

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, August 18, 2015, 9:00 a.m.
SORTA/Metro Mt. Adams Board Room
602 Main Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Jason Dunn, Frank Bowen, Brendon Cull, Kreg Keesee, Ron Mosby, Jack Painter, Ken Reed, Karl Schultz, Daniel St. Charles, Brad Thomas

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT: Maurice Brown, Gregg Hothem, Gwen Robinson

STAFF MEMBERS: Dwight Ferrell, Donna Adkins, Daron Brown, Matt Conover, Deb Drayton, Butch Gaut, Paul Grether, Jennifer Haines, Darryl Haley, Sallie Hilvers, Mary Huller, Kim Lahman, Mary Moning, Wright Parkes, John Ravasio, Alan Solomon, Frank Spataro, Vance Thomas, Randy Weaver, Paul Williams

OTHERS: Nick Sunyak, City of Cincinnati; Rich Bohon, Step Resources; Troy Miller, ATU Local 627; Joe Vogel, AECOM Cincinnati

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLIGANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

HEARINGS FROM CITIZENS

Mr. Dunn asked if there were any citizens present who would like to address the board; there were none.

APPROVAL OF JULY 21, 2015 REGULAR MINUTES

Mr. Thomas made a motion that the minutes of the July 21, 2015 regular meeting be approved as previously mailed, and Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Keesee reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on Thursday, August 13, 2015 and proposed the following resolution to the Board for approval:

Proposed Resolution No. 2015-23: Approval to Purchase Electricity September 2015 – August 2018 (*)

Mr. Mosby moved for adoption and Mr. Painter seconded the motion. SORTA currently contracts with Dynegy at a fixed cost rate per kWh. The current contract for .0503 per kWh expires in September 2015. Change is needed to better manage electricity by balancing supply and risk in an environment: with highly volatile electricity pricing – pricing changes hourly, multiple suppliers, and multiple products. SORTA's proposed new approach is a competitive process with multiple suppliers. Staff recommends that the SORTA Board of Trustees authorize the CEO/General Manager, Executive VP, Deputy General Manager or the Director of Procurement to utilize the new proposed energy policy to enter into contracts for electricity for the period of September 2015 through August 2018 for the cost of electricity and related delivery cost fees not to exceed \$3,818,256 for a period of up to three (3) years.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2015-23.

Planning and Operations Committee

Mr. Thomas reported on the Planning and Operations Committee meeting held on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, and proposed the following resolutions to the Board for approval:

Proposed Resolution No. 2015-21: Approval of Contract for Garage Door Maintenance

Mr. Reed moved for adoption and Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. SORTA has 132 doors across three garages that need preventative maintenance and repairs. A solicitation was publicly advertised and sent to 19 potential bidders. Two (2) bids were received: one for \$110,972, and the other from Bushelman Supply Company for \$81,600. The bid from Bushelman was the lowest responsible bid from a responsible bidder and is recommended for the contract award. Total cost not to exceed is \$239,027, which consists of \$81,600 for preventative maintenance and \$157,427 for break-fix repairs. Staff recommends that SORTA enter into a two (2) year contract with Bushelman Supply Company for the provision of garage door maintenance and repairs at a total cost not to exceed \$239,027.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2015-21.

Proposed Resolution No. 2015-22: Approval of Contract for Mobile Electronic Equipment Maintenance

Mr. Reed moved for adoption and Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. SORTA currently operates 352 buses and 53 Access vehicles equipped with various electronic equipment that needs to be installed, repaired, removed and/or maintained. A detailed scope of work was developed by a team of key personnel from Maintenance, Transportation and Procurement that included estimates of both preventative maintenance requirements and expected repairs. A request for proposal was sent to 12 potential vendors. The proposal/final offer of Black Bear Radio, Inc. has been determined to be the most advantageous to SORTA, price and other factors considered. Staff recommends that SORTA enter into a five (5) year contract with Black Bear Radio, Inc. for the preventative maintenance, repair, removal and/or installation of SORTA's mobile electronic and fixed site equipment at a cost not to exceed \$880,000.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2015-22.

Executive Committee

Mr. Dunn reported on the Executive Committee meeting held on Thursday, August 6, 2015, and proposed the following motion to the Board for approval:

Proposed Motion: Metro Task Force

Mr. Schultz moved for adoption and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. SORTA needs help planning for the future of public transportation in Cincinnati. The Metro Task Force would be a panel of community leaders to thoroughly, transparently and inclusively provide advice and input to SORTA regarding: How is Metro serving the needs of this region?; What are current unmet transit needs of this region?; and How does Metro service need to change to meet future public transportation needs? The task force will convene in August 2015 and hold six to seven meetings, including listening sessions. A report and recommendations will be presented to SORTA in late 2015 or early 2016.

Mr. Painter suggested that the task force have someone who can give the Board vision on how technology will change transportation and put Metro ahead of the game from a technology standpoint.

By roll call vote, the Board approved Motion.

RIDERSHIP REPORTS FOR JUNE 2015

Mr. Conover presented the June ridership report. Mr. Conover stated that regular service for the month was under budget by 3.9%, student ridership was under budget by 6.1%, total fixed route was under budget by 4.1%, and paratransit ridership was over budget by 6.8%. On a year to date basis, total ridership was under budget by 5.1%. Mr. Conover also discussed ridership variances in Express Service vs. Local Service, and he presented graphs depicting trends in ridership by month for various categories including fixed route, students, paratransit, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati State, and Fare Deal.

The Board discussed various reasons or explanations of possible decreased ridership. Mr. Mosby asked that staff keep track of events that could impact ridership.

FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR JUNE 2015

Mr. Solomon presented the June financial report. Total passenger fares were unfavorable to budget by \$105,000 and year to date unfavorable by \$538,000. Total revenues were \$7.6 million, which is favorable to budget by \$65,000, or 0.9%. Total expenses were \$7.4 million, which is favorable to budget by \$138,000, or 1.8%. The end result is a net favorable variance for the month of \$203,000 and \$745,000 favorable year to date. Mr. Solomon then reviewed with the Board the significant contributing factors to these variances.

Mr. Painter asked if staff could provide a report showing cost per passenger mile and asked if the report could show a 3 month and a 12 month rolling average. Mr. Ferrell noted that we are using AECOM to help create various ridership standards and that staff will then bring performance measurements back to the Board for their approval.

BOARD UPDATE

Mr. Ferrell introduced Senior Vice President of Operations, Mr. Randal Weaver to the Board and acknowledged Mr. Haley and his staff for their help in increasing advertising revenue. Mr. Ferrell then updated the Board on the ticket vending machines (TVM) for Streetcar, real-time web and phone information, Macy's Kids Festival, Cincinnati Music Festival and ADA 25th anniversary walk. Mr. Ferrell briefly highlighted his Face Time with Dwight meetings, millennial council, Metro's upcoming career day, recent staffing changes, and highlighted that Metro had over 50 commendations, mostly related to attitude and customer care.

Mr. Weaver introduced himself to the Board and gave a brief background on himself.

STREETCAR UPDATE

Mr. Grether provided a streetcar update noting that staff executed two new task order contracts for operations and maintenance. Mr. Grether also gave brief updates on the upcoming occupancy of the maintenance and operations facility (MOF), fare equipment, safety and security certification and noted that we are working with the City on operations and maintenance funding. Mr. Grether also noted that we are working with CAF USA on getting a more detailed delivery schedule.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Mosby wanted to add that he feels transportation in Cincinnati is a little more complex than in other various cities. Mr. Mosby would like to know what we are going to use as parameters on what we are going to look at and that we need to look at multiple factors. Mr. Dunn agreed and Mr. Reed noted that we are all looking for those same answers, including staff.

Mr. Dunn wanted to acknowledge Mr. Williams and wanted to thank Mr. Williams for his participation in the 122nd Imperial Queen City Cultural Celebration.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2015, at 9:00 a.m., the SORTA/Metro Board Room, 602 Main Street, Suite 1200, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mr. Reed made a motion that the meeting be adjourned and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. The Board approved by motion by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

APPROVED:



Jason Dunn
Chair, SORTA Board

ATTESTED:



Dwight Ferrell
CEO & General Manager