

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, August 16th, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
SORTA/Metro Mt. Adams Board Room
602 Main Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Jason Dunn, Maurice Brown, Brendon Cull, Ron Mosby, Ken Reed, Karl Schultz, Daniel St. Charles, Brad Thomas

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT: Kreg Keesee, Mary Miller, Gwen Robinson

STAFF MEMBERS: Dwight Ferrell, Donna Adkins, Saunta Anderson, Phil Beiting, Michelle Cantor, Matt Conover, David Churchill, Bill Desmond, Chachi Ederivel, Sheena Edwards, Butch Gaut, Paul Grether, Maria Jones, Olivia Jones, Mary Moning, Matt Moorman, Wright Parkes, Demarcus Peters, John Ravasio, Shannel Satterfield, Alan Solomon, Thomas Stringer, Deanna Tinsley, Steve Wilson

OTHERS: Pat LaFleur; WPCO , Troy Miller; ATU Local 627, Darcy Schwass; Vehr Communications, Robert Shuemak; Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities, David Shuey and Brandon Flessner; OKI, Nick Sunyak; City of Cincinnati, Noel Prows

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. Troy Miller, ATU President, spoke regarding the cost of living wage ordinance passed by the City of Cincinnati. He asked if bus operators would see a wage increase as well.

Robert Shuemak an advocate from Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities addressed the Board. He has been a longtime rider and wanted to commend SORTA for their work.

APPROVAL OF JULY 19, 2016 REGUAR MINUTES

Mr. Schultz made a motion that the minutes of the July 19, 2016 regular meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

Strategic Planning Committee

Mr. Reed reported on the Strategic Planning Committee and explained that a resolution will be proposed during the September Board meeting to approve the Tier 1 Scorecard. Ms. Moning provided an overview on how the Tier 1 Scorecard was developed, including the Tier 1 strategy

map, measures, and initiatives. She thanked the Committee, staff, and ATU leadership for their work during the strategic plan process.

Demonstration of OKI Data Application

Mr. Stringer introduced the Board to David Shuey, OKI Division Manager, and Brandon Flessner, OKI Software Developer. Mr. Shuey provided a demonstration of the OKI Transit Analyst application and explained it had been developed using wage, demographic, and employment data to provide SORTA with the ability to evaluate an existing route, a single stop, or evaluate potential ridership on a new route.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Mr. Mosby reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on August 9, 2016 and proposed the following to the Board for approval:

Proposed Resolution No. 2016-28: Approval of Contract for Risk Management Information System

Mr. Mosby moved for adoption and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. This resolution approves a contract for risk management information system (RMIS) software with Computer Science Corporation (CSC) for a five (5) year contract with an option for an additional five (5) year term at a total cost not to exceed \$227,750. By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2016-28.

Monthly Financial Report

Mr. Solomon presented the June 2016 financial report. Total revenues were \$7.4 million, which is unfavorable to budget by \$75,000 or 1.0%. Total expenses were \$7.7 million, which is unfavorable to budget by \$211,000 or 2.8%. Budgeted prior years reserves of \$43,000 were used in June. The end result was a net unfavorable variance of \$286,000 for the month. Fare revenue was unfavorable to budget by \$119,000 or 6.8% for the month due to ridership being 6.0% under budget. Mr. Solomon then reviewed with the committee the significant contributing factors to these variances.

Mr. Dunn noted that SORTA is facing significant revenue issues. He yielded the floor to Mr. Ferrell. Mr. Ferrell explained that staff has been taking a look at every expense in order to minimize the need to go into reserves; this includes local capital projects as well as staffing needs. A hiring freeze has been placed in effect at SORTA, with the exception of bus operators and maintenance employees. Mr. Ferrell noted that there are positions both vacant and filled that may be able to be eliminated in 2016. He also explained that service is not as robust as it was prior to cuts in 2009, making it necessary for customers to find other choices.

Ridership Report for June 2016

Mr. Stringer provided the June 2016 ridership report and stated that total ridership was 1,130,453, which was 6.6% below projections. On-time performance was 87.2% for local routes, against a goal of 88%. Local routes are carrying 20.2 passengers per hour, against a goal of 20.7 and express routes are carrying 15.4 passengers per trip against a goal of 16.2. Mr. Stringer also presented the June Access ridership report and noted that total ridership for Access was 18,599 in June, flat from projections. Year-to-date Access ridership was up 6.2% or 13,527 rides. On-time performance was 96.2% against a goal of 93%.

CincyEZ Ride: Mobile Ticketing Application

Mr. Beiting noted that the CincyEZ Ride application is on schedule to launch September 1, prior to the grand opening of the Cincinnati Streetcar. He showed a short video, which demonstrated the look of the application, and explained how it will function.

RAIL REPORT

Mr. Grether provided the August update for the Cincinnati Streetcar. He noted that pre-revenue service has begun and that streetcar operators have picked their runs and schedules. Mr. Grether also discussed the Safety and Security Certification Verification Report, which the FTA and ODOT will sign off on prior to revenue service. The grand opening has been scheduled for Friday, September 9th at 10:30 a.m. in Washington Park.

Planning & Operations Committee

Mr. Thomas reported on the Planning & Operations Committee meeting held on August 9, 2016 and proposed the following to the Board for approval:

Proposed Resolution No. 2016-29: **Approval of Communications Tower Land Lease Renewal**

Mr. Schultz moved for adoption and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. This resolution approves a five (5) year lease with Duke Energy to lease real estate located at 670 North Bend Road, Cincinnati, OH 45216 ("the Valley View Site") at a total cost not to exceed \$60,000. By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2016-29.

Proposed Resolution No. 2016-30: **Approval of Title VI Fare & Equity Analysis Report**

Mr. Thomas moved for adoption and Mr. Cull seconded the motion. This resolution approves the results of the Title VI Fare & Equity Analysis for the Mobile Ticketing Application, which was conducted to ensure that there was no disparate impact or disproportionate burden on low-income and/or minority individuals currently utilizing Metro's services as a result of the mobile ticketing application. By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2016-30.

Proposed Resolution No. 2016-31: **Approval of Lease Agreement with Sam's Club**

Mr. Thomas moved for adoption and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. This resolution approves a two (2) year lease extension with Wal-mart/Sam's Club to lease one-hundred and fifty-six (156) park and ride spaces at 5375 North Bend Road, Cincinnati, OH 45247 at a total cost not to exceed \$65,520 (\$32,760 per year). By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2016-31.

Proposed Resolution No. 2016-32: **Approval of Lease Agreement with Kenwood Baptist Church**

Mr. Schultz moved for adoption and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. This resolution approves a three (3) year lease agreement with Kenwood Baptist Church to lease seventy-five (75) park and ride spaces at, located at 8341 Kenwood Road, Cincinnati, OH 45235, for a total cost not to exceed \$18,000 (\$6,000 per year). By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2016-32.

BOARD UPDATE

Mr. Ferrell thanked the members of the Millennial Council for attending the committee and Board meetings, as well as providing feedback to the Board members. Due to time constraints, Mr. Ferrell did not give an oral presentation, but his written August 2016 update was provided to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Thomas moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Schultz seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, September 20th, 2016 at 9:00 a.m., the SORTA/Metro Board Room, 602 Main Street, Suite 1200, Cincinnati, Ohio.

APPROVED:



Jason Dunn
Chair, SORTA Board

ATTESTED:



Dwight Ferrell
CEO & General Manager