

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 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, Kreg Keesee, Mary Miller, Ron Mosby, Jack Painter, Ken Reed, Gwen Robinson, Karl Schultz, Daniel St. Charles, Brad Thomas

BOARD MEMBERS  
ABSENT: Gregg Hothem

STAFF MEMBERS: Dwight Ferrell, Donna Adkins, Michelle Cantor, Bill Desmond, Dave Etienne, Butch Gaut, Paul Grether, Darry Haley, Tim Harrington, Sallie Hilvers, Brandy Jones, Olivia Jones, Kim Lahman, Mary Moning, Wright Parkes, Sean O'Leary, John Ravasio, Alan Solomon

OTHERS: Troy Miller, Frank Harper, Sheena Edwards, ATU Local 627; Robert Shuemak, Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities; Nick Sunyak; City of Cincinnati, Laure Quinlivan; LQ Consulting, Bob Herring; Citizen

**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 JANUARY 16, 2016 REGULAR MINUTES**

Mr. Keesee made a motion that the minutes of the January 16, 2016 regular meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance Committee**

Mr. St. Charles reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on February 9, 2016.

**Planning and Operations Committee**

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

**Proposed Resolution No. 2016-04: Approval of Seventh Amendment to the Streetcar Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Cincinnati**

Mr. Schultz moved for adoption and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. This resolution approves the Seventh Amendment of the Streetcar IGA with the City of Cincinnati, which includes \$100,000 for purchases by SORTA of miscellaneous tools and equipment. These funds are a combination of City of Streetcar capital funds and Federal Transit Administration capital funds.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2016-04.

**Proposed Resolution No. 2016-05: Approval of Streetcar Operating Budget and Hours of Service**

Mr. Thomas moved for adoption and Ms. Miller seconded the motion. This resolution approves the transmittal of the Fiscal Year 2017 Streetcar Operations & Maintenance Budget for a total of \$2,831,689.67 to the City of Cincinnati. Per the Cincinnati Streetcar Operations and Maintenance Intergovernmental Agreement (OMIGA), SORTA must submit an annual operating and maintenance budget for the Cincinnati Streetcar to be approved and appropriated by the City no later than two months before the start of its fiscal year. This funding request reflects expenditures by City fiscal year (July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017) rather than by year of streetcar service (September 15, 2016 to September 1, 2017).

Mr. Grether clarified that once the resolution is approved by SORTA's board, the funding request gets transmitted to the City of Cincinnati. The City can approve, deny, or change the specific amount of funding.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2016-05.

**Proposed Resolution No. 2016-06: Approval of Streetcar Fare and Equity Analysis Report**

Mr. Reed moved for adoption and Mr. Keese seconded the motion. This resolution approves the results of the Title VI Fare & Service Equity Analysis Report, which was completed in January 2016 by SORTA Staff. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requires an analysis of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as it pertains to FTA recipients. This analysis found that there was no disparate impact or disproportionate burden on low-income and/or minority individuals currently residing in the streetcar service area.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2016-06.

Mr. Dunn asked that Ms. Hilvers address the Board regarding the Be(e) Streetcar Safe campaign. She stated that there are a number of media events going on, which will continue to ramp up throughout the spring and as the launch of revenue service nears.

Mr. Desmond answered a general question about the VTICA Agreement, which is to be presented to the Planning & Operations Committee in March, and, upon their approval, to the full Board.

**Strategic Planning Committee**

Ms. Miller reported on the Strategic Planning Committee meeting held on February 16, 2016, and proposed the following to the board for approval:

**Proposed Resolution No. 2016-07: Adoption of Mission and Vision Statements**

This resolution approves the adoption of a new SORTA mission and vision statement, which are as follows:

Vision: 20 Million Rides by 2021

Mission: Regional transportation connecting people and places, driving economic growth and expanding quality of life choices

Ms. Miller moved for adoption and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2016-07.

**Ridership Report for December 2015**

Mr. Gaut provided the December 2015 ridership report and stated that total ridership was 1,288,507, which was 1.0% below projections, but 3.1% above the new projections. Year-to-date ridership was down 3.7% or 605,454 rides from projections. On-time-performance is 86% for local routes, against a goal of 88%. Local routes are carrying 20.95 passengers per hour, with a goal of 20.7 and express routes are carrying 13.65 passengers per trip, against a goal of 16.2. Mr. Gaut also presented the December Access Ridership report and noted total ridership for Access was 17,403 in December, 8.2% above projections. Year-to-date Access ridership was up 6.4% or 12,674 rides. On-time performance was 93.7% against a goal of 93%.

**December 2015 Financial Report**

Mr. Solomon presented the December financial report. Total revenues were \$7.9 million, which was unfavorable to budget by \$70,000 or 0.9%. Total expenses were also unfavorable to budget by \$113,000 or 1.4%. The end result was a net unfavorable variance of \$183,000 for the month, \$645,000 favorable year-to-date. Fare revenue was unfavorable to budget by \$43,000 or 2.4% due to lower ridership, which was 3.0% under budget for regular service. Mr. Solomon then reviewed with the Board the significant contributing factors to these variances.

**RAIL REPORT**

Mr. Grether presented the Streetcar Operations and Maintenance Update; he stated that Transdev continues to be on schedule, with all staff for Phase One now on site. The Streetcar funding request will be sent to the City of Cincinnati this week.

**BOARD UPDATE**

Mr. Ferrell's written January 2016 update was provided to the Board. Due to time constraints, he did not give an oral presentation.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Adkins noted that today and again following the March Board meeting, there would be a tour of the Streetcar MOF immediately following the meeting for Board members.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Reed made a motion for the Board to go into Executive Session as provided in ORC 121.22 (G)(3), "Conferences with an attorney...that are the subject of pending or imminent court action." Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved the motion and the meeting entered Executive Session at 10:30 a.m.

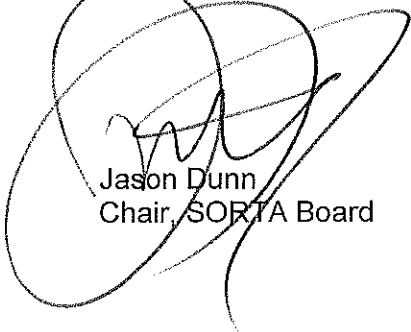
Mr. Reed made a motion that the meeting return to regular session and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board approved the motion and returned to regular session at 10:55 a.m.

Mr. Reed and Mr. Thomas moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, 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