

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, October 17, 2017, 9:01 AM
SORTA/ Metro
602 Main Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jason Dunn, Heidi Black, Maurice Brown, Brendon Cull, Gary Greenberg, Kreg Keesee, Mary Miller, Ken Reed Gwen Robinson, and Karl Schultz

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Ron Mosby and Daniel St. Charles

STAFF MEMBERS: Dwight Ferrell, Lisa Aulick, Donna Adkins, Dave Etienne, Paul Grether, Darryl Haley, Adriene Hairston, William Hock, Mary Huller, Brandy Jones, Maria Jones, Mark McEwan, Carla McHale, Ted Meyer, Julie Motsch, Jeff Mundstock, Demarcus Peters, Tim Pfizenmayer, John Ravasio, David Riposo, Carlos Rowland, Ronnie Salerno, Shannel Satterfield, TJ Thorn, and Mike Weil

OTHERS: Vada Hill (Citizen), Troy Miller (ATU), Inga McGlothlin (ATU), MiKenna Tony (Citizen), Kimberly Schaefer (Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP), Darcy Schwass (Vehr Communications), Jeremy Moses (Spina Bifida Coalition/Better Bus Coalition), Chris Mcak (UC Economics Center), Julie Health (UC Economics Center), Ann Berger (Commuter Ads), Nate Brinkman (Commuter Ads), Kaitlyn Nielson (Commuter Ads), Russ Goitesman (Commuter Ads), Allie Graff (Citizen), Chris Moran (Citizen), Reginald H. (Citizen), Erica Black-Johnson (Citizen), Corey Array (Dismore), M. Wall (Citizen)

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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.

See attachments comments from citizens.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2017 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Robinson made a motion that the minutes of the September 19, 2017 meeting be approved as previously mailed and Ms. Miller seconded the motion.

By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

BRIEFING ITEM

Draft Report: UC Economic Impact Study

Chris Nicak, Brad Evans, and Julia Heath of the University of Cincinnati Economics Center presented the Economic Impact Study Report. The presentation focused on ridership and job access, new dollars in the Hamilton County economy and the economic impact within Hamilton County based on 0.50, 0.75, and 1.00-cent sales tax levels of funding for transit.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Greenburg reported on the Finance Committee meeting that was held on October 12, 2017, and presented the following to the Board:

Proposed Resolution No. 2017-28: Approval of On-Board Audio Advertising Service

Mr. Reed moved for adoption and Mr. Greenberg seconded the motion. Mr. Etienne recommended a new three (3) year revenue contract agreement with CommuterAds beginning November 1, 2017 to October 31, 2020 with an option for two additional 1-year terms, whereby SORTA would receive an estimated \$172,850 in revenue for the five (5) year term.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2017-28.

PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Reed reported on the Planning and Operations Committee meeting that was held on October 12, 2017 and presented the following to the Board for approval:

Proposed Resolution No. 2017-29: Approval of MV Transit Contract Extension for Access Services

Mr. Reed moved for adoption and Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Mr. Haley recommended executing a contract extension between SORTA and MV Transportation Inc. for two (2) one-year options through February 2020 and additional funding for the remainder of 2017 and early 2018 at a cost not to exceed \$15,559,868, bringing the total contract amount to \$42,833,496.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2017-29.

Proposed Resolution No. 2017-30: Approval of Queensgate Garage Boiler System Replacement

Mr. Reed moved for adoption and Mr. Shultz seconded the motion. Mr. Haley explained the Queensgate boilers are over 30 years old and needed to be replaced. Mr. Haley recommended a contract between SORTA and Peck, Hannaford and Briggs Co. (PH+B) for the replacement of the existing boilers with 4 new boilers, oil centrifuge and heater equipment, and controls, at a total cost not to exceed \$796,474 including a 10% contingency.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2017-30.

Proposed Resolution No. 2017-31: Approval of AECOM Contract Extension and Service Plan Update

Ms. Miller moved for adoption and Mr. Shultz seconded the motion. This resolution approves a contract extension between SORTA and AECOM through November 30, 2018 at a total cost not to exceed \$98,743, bringing the total contract amount to \$348,058 to provide updated and improved transit service plans in preparation of the proposed November 2018 sales tax levy.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2017-31.

Proposed Resolution No. 2017-32: Accepting Public Meeting Comments and Title VI Service Equity Analysis and Approval of Services Changes

Mr. Cull moved for adoption and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. The resolution accepts the August Public Meeting Comments and Summary and the Title VI Service Equity Analysis in addition to approving the services changes as proposed. These service modifications will increase ridership and passenger revenue and reduce operating expenses.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2017-32.

Proposed Resolution No. 2017-33: Approval of Authorization to Hold Public Meeting for Fare Increase

Mr. Reed moved for adoption and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. Mr. Reed stated that this resolution is approval to proceed to conduct a public meeting in December 2017 at a location still to be determined, for the purpose of receiving public comments on the proposed fare changes, and to take all other actions necessary to carry out the public hearing.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2017-33.

BRIEFING ITEMS

Monthly Financial Report for September 2017

Mr. Riposo presented the September 2017 financial reports. Total revenues were \$ 7.8 million, which is unfavorable to budget by \$48,000. Total expenses were \$7.6 million, which is favorable to budget by \$229,000 or 2.9%. The end result was a net favorable variance of \$12,000 or 0.2% for the month. Fare revenue was favorable to budget by \$181,000 or 2.3%. Mr. Riposo then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

He also presented the Cincinnati Bell Connector financial report for September 2017. Total revenues were \$313,337, which is unfavorable to budget by \$17,191 or 5%. Total expenses were \$329,157 which is favorable to budget by \$1,371 or 0%. The end result is a net unfavorable variance of \$15,820 for the month. Mr. Riposo then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

Ridership Report for September 2017

Mr. McEwan presented the September 2017 ridership reports. Total ridership for the month of September was 1,286,037, which was -1.8% below budget. On-time performance was 81.7% for local routes, against a goal of 88%. Local routes are carrying 21.0 passengers per hour, against a goal of 20.7 and express routes are carrying 14.4 passengers per trip, against a goal of 16.2.

The September 2017 Access ridership report; total ridership for Access was 18,883, 8.6% above projections. Year-to-date Access ridership was up 3.1% or 4,576 rides. On-time performance was 92.5% against a goal of 93%.

The Cincinnati Bell Connector ridership report for September 2017; total preliminary ridership was 55,049, -1.6% below and -920 from budget. On-time performance was 39.8% against a goal of 95.0%. Passengers per hour were 47.9 against a goal of 52.8. The Committee recommended that Average Headway was a more suitable measure of performance than On-Time Performance (OTP) and staff will revise subsequent reports accordingly.

Rail Update for September 2017

Mr. Grether presented the September 2017 rail update. The report includes safety metrics, marketing communications highlights, ridership & operations summaries, and the current fleet status. In September, 56 citations were issued.

July's ridership summary includes; weekday ridership at 28,791 riders, Saturday's 19,792, and Sunday's ridership 9,720, with a preliminary total of 59,703 for the month of September. The key statistics for the streetcar, included trips scheduled (2,283), trips operated (1,964), missed trips (319), blockages (54), signal failures (10), close calls (35), TAA (4) and charters (0). Current fleet status car 1176 is out of service due to an articulation bearing failure.

CEO BOARD UPDATE

Mr. Ferrell provided his *CEO Board Update* with a PowerPoint presentation. He informed the Board on topics such as: CMAQ and STP grant applications--SORTA plans to replace 11 40-ft. buses in FY 2018. He also, briefed board members on the Cincy EZRide app, SORTA is now up to 21,000 users and readers will be able to validate e-tickets without interacting with the farebox. Mr. Ferrell concluded his report with upcoming events and topics for the remainder of the year.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Reed made a motion that the Board go into executive session as provided in Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) to “consider appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee.” and Section 121.22(G)(4), “Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees.” By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved the motion and went into executive session at 10:58 AM.

Mr. Reed made a motion that the Board return to regular session and Mr. Schultz seconded the motion. By voice vote the Board approved the motion and returned to regular session at 12:10 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 9:00 AM, the SORTA/Metro Board Room, 602 Main Street, Suite 1200, Cincinnati, Ohio.

APPROVED:

ATTESTED:



Jason Dunn
Chair, SORTA Board



David A. Riposo
CFO/Secretary Treasurer

