

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Special Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, May 1, 2012, 1:00 p.m.
The 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;
Tom Hodges; Gregg Hothem; William L. Mallory, Sr; Ken Reed;
Gwen Robinson; Karl Schultz; Lamont Taylor; Brad Thomas

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT: Joe Zimmer

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

OTHERS: Joe Curry, Everybody Rides Metro; Neil Desai, Frost Brown Todd;
Barry Horstman, Cincinnati Enquirer; Tom Luken; Troy Miller,
Amalgamated Transit Union Local 627; Todd Portune, Hamilton County
Commissioner; Brian Shrive, COAST; Tana Weingartner, WVXU

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Hodges called the meeting to order.

OATHS OF OFFICE

Mr. Desmond administered the oath of office to new board members Frank Bowen; William L. Mallory, Sr.; Gwen Robinson and Brad Thomas. All four were sworn in simultaneously and were congratulated with a round of applause from all present.

SELECTION OF PRESIDING OFFICER PRO-TEM

Mr. Thomas moved to appoint Mr. Mallory as presiding officer pro-tem and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

HEARINGS FROM CITIZENS

Mr. Luken stated that the purpose of the transit fund which was put into place in 1972 was the maintenance of the transit system and not for street lights. The resolution was a covenant between the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County for the people who needed to use the system to travel to school, work or church. There is a cloud hanging over the covenant as the City wants street lights now and perhaps other things later. This agreement was entered into in good faith to use the transit fund for transit and nothing else. He feels the SORTA Board reacted splendidly to the attacks on the covenant and hope the Board continues to do so. He

urged the Board to continue to keep the covenant and to hold sacred the purpose of the transit fund which is to provide transit for those who need it.

Mr. Portune was at the Board meeting as a representative of the Hamilton County Commissioners to address the recent developments in the City of Cincinnati's SORTA board appointments. The County Commissioners had discussed the sanctity of the transit fund at their weekly meeting. They felt the mission of the Board must continue to be that of establishing a multi-modal transit system for the region and to provide service for and to represent all transit interests of the region. The City was given the privilege of appointing seven SORTA board members in acknowledgement of their financial contributions and use of the transit fund for the purpose of providing transit options. However, 60% of the monies in the fund are provided by county residents who commute to the city to work. Hamilton County is interested in a regional authority and system with multi-modal options over a multi-state area. To that end, the county is interested in the direction the board goes with embracing the mission and their fiduciary responsibility in furthering a regional transit system.

PURPOSE OF MEETING: APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. Schultz moved to appoint J. Thomas Hodges as interim Chair of the SORTA Board of Trustees and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

Mr. Cooper moved to appoint Suzanne Burke as interim Vice-Chair of the SORTA Board of Trustees and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

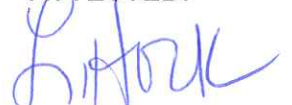
The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, May 15, 9:00 a.m. in the SORTA/Metro Board Room, 602 Main Street, Suite 1200, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

APPROVED:


J. Thomas Hodges
Chair

ATTESTED:


Lou Ann Hock
Secretary-Treasurer