

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, December 18, 2012, 9:00 a.m.  
SORTA/Metro Mt. Adams Board Room  
602 Main Street, Suite 1200  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

**BOARD MEMBERS**

PRESENT: Frank Bowen; Suzanne Burke; Todd Cooper; Jason Dunn; Gregg Hothem; William L. Mallory, Sr.; Ken Reed; Gwen Robinson; Lamont Taylor; Karl Schultz; Brad Thomas; Joe Zimmer

**BOARD MEMBERS**

ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS: Terry Garcia Crews; Donna Adkins; Perriann Allen; Lisa Aulick; Bill Desmond; Jill Dunne; Inez Evans; Darryl Haley; Tim Harrington; Sallie Hilvers; Lou Ann Hock; Mary Moning; Mike Ongkiko; Wright Parkes; Alex Reed

OTHERS: Brian Gay, City of Cincinnati; William Frankenstein; Chad Hockman, MV Transportation; Troy Hoskins, ATU Local 627; Tom Luken; Caroline Miller, League of Women Voters; Troy Miller, ATU Local 627; Don Mills, Ohio River Way; Chris Moran, League of Women Voters; Tony Osterlund, Vorys Sater Seymour & Pease; Reco Owens, ATU Local 627; Christopher Smitherman, NAACP; Skip Schulte; Nick Sunyak; Matt Veach, MV Transportation

**CALL TO ORDER**

Suzanne Burke, Acting Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order. She welcomed new board member Brandi Stewart and invited Bill Desmond to administer the Oath of Office.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

Mr. Desmond administered the SORTA Board Member Oath of Office to Ms. Stewart, who was welcomed to the board by those in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Taylor made a motion that the minutes of the November 20, 2012 regular meeting be approved as previously mailed, and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

Mr. Dunn asked for a moment of silence for the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary school shooting.

**HEARINGS FROM CITIZENS**

Ms. Burke asked if there were any citizens who would like to address the Board. Mr. Miller asked Mr. Hoskins to distribute a packet of information to the board members detailing what the Union considers unfair management practices. Mr. Miller asked the Board to keep an eye on these practices. Mr. Luken asked the Board not to drop the lawsuit against the City regarding the proper use of the transit fund. Mr. Smitherman spoke on the importance of bus service to the urban core and reminded the board that SORTA's responsibility is to the bus riders of the region. He reiterated how important the litigation was to prevent dollars being taken from the bus service for the streetcar.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Reed made a motion that the Board go into Executive Session as provided in Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G)(3) for "conferences with an attorney . . . concerning disputes that are the subject of pending or imminent court action . . .". Mr. Dunn seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved the motion and went into Executive Session at 9:15 a.m.

Ms. Robinson made a motion that the Board return to regular session, and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion and returned to regular session at 9:45 a.m.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS****Planning & Operations Committee****Proposed Resolution No. 2012-30: Approval of Queen City Racquet Club's Park & Ride**

Mr. Schultz moved for adoption, and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. This resolution approves a three-year agreement (with an option for two additional three-year terms) with Queen City Racquet Club for 50 park and ride spaces at a total cost not to exceed \$54,000 (from 2013-2022). Funding for the cost of the agreement with Queen City Racquet Club is available in approved federal grants.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2012-30.

**Proposed Resolution No. 2012-31: Approval of Clermont County Service Agreement**

Mr. Taylor moved for adoption, and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. This resolution approves the agreement between SORTA and Clermont County for the continuation of services on Routes 28, 29X and 82 for the period of January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 for \$363,259 for the operating and capital costs of this service. The contract includes 18% overhead along with a fare revenue credit.

By roll call vote, the Board approved Resolution No. 2012-31 with Mr. Schultz abstaining.

**Proposed Resolution No. 2012-32: Adoption of 2013 Triennial Title VI Program Update**

Mr. Taylor moved for adoption, and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. This resolution adopts the 2013 Triennial Title IV Program Update as developed by staff and directs the CEO/General Manager or CFO/Secretary-Treasurer to submit the program update to the Federal Transit

Administration before April 1, 2013 on behalf of SORTA.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2012-32.

Proposed Resolution No. 2012-33: Approval of First Amendment to Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Cincinnati

Mr. Taylor moved for adoption, and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. This resolution approves the First Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement between SORTA and the City of Cincinnati and reinserts the language in section II, paragraph 5D "from sources other than the transit fund..".

By roll call vote, the Board approved Resolution No. 2012-33 with Ms. Burke, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Hothem, Mr. Reed, Mr. Schultz, Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Zimmer voting yes, and Mr. Bowen, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Mallory, Ms. Robinson, Ms. Stewart, and Mr. Thomas voting no.

Proposed Resolution No. 2012-34: Approval of Paratransit Services Contract

Mr. Reed moved for adoption, and Mr. Zimmer seconded the motion. This resolution approves a five-year contract beginning March 1, 2013 (with the option of renewing the contract for five one-year extensions) with MV Transportation to operate SORTA's paratransit services at a cost not to exceed \$26,724,925 for the first five years and \$31,016,026 for the five optional years for a total cost not to exceed \$57,740,951 if all five option years are exercised.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2012-34.

Proposed Motion: Appointment to OKI Board

Mr. Mallory moved for adoption, and Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. This motion appoints Terry Garcia Crews as SORTA's representative to the OKI Board of Trustees and Kevin Mischler as the alternate.

By voice vote, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

### **Finance Committee**

Proposed Motion: Banking Services

Mr. Bowen moved for adoption, and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. This motion extends the current contract with Huntington Bank through December 31, 2013 at a cost not to exceed \$282,000.

By voice vote, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

Proposed Resolution No. 2012-35: Approval of SORTA's Policy concerning Providing Amenities and Meals, Reimbursement of Expenses and Accepting Things of Value

Mr. Mallory moved for adoption, and Mr. Bowen seconded the motion. This resolution adopts the revised policy which has been revised to reflect changes to several areas for reimbursement purposes and to reorganize some areas in an effort to provide clarification.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2012-35.

Proposed Resolution No. 2012-36: Urbanized Area Federal Funding Agreement

Mr. Reed moved for adoption, and Mr. Schultz seconded the motion. This resolution approves the Federal Funding Agreement between SORTA, Butler County Regional Transit Authority, Clermont Transit Connection, the Warren County Transit System and TANK for a one-year period of October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013, to allow for the distribution of formula funds, and authorizes and directs the CEO/General Manager or the CFO/Secretary-Treasurer to execute the agreement.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2012-36.

Proposed Resolution No. 2012-37: Authorization to Transfer Proceeds to Everybody Rides Metro

Mr. Bowen moved for adoption, and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. This resolution authorizes the CEO/General Manager or the CFO/Secretary-Treasurer to transfer the process from the future sale of end of life buses to the Everybody Rides Metro Foundation.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2012-37.

Proposed Resolution No. 2012-38: Approval of Contract for Strategic Public Relations Services

Mr. Reed moved for adoption, and Mr. Schultz seconded the motion. This resolution awards a one-year contract for strategic public relations services to Vehr Communications for a total cost not to exceed \$150,000. Vehr Communications will work as a team with the current Public Affairs team from Starboard Strategies. Both firms have agreed to this arrangement.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2012-38.

**NOVEMBER FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Ms. Hock presented the November financial reports. Total revenues were about \$7.3 million which was unfavorable to budget by \$190,000 and total expenses were about \$7.7 million which was unfavorable to budget by \$267,000. The result was an overall net deficit for the month of about \$457,000. Year-to-date we are still overall favorable to budget by \$258,000.

**CEO'S REPORT**

Ms. Crews reminded the Board that Metro will stop selling tokens on December 31 but customers will be able to use them until June 30, 2013. She also reminded the board that the City of Cincinnati's new restrictions on bus shelter advertising will go into effect on January 1, 2013. The transit plan has been revised based on comments from customers and the community and the plan will be unveiled to the public in the spring. Fare Deal recertification is still underway and we received positive media coverage on the Holly Jolly Trolley. She spoke with Alice Pavey from Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Services concerning their efforts to move their clients off of DDS transportation services and onto Access.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Burke announced that new committee assignments have been made and that Ms. Adkins will distribute the latest list to the board members. Please let Donna know which committee they would be interested in serving on. Lamont will chair the Governance and Nominating Committee. Mr. Thomas made a motion to request a special board meeting take place on

Friday, December 21, and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board is scheduled for Tuesday, January 15, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. in the SORTA/Metro Board Room, 602 Main Street, Suite 1200, Cincinnati, Ohio.

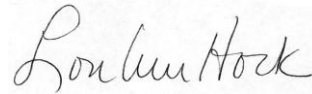
The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

APPROVED:



Suzanne Burke  
Acting Chair

ATTESTED:



Lou Ann Hock  
CFO/Secretary-Treasurer