary for supervisors to drive that day.

Mr. Owens spoke of the fare structure issue with the numbers of riders we need to add fare put on farebox to count all ridership. Unclassified revenue does not have a key on the farebox to count passengers so ridership counts are not accurate.

Ms. McGlothlin stated on-time performance not accurate because if you are very late Metro can log you off.

Mr. Brown spoke about the attendance policy and questioned its accuracy.

Mr. Dunbar asked for a moment of silence for an operator who had passed away that morning. The attendance policy has affected everyone. He did not miss work for a year but had several recent instances of illness and doesn't think he should be punished because he was ill.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Personnel and Policies**

Ms. Robinson reported on the Personnel and Policies committee meeting on February 4.

### **Planning & Operations**

Proposed Resolution No. 2013-02: Approval of Agreement with Duke Energy for the Route 85 Riverfront Parking Shuttle

Mr. Reed moved for adoption, and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. This resolution approves a contract for 2013 (with options for 2014 and 2015) with Duke Energy for funding of the Rt. 85 Riverfront Parking Shuttle. The proposed cost for 2013 is \$230,377 and includes capital, an 18% overhead rate and is adjusted annually based on current cost of operations.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2013-02.

### **Finance Committee**

Proposed Resolution No. 2013-03: Approval of the 2023 Transit Plan, Service Changes and Release of Legal Notices and Authorization to Hold Public Meetings

Mr. Taylor moved for adoption, and Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. This resolution approves the SORTA Service Plan 2023 as a comprehensive and complete blueprint for achieving meaningful improvements to the fixed-route system and authorizes staff to conduct public meetings as needed.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2013-03.

## **FINANCIAL AND RIDERSHIP REPORT**

Ms. Hock reported on the preliminary financial results for 2012 and for January 2013. For the year, total revenues were about \$89.1 million, which was favorable to budget by \$127,000. Total expenses were about \$88.7 million, which was favorable to budget by \$190,000. Overall

for the year we are favorable to budget by about \$316,000.

For January 2013, total revenues were about \$7.9 million, unfavorable to budget by \$187,000. Total expenses were about \$7.6 million, which is favorable to budget by \$455,000 resulting in an overall net favorable variance for the month of about \$269,000.

Mr. Haley presented the ridership report. For January, ridership is 1% below January 2012 and 0.9% above budget.

### **CEO'S REPORT**

Ms. Crews updated the board on the Emergency Preparedness Exercise that occurred on February 13. The committee was impressed with Metro's handling of the situation and will be at the March board meeting to give a more extensive report on the exercise. She met with Commissioner Chris Monzel, and Alice Pavey of Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Services regarding migration of their clients to Access service. As requested by the Personnel & Policies Committee, the Attendance policy presentation was given to the board members in attendance. Results from the new policy will be shared with the board in 60 days. A video was shown on Metro's 2012 accomplishments.

Ms. Crews then reported on the Strategic Priorities. There are a total of 117 tactics; 44 (38%) are completed, with 66 currently on-plan.

Ms. Evans reported on Performance Indicators for fixed route and paratransit service.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Reed 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 . . . concerning disputes that are the subject of pending or imminent court action . . .". Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved the motion and went into Executive Session at 10:10 a.m.

Mr. Reed made a motion that the Board return to regular session, and Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion and returned to regular session at 10:35 a.m.

#### **Proposed Resolution No. 2013-04: Approval of Amendment to Article B of the City/SORTA Agreement**

Ms. Robinson moved for adoption, and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. This resolution approves the adoption of this Agreement upon definition of "transit purposes" as set forth in the Amendment to Article B, Section 8, of the City/SORTA Agreement. The resolution further authorizes legal counsel to dismiss with prejudice the pending lawsuit between SORTA and the City of Cincinnati upon receipt of the properly executed Amendment to Article B of the City/SORTA Agreement.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2013-04.

#### **Proposed Resolution No. 2013-05: Approval of Revised First Amendment to Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Cincinnati**

Mr. Reed moved for adoption, and Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. This resolution approves

the revised First Amendment to Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Cincinnati by deleting the language “from sources other than the transit fund” from Section 5, paragraph D.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2013-05.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Stewart expressed her appreciation for Mr. Osterlund’s assistance with resolving the Amendment to Article B in the City/SORTA Agreement and the First Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Cincinnati.

Ms. Robinson stated the Personnel and Policies Committee would be scheduling meetings soon. She will meet with Chair Suzanne Burke to finalize committee responsibilities. She also expressed her opinion that Human Resources should be “owners” of the policy and they should pay attention to the dollars expended due to absenteeism.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board is scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, at 9:00 a.m. in the SORTA/Metro Board Room, 602 Main Street, Suite 1200, Cincinnati, Ohio.

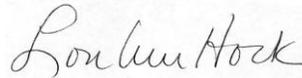
The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

APPROVED:



Suzanne Burke  
Chair

ATTESTED:



Lou Ann Hock  
CFO/Secretary-Treasurer