

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

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

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Suzanne Burke; Todd Cooper; Jason Dunn; Gregg Hothem; Ken Reed;
Gwen Robinson; Karl Schultz; Brandi Stewart; Brad Thomas; Joe Zimmer

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT: Frank Bowen; William R. Mallory, Sr.; Lamont Taylor

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

OTHERS: Lee Foster, Armada; Lt. Brent Isaacs, Cincinnati Police Department; Sgt.
Julie Johnson; Shannon Kettler, WCPO; Troy Hoskins, ATU Local 627;
Troy Miller, ATU Local 627; Chris Moran, League of Women Voters; Reco
Owens, ATU Local 627; Andrew Setters, WLWT; Nick Sunyak, City of
Cincinnati; WCRC; WXIX

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENTATIONS: CEO STAR Awards and Proclamation to ATU

Ms. Crews acknowledged bus operators Ella Holloway and Dianne Wyly who, in two different instances, noticed a small child walking alone on the sidewalk, not properly dressed for the cold weather. Both stopped their buses, brought the child on board and called for assistance. Without their quick action, the children could have wandered into traffic or suffered injuries from the cold. Ms. Holloway and Ms. Wyly were both presented with the CEO STAR (Service That Attracts Recognition) award for their exemplary service to Metro and the community. Lt. Isaacs thanked Metro for being a strong partner and for their strong tradition of working with the Cincinnati Police Department. Sgt. Johnson congratulated the bus operators for saving the children's lives as both were found on busy streets.

Ms. Crews then presented Union President Troy Miller and Vice President Reco Owens with a proclamation from Metro congratulating the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 627 on their 100th anniversary. A celebration dinner is being held at the Millennium Hotel on Saturday, April 13th.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Hothem made a motion that the minutes of the February 19, 2013, regular meeting be approved as previously mailed, and Mr. Schultz seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

HEARINGS FROM CITIZENS

Ms. Burke asked if there were any citizens present who would like to address the board. There were none.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**Community & Government Relations Committee**

Ms. Stewart provided the report from the committee's meeting on March 11 which included a strategic communications advertising update and a legislative update from Ms. Hilvers. Ms. Crews stated that she and board members Ken Reed and Lamont Taylor traveled to Washington DC the previous week for APTA's Legislative Conference where they met with members of Ohio's Congressional delegation. These meetings went well, and the conversations were productive.

Proposed Resolution No. 2013-06: Approval of Contract for Advertising Agency of Record

Mr. Hothem moved for adoption, and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. This resolution approves a two-year contract (with an option for a third year) with Powers Agency for advertising agency services at a total cost not to exceed \$390,000 for year one and \$400,000 for year two.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2013-06.

FINANCIAL AND RIDERSHIP REPORT (FEBRUARY)

This information is included in the board books each month with verbal reports being presented quarterly.

CEO'S REPORT

Ms. Crews provided an update to the board regarding major projects such as the transit plan, Uptown Transit District, ridership development and Eastern Corridor. Overall absenteeism during February 2013 was 12.9%, compared to 17% for February 2012. Plans are being made for Metro's 40th anniversary with a celebration on Fountain Square on August 15 and a possible recognition luncheon on August 16. Metro was recognized at the Greater Cincinnati Convention Visitors Bureau annual luncheon for their work supporting the World Choir Games. Ms. Crews also made presentations at the Green Business Council and the OKI Regional Planning Forum (with Andy Aiello, TANK's General Manager).

Mr. Weil then introduced Lee Foster from Armada who debriefed the board on Metro's full-scale security exercise in February. The exercise was a success and Metro employees performed very well.

Ms. Hock provided an update of the proposed Administration building planned at Queensgate should grant funds be secured to pay for construction. The building would have three stories and 34,000 square feet of office space, with extra space available for future expansion if needed. The Training Department would move out of their trailer currently located at Queensgate into the new building.

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 . . .” and Section 121.22(G)(1), “to consider...compensation of a public employee...” and also for purposes of “investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee...” and Mr. Dunn seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved the motion and went into Executive Session at 9:47 a.m.

Mr. Reed made a motion that the Board return to regular session, and Mr. Zimmer seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion and returned to regular session at 11:30 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16, at 9:00 a.m. in the SORTA/Metro Board Room, 602 Main Street, Suite 1200, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

APPROVED:



Suzanne Burke
Chair