

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, January 20, 2015, 9:00 a.m.
SORTA/Metro Mt. Adams Board Room
602 Main Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Frank Bowen, Brendon Cull, Jason Dunn, Brennan Grayson, Gregg Hothem, Kreg Keesee, Ken Reed, Karl Schultz, Daniel St. Charles, Lamont Taylor, Brad Thomas

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT: Jack Painter, Gwen Robinson

STAFF MEMBERS: Donna Adkins, Shawn Donaghy, Dwight Ferrell, Paul Grether, Darryl Haley, Sallie Hilvers, Mary Moning, Wright Parkes, John Ravasio, Alex Reed, Mike Restle, Frank Spataro, Terri Stevens

OTHERS: Nick Sunyak, City of Cincinnati; Troy Miller, ATU Local 627; Delrico Collins, ATU Local #627, Nick Vehr, Vehr Communications; Darcy Little, Vehr Communications; Anthony Osterlund, Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease; Phil Castellini, Cincinnati Reds; Don Mills, Ohio River Way

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 for a moment of silence for the tragedy on I-75 this morning and all involved.

Mr. Dunn asked if there were any citizens present who would like to address the board. Mr. Phil Castellini from the Cincinnati Reds presented a formal request to use the Transit Center for the Home Run Derby and All Star Game that will be held in July, 2015.

Mr. Troy Miller from ATU Local 627 introduced Delrico Collins, Union Steward from Access, to the Board. Mr. Miller also stated that the union is ready to move forward with negotiating for the streetcar.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 9, 2014 REGULAR MINUTES

Mr. Thomas made a motion that the minutes of the December 9, 2014 regular meeting be approved as previously mailed, and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**Governance and Nominating Committee**

Mr. Taylor reported that the Governance and Nominating Committee met on Tuesday, January 14, 2015 and unanimously agreed to nominate Mr. Dunn as Chair and Mr. Reed as Vice Chair for the coming year. Mr. Dunn then asked for further nominations from the floor; none were received. Mr. Bowen made a motion that the nominations be closed and Mr. Schultz seconded the motion.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Mr. Dunn as Chair and Mr. Reed as Vice Chair for the 2015 year.

Planning and Operations Committee

Mr. Thomas reported on the Planning and Operations Committee meeting held on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 and proposed the following motion and resolutions for board approval:

Proposed Motion: All Star Game

Mr. Thomas moved for adoption and Mr. Schultz seconded the motion. The All Star Game will be held in Cincinnati on July 14, 2015. Staff recommends that the SORTA Board approve a motion to affirm its support of the efforts of Major League Baseball and the Cincinnati Reds to bring the All Star Game to Cincinnati. To enhance security and increase mobility for the event, SORTA would also pledge use of the Riverfront Transit Center for event staging and charter use, in cooperation with the City of Cincinnati.

By roll call vote, the Board approved the Motion.

Proposed Resolution No. 2015-01: Approval of Contract for Radiator Repair and Recore

Mr. Thomas moved for adoption and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. An Invitation for Bid for radiator repair and recore services was developed by Maintenance staff and sent to eight (8) potential vendors. Two (2) responses were received. Staff recommends the Board accept the bid submitted by D & R Radiator for a five (5) year contract at a total estimated cost not to exceed \$555,000.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2015-01.

Proposed Resolution No. 2015-02: Approval of Contract for HVAC Upgrade

Mr. Thomas moved for adoption and Mr. Grayson seconded the motion. In 2013 the SORTA Board awarded a contract to Artic Heating and Air Conditioning (Artic) for the upgrade of the HVAC system at the Bond Hill Maintenance Facility. Due to funding limitations, upgrades to HVAC Unit No. 9 were not included in that contract. Funding has now been identified for the upgrades to Unit No. 9 and staff recommends a contract be awarded to Artic to perform the upgrades at a cost of \$158,900, plus a contingency of \$8,500 for any unexpected costs.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2015-02.

Proposed Resolution No. 2015-03: Approval of Contract for Strategic Public Relations Services

Mr. Keesee moved for adoption and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. To support the implementation of SORTA's Strategic Plan, Metro requires strategic public relations services. The current contract with Vehr Communications expires on January 31, 2015, and includes a provision for an optional second year. SORTA staff recommends that the Board approve a one-year extension of the current contract with Vehr Communications at a total cost not to exceed \$100,000 through January 31, 2016.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2015-03.

Finance Committee

Mr. Hothem reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on Thursday, January 15, 2015. The Internal Audit Report on Dispatch and Payroll was reviewed as well as the update from past audits. The Committee also approved the internal audit plan for 2015. Mr. Restle presented the fuel hedging report, noting that based on current prices it is likely Metro will experience hedging losses in 2015.

DECEMBER RIDERSHIP REPORTS

Mr. Haley presented the December year to date ridership report. A discussion of the report ensued concerning student ridership and Mr. Haley will report back on the questions raised.

STREETCAR UPDATE

Mr. Grether provided a Streetcar Update noting that proposals for the operations and maintenance of the streetcar are due March 3rd. An amendment to the IGA to include equipment is anticipated to be brought to the Board in March. Installation of the OCS wire will begin the end of January.

2014 YEAR IN REVIEW VIDEO

Mr. Alex Reed presented a 2014 Year in Review video to the Board. The Board thanked Mr. Reed for the presentation.

CEO'S REPORT

Mr. Ferrell thanked the Board for the opportunity to lead Metro. He has met with staff, union leaders, drivers, and mechanics during his first week here. Goals for 2015 will include improving the process for reporting on financials, ridership and overall performance of the system. His first 100 days will be spent meeting with elected officials, individual board members and staff. At the end of this period, he will present any recommendations to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business to report.

NEXT MEETING

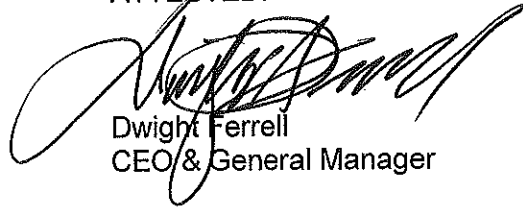
The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, February 17, 2015, at 9:00 a.m., the SORTA/Metro Board Room, 602 Main Street, Suite 1200, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVED:


Jason Dunn
Chair, SORTA Board

ATTESTED:


Dwight Ferrell
CEO & General Manager