

SORTA BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
SORTA/METRO AT HUNTINGTON CENTER
SORTA BOARD ROOM-6th FLOOR
525 VINE STREET, CINCINNATI OHIO 45202

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, July 23rd 2024, 9:00 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jay Bedi, Chelsea Clark, Dan Driehaus, Trent Emenecker, Blake Ethridge, Neil Kelly, Pete Metz, Briana Moss, Gwen Robinson, Sara Sheets and KZ Smith

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Tony Brice and Sonja Taylor

STAFF MEMBERS: Andy Aiello, Norman Bouwie, John Edmondson, Pat Giblin, Denman Godon, Adriene Hairston, Darryl Haley, James Henderson, Brandy Jones, Natalie Krusling, Bradley Mason, Bre Rahe, Inga McGlothlin, Matt Moorman, Jeff Mundstock, Sean O'Leary, John Ravasio, August Sweitzer, Tim Walker and Mike Weil

LEGAL COUNSEL: Kim Schaefer (Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP)

GUEST/PUBLIC PRESENT: Shawnelle Casey (Bon Secours Mercy Health), Frank Harper (ATU) and Doug Moormahn (GSG)

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

HEARING FROM CITIZENS

Shawnelle Casey from Bon Secours Mercy Health joined us today to speak to the board about the Retain program. This program is funded through a US Department of Labor grant and administered through the Mercy Health Network. Adriene Hairston, VP of HR will connect with her.

Frank Harper, ATU President spoke to the board about the CBA contract negotiations and thanked the SORTA and ATU team.

CHAIRMAN UPDATE

N/A

APPROVAL OF JUNE 25th, 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Ethridge made a motion that the minutes from the June 25th, 2024, board meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Driehaus seconded the motion.

By voice vote, the SORTA Board approved the minutes.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Driehaus reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on July 16th 2024, and there were no items(s) to present for Board Approval.

PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Ethridge reported on the Planning and Operations Committee meeting held on July 16th 2024, and there were items(s) to present for Board Approval.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT MODIFICATION FOR 16-2021-A MTIF CONSULTING SERVICES FROM AECOM AND 16-2021-B MTIF CONSULTING SERVICES FROM WOOLPERT

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. The contract approves a contract revision increasing the total cost not to exceed from \$235,000 to \$385,000, an increase of \$150,000.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT 112-2023 ACCESS GASOLINE STATION

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. The contract approves a contract revision increasing the total cost not to exceed from \$3,128,674 to \$3,359,712, an increase of \$231,039.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT 078-2024 DIESEL EXHAUST FLUID

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. The contract approves a total cost not to exceed \$179,800.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR 088-2024 RTC STREET LEVEL REPAIRS

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. The contract approves a total cost not to exceed \$188,260.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT 097-2024 SALESFORCE CRM SOFTWARE

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. The contract approves a total cost not to exceed \$498,444.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT 098-2024 TRANSIT APP

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. The contract approves a total cost not to exceed \$306,993.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT 099-2024 EZ FARE PROGRAM

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. The contract approves a total cost not to exceed \$140,522.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF JUNE 30TH, 2024

Mr. Aiello presented the June financial results. Total revenues were \$13.8 million, which was unfavorable to budget by \$273k. Total expenses were \$12.3 million, which is favorable to budget by \$973k. Surplus/Deficit was \$1.5 million, which was favorable to budget by \$700k. Ridership was 994k, which is unfavorable to budget by 76k. Mr. Aiello presented the Investment of Funds Reserve Summary with a total All Securities at \$181,012,295, Net Unrestricted Securities Available at \$15,244,784 and Net Unrestricted Securities and 2024 Operating Budget Surplus at \$18,406,070. Mr. Aiello then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

METRO ON THE MOVE

Mr. Haley presented the Metro on the Move report. We recently recognized 439 operators and 81 mechanics for their outstanding safety performance, partnered with Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority and offered free rides on Metro's fixed routes and Access paratransit for active or reserve-duty for Veteran's Appreciation Day. Metro is connecting CPS students to school and recently the CPS School Board voted to remove yellow bus service for 7th and 8th graders and add them to our system. Please let Natalie know if you would like to attend Metro Family Day on August 17 or 18.

LABOR COMMITTEE

Ms. Robinson reported on the Labor Committee meeting.

At 9:51 a.m. Ms. Robinson moved to go into executive session and Ms. Clark seconded the motion.

Section 121.22(G)(4) Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees...

At 10:34 a.m. Ms. Robinson moved to end executive session and Ms. Moss seconded the motion.

There were items(s) to present for Board Approval.

DISCUSSION ACTION ITEM(S):

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF SUCCESSOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT FOR THE METRO OPERATING DIVISION

Mr. Robinson made a motion and Ms. Moss seconded the motion to approve the Proposed Resolution of the successor collective bargaining agreement for the Metro Operating Division for the period of November 1, 2023 through October 31, 2026 and authorizes and directs the CEO/General Manager or other designated representative to sign and execute said agreement with Amalgamated Transit Union Local 627.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

GOVERNANCE AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE: ELECTION OF OFFICERS- 2023 CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE SORTA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. Driehaus reported on the Governance and Nominating Committee meeting held on July 23rd and he stated the Governance and Nominating Committee (Mr. Driehaus, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Metz, and Ms. Sheets) recommended Blake Ethridge as the Chair and Gwen Robinson as the Vice-Chair of the SORTA Board.

Mr. Driehaus moved for adoption and Ms. Clark seconded the motion.

By roll call vote, the Board approved Mr. Ethridge as Board Chair and Ms. Robinson as Vice Chair.

NEW BUSINESS

The board asked to be advised of how the new school year is going with the board for the next couple of months.

SORTA staff will update the board about CPS at the next Planning and Ops Committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees has been scheduled for
August 27th, 2024, at 6:00 P.M.
the SORTA/Metro Board Room, at 525 Vine Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

APPROVED:



Blake Ethridge
Chair, SORTA Board

ATTESTED:



Darryl Haley
CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer