

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, June 20, 2017, 6:00 PM
The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County
800 Vine Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jason Dunn, Ken Reed, Heidi Black, Maurice Brown, Brendon Cull, Gary Greenberg, Kreg Keesee, Ron Mosby, Gwen Robinson, Daniel St. Charles

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary Miller, Karl Schultz

STAFF MEMBERS: Dwight Ferrell, Donna Adkins, Paul Grether, Darryl Haley, Sallie Hilvers, Mary Huller, Brandy Jones, Maria Jones, Mark McEwan, Carla McHale, Ted Meyer, Sean O’Leary, Demarcus Peters, John Ravasio, David Riposo, Carlos Rowland, Ronnie Salerno, Shannel Satterfield, Monai Smith, TJ Thorn, Mike Weil

OTHERS: Kimberly Schaefer (Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP), Craig Rozen (Cin EE Corp.), Matthew Johnson (Citizen), Mark Sameian (Student/BBC), David Wormald (AECOM), Thoass Realan (Citizen), Bill Rinehart (WVXU), Jeremy Moses (Citizen), Shannon Johnson (Citizen), Leila Ellis (Citizen), Reco Owens (Metro), Ericka Owend (Metro), Paul Love Jr. (Metro), Kevin Lyons (Citizen), Evan Millward (WCPO-TV), Andy Overton (WCPO-TV), Frank Harper (ATU 627), Pete Metz (Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber), Antwan Clay (Citizen), Stan Franklin (Metro), Tyrone Cason (Metro), Andy Shank (BBC), Tommy Broderick (Bellweth), Tom Gaitskill (Metro), Melutha Parham-Brown (Metro), Derek Bauman (AAO), Steph Barnard (BBC), Tiffeny O’Neal (Charm Consulting), Toyia Montgomery (Charm Consulting), Phil Jacobs (Citizen), George Johnson (Metro), Linda Carger (J-Rab), Jessica Scully (Citizen), Sharon Coolidge (Enquirer), Phillip Jacobs (J&W Jones Center), Ernestine Johnson (Citizen), S. Coleman (Citizen), Yolanda Dixon (Citizen), Amber Jayanth (Citizen), James Brown (Metro), Robert Stewart (Metro), James Henderson (Citizen), Chris Moran (Citizen), Ester Wirz (Hamilton County Office of ReEntry), Lisa Hudson (Citizen), Celeste Treece (Vote 4 Ozie), David Watkins (Vote 4 Ozie), Paul Oden (ATU), Tamie Sullivan (Sullivan for Cincinnati), Anthony Bridgewater (Citizen), Olivia Brown (Citizen), Christopher Smith (Librarian), Florence Parker (OKI), F. Stephens (Metro), Justin Jeffre (Homeless Coalition/BBC), Maretta Stoney (Metro), James Bainter (Metro), Velma Rone (Citizen), L Bullard (Metro), D. Whaley (Metro), R. Hunter (Metro), Orlando Victor (Citizen), Robert Shuenak (Hamilton County Developmental Disability Svc), Chris Windham (CABVI) Tamaya Dennard (Candidate for City Council), Kelly Morris (Metro), Will Cawin (Citizen), David Oen (Citizen), Troy Miller (ATU 627), Hugh Koon (Citizen), Brandon Adams (Citizen), Chris Sizner (Citizen), Stephanie Barnard (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 Attachment.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 25, 2017 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Robinson made a motion that the minutes of the May 16, 2017 meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Reed seconded the motion.

By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

PLANNING & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Reed reported on the Planning & Operations Committee meeting that was held on June 13, 2017, and presented the following to the Board:

Proposed Resolution No. 2017-10: Approval to Proceed Toward A 2018 Ballot Issue

Mr. Reed moved for adoption and Mr. Cull seconded the motion. Mr. Dunn and Mr. Ferrell presented information on how to proceed towards a 2018 ballot to support an initiative asking voters to approve a countywide sales tax adequate to fund future operations of Metro and Access. This resolution authorizes the CEO/General Manager and staff to take whatever action is necessary for SORTA to prepare for the ballot initiative.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2017-10.

Proposed Resolution No. 2017-11: Approval to Exercise Optional Second Year of Contract for Strategic Public Relations Services

Mr. Reed moved for adoption and Mr. Greenberg seconded the motion. Mr. Reed stated this resolution authorizes the CEO/General Manager or the Executive VP/Deputy General Manager to execute the optional second year of the contract with Vehr Communications on behalf of SORTA at a cost not to exceed \$150,000. Strategic public relations services are required to support SORTA's organizational objectives.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2017-11.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Keesee reported on the Finance committee meeting that was held on June 13, 2017 and presented the following to the Board for approval:

Proposed Resolution No. 2017-12: Approval of Revised Investment Policy

Mr. Keesee moved for adoption and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Mr. Keesee briefed the Board on the revised policy to be adopted and approved by the Board, and authorizes the Secretary-Treasurer to implement the policy.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2017-12.

BRIEFING ITEMS**Status Report from Everybody Rides Metro**

Mr. Hoguet presented a status report on Everybody Rides Metro (ERM). Due to JARC funding no longer being available ERM was forced to end its subsidy program at the end of 2016. At Board meetings in March and April of 2017, the ERM Board voted to maintain ERM as a registered 501 (c)(3), as well as continuation of the Trademark Registration, thereby maintaining ERM as a vehicle for continuing subsidies to economically disadvantaged citizens in the future if a funding source can be secured. These can both be done at a cost of less than \$1,000 annually for various required filings, The Board also made a decision to use approximately \$38,000 of the remaining \$41,000 bank balance to purchase tickets from Metro to distribute to ERM's partners based on their 2015/2016 usage. The remaining bank balance is sufficient to pay ERM's expected expenses for the next three years, which corresponds to the length of time a 501 (c)(3) status can be maintained without any activity.

Ridership Report for May 2017

Mr. Dunn deferred the reading of the *Ridership Reports for May 2017*, found in the Board books.

Monthly Financial Report for May 2017

Mr. Dunn deferred the reading of the *Financial Reports for May 2017*, found in the Board books.

Rail Update for April 2017

Mr. Dunn deferred the reading of the *Rail Update for May 2017*, found in the Board books.

CEO BOARD UPDATE

Mr. Ferrell deferred reading of the *CEO Board Update*, found in the Board books

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at 9:00 AM, the SORTA/Metro Board Room, 602 Main Street, Suite 1200, Cincinnati, Ohio.

APPROVED:



Jason Dunn
Chair, SORTA Board

ATTESTED:



David A. Riposo
CFO/Secretary Treasurer