

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, October 21, 2014, 9:00 a.m.  
SORTA/Metro Mt. Adams Board Room  
602 Main Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Frank Bowen, Jason Dunn, Brennan Grayson, Gregg Hothem, Kreg Keesee, Ken Reed, Gwen Robinson, Daniel St. Charles, Brad Thomas

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT: Karl Schultz, Lamont Taylor,

STAFF MEMBERS: Darryl Haley, Donna Adkins, Matt Conover, Bill Desmond, Shawn Donaghy, Butch Gaut, Paul Grether, Jennifer Haines, Sallie Hilvers, Arnold Isham, Kim Lahman, Wright Parkes, John Ravasio, Mike Restle, Carlos Rowland, Frank Spataro

OTHERS: Nick Sunyak, City of Cincinnati; Troy Miller, ATU Local 627 President; Inga McGlothin, ATU Local 627 Recording Secretary; Anthony Whithington, ATU International

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLIGANCE**

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

**OATHS OF OFFICE: Jack Painter and Daniel St. Charles**

Mr. Desmond administered the oath of office to new SORTA board members Jack Painter and Daniel St. Charles.

**STAR AWARD PRESENTATION**

Mr. Haley presented a STAR Award to Metro Operator Jontay Love for going above and beyond the call of duty on Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup> while on his route in Avondale. Mr. Love stopped his vehicle after he noticed a young man on the side of the street yelling for help. Mr. Love exited his vehicle to assist the victim who had been shot and waited with the young man until police arrived.

**HEARINGS FROM CITIZENS**

Mr. Dunn asked if there were any citizens present who would like to address the board. Mr. Miller wanted to notify the Board of the number of arbitrations over the past three years, and brought a document concerning attendance that was given to him by Metro Human Resources. Mr. Miller also introduced Anthony Whithington from the ATU International.

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2014 REGULAR MINUTES**

Mr. Thomas made a motion that the minutes of the September 16, 2014, regular meeting be approved as previously mailed, and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS****Planning & Operations**

Mr. Thomas reported on the Planning and Operations Committee meeting held on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 and Mr. Thomas then proposed the following resolutions for board approval:

**Proposed Resolution No. 2014-32: Purchase of Operators' and Supervisors' Uniforms**

Mr. Bowen moved for adoption and Mr. Hothem seconded the motion. SORTA requires bus operators, supervisors, dispatchers and clerks to be in an approved uniform. The Memorandum of Agreement between SORTA and the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), requires SORTA to provide \$280 to each operator, clerk, supervisor, and dispatcher for uniforms. This amount increases to \$290 in 2015. Staff estimates a 3% increase in 2016 and 2017. There are approximately 516 employees in these positions, plus expected turnover. Three (3) proposers submitted offers for the operators' and supervisors' uniforms. Two (2) of these three (3) firms submitted alternative proposals as well. Staff recommends that the SORTA Board of Trustees award a three-year contract for uniforms for operators, supervisors, dispatchers and clerks to Galls Inc. at a total cost not to exceed \$511,821.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2014-32.

**Proposed Resolution No. 2014-33: Approval of Sam's Club Park & Ride Amendment**

Mr. Reed moved for adoption and Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. The Sam's Club on North Bend Road at I-74 has been a well-utilized park and ride for 18 years, beginning in 1996. Counts at this location indicate that over 150 people use this park and ride on a daily basis. The current agreement expired September 30, 2014 and Wal-Mart/Sam's Club has agreed to extend it for an additional year, with no additional cost to September 30, 2015. All other terms and conditions of the agreement will remain the same. Staff recommends that the agreement with Wal-Mart/Sam's Club be amended to extend the term through September 30, 2015, at a total cost not exceed \$32,760.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2014-33.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Hothem reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on Monday, October 20, 2014.

Mr. Bowen wanted to publicly thank the staff for their hard work during the budget process.

Mr. Hothm then proposed the following resolution for board approval:

**Proposed Resolution No. 2014-34:** Approval of the 2015-2016 Budgets and the 2015-2016 Biennial Funding Request

Mr. Hothem moved for adoption and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. This resolution approves the 2015 budget of \$110,224,759 (\$93,594,680 operating and \$16,630,079 capital) and the 2016 budget of \$109,732,762 (\$95,163,035 operating and \$14,569,727 capital) and requests the City of Cincinnati to provide funding for calendar years 2015 and 2016 in the amount of \$49,800,000 and \$51,822,000 respectively.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2014-34.

**FINANCIAL AND RIDERSHIP REPORTS (SEPTEMBER)**

Mr. Restle presented the Monthly Financial Report for September, noting an overall favorable budget of \$288,000. Total revenues were favorable due primarily to higher fare revenue as a result of higher ridership and an increase in average fare per ride. Total Expenses were also favorable to budget due to lower wages & benefits, fuel, parts & supplies, utilities and lower liability claims. Mr. Restle further noted that overall financial results year to date are favorable to budget by about \$1.4 million through September.

Mr. Conover presented the ridership reports noting that overall ridership was down for the third quarter, local routes were up, express routes were down, student ridership was down, paratransit is up, University of Cincinnati is down, Cincinnati State is down, fare deal is down and Metro Plus is up.

Ms. Lahman updated the Board on Metro's Young Professionals Outreach program that Metro partnered with CincyYP and Give Back Cincinnati. The entertainment bus provided more than 300 rides, 30-day car-free challenge received more than 70 commitments, and Cincinnati Parks and the Amazing Race & Ride competition received positive feedback. Metro is continuing to reach out to seniors through presentations at residential facilities.

**CEO'S REPORT**

Mr. Haley presented the CEO's update highlighting the CEO recruitment efforts, streetcar branding process, ArtWorks shelters, Holly Jolly/Santa Trolley, upcoming procurement workshops, economic inclusion vendor fairs, biometric screenings, the John W. Blanton Internship Program and Metro's annual meeting coming up in December.

**STREETCAR UPDATE**

Mr. Grether provided a Streetcar Update. Mr. Grether noted that the operating agreement draft is supposed to be reviewed by the City by the end of October, and presented to the SORTA Board in November.

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS UPDATE**

Mr. Donaghy presented the Performance Indicators. Metro's on-time performance is slightly below goal for year to date, customer complaints are below goal year to date, preventable accidents are below goal for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, but above for the year to date. Mechanical service interruptions are above goal year to date and Access on-time performance and productivity is above year to date goals.

**NEW BUSINESS**

No new business to report.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18, 2014, at 9:00 a.m., the SORTA/Metro Board Room, 602 Main Street, Suite 1200, Cincinnati, Ohio.

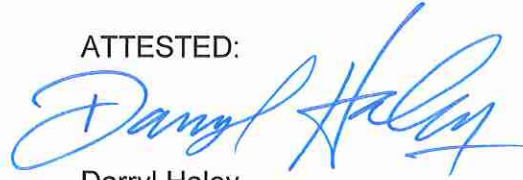
The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

APPROVED:



Jason Dunn  
Chair, SORTA Board

ATTESTED:



Darryl Haley  
Interim CEO & General Manager