

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, November 14, 2006, 10:00 a.m.
The SORTA/Metro Board Room
1014 Vine Street, Suite 2000
Cincinnati, Ohio, 45202

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Robert W. Buechner Daniel S. Peters
Steven P. Goodin Melody Sawyer Richardson
Stephen M. Louis Lamont Taylor
Robert P. Mecklenborg

STAFF MEMBERS

PRESENT: Michael H. Setzer Cathy Hugenberg
H. Theodore Bergh Vicki Fink
Marilyn G. Shazor Vance Thomas
Sallie L. Hilvers Colin R. Groth
Timothy J. Reynolds Carole E. Senior
Richard L. Moore Donna M. Adkins
(Legal Counsel)

OTHERS

PRESENT: Chris Moran, League of Women Voters
Carolyn Miller, League of Women Voters
Ed Lenihan, Center for Independent Living Options
Reggie Victor, City of Cincinnati
Mark Bennett, ATU Local 627

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Lamont Taylor, Chairman of the SORTA Board, noted the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order.

OATH OF OFFICE:

The oath of office was administered to Mr. Steven P. Goodin by Mr. Moore. The Board congratulated Mr. Goodin on his appointment.

HEARINGS FROM CITIZENS:

Mr. Lenihan asked and was provided information on the Tri-County Assembly of God Church parking space lease.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mrs. Richardson made a motion that the minutes of the October 17, 2006 regular meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Louis seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes.

MEET THE TEAM: Mr. Setzer introduced Cathy Hugenberg, Director of Accounting and Budget, Vicki Fink, Grants and Budget Specialist, and Vance Thomas, Financial Analyst.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Taylor stated the Committee met jointly with the Planning and Development Committee.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Louis stated the Committees met and have the following items to present to the Board:

Proposed Resolution No. 2006-45, Approval of the 2007 Budget, Fare Increases, Release of Legal Notice and Authorization to Hold Public hearing, Foundation Funding, and the Biennial Funding Request for 2007 and 2008

Mr. Buechner moved for adoption and Mr. Louis seconded the motion. Mr. Setzer stated that this resolution approves the 2007 operating budget of \$104,658,638 and a request for both 2007 and 2008 funding from the City transit fund. In order to balance the 2007 budget, a fare increase is proposed and staff is recommending authorization to conduct a public hearing on November 30. Final approval of the fare increase will come after review of the public hearing transcripts. In addition, the funding request includes \$250,000 for the Everybody Rides Metro pilot project, which will be used to assist low-income individuals with the increase in fares.

Mr. Setzer reviewed the cost saving efforts in 2006 including Government Square construction completed under budget; savings on bus purchases; salary payroll reductions; outsourced internal audits; and fuel savings. These efforts will continue in 2007.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to amend the resolution to exclude Access from the fare increase and that the Access fares remain at the current level. Mr. Mecklenborg seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2006-45 as amended.

Proposed Resolution No. 2006-46, Approval of Tri-County Assembly of God Church Parking Space Lease

Mr. Taylor moved for adoption and Mr. Buechner seconded the motion. Mr. Louis stated this resolution approves a parking space lease with the Tri-County Assembly of God Church at an annual cost not to exceed \$25,000.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2006-46.

Proposed Resolution No. 2006-47, Approval of Red Bank Roadway Easement

Mr. Louis moved for adoption and Mrs. Richardson seconded the motion. Mr. Louis stated that the City of Cincinnati is being granted one permanent easement for the Red Bank Road improvements.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2006-47.

Proposed Resolution No. 2006-48, Approval of Contract for Printing of Daily Dated Transfers

Mr. Louis moved for adoption and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Mr. Louis stated that bids were received from four vendors. The lowest and best bid was from National Ticket at a total estimated cost of \$50,547.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2006-48.

Proposed Resolution No. 2006-49, Approval of Contract for Access Wheelchair Lift Replacement

Mr. Mecklenborg moved for adoption and Mr. Louis seconded the motion. Mr. Louis stated that MV Transportation is the lowest and best bidder at a total cost of \$30,120 for the purchase of 12 wheelchair lifts.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2006-49.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Setzer informed the Board that the Holly Jolly Trolley downtown holiday season service is being funded by DCI. The trolley is available for viewing immediately following today's meeting.

Mr. Taylor stated that he would like to express a vote of confidence for Mr. Setzer and his staff for a job well done.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Mecklenborg asked that staff schedule a Board retreat after the first of the year. Mr. Setzer responded that a retreat is being planned.

Mr. Mecklenborg advised the Board that discussions are underway concerning the Western Hills layover. Management has proposed the layover be moved to Toys R Us in Green Township. Green Township officials have approached Mr. Mecklenborg with concerns regarding the relocation of the layover within Green Township borders. He requested that the layover be reviewed by the SORTA Board.

Mr. Buechner requested and the Board agreed that the December Board meeting time be changed to 9:45 a.m. as it will be followed by the Everybody Rides Metro Board meeting at 10:45 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday December 12, 2006, 9:45 a.m., SORTA/Metro Board Room, 1014 Vine Street, Suite 2000, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mr. Taylor made a motion that the meeting be adjourned and Mr. Louis seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion and the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

APPROVED:

ATTESTED:

Lamont Taylor
Chairperson

H. Theodore Bergh
Secretary-Treasurer