

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, January 16, 2018, 9:00 AM
SORTA/ Metro
602 Main Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jason Dunn, Heidi Black, Brendon Cull, Kreg Keesee, Ron Mosby, Ken Reed, Gwen Robinson, Karl Schultz and Daniel St. Charles

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Maurice Brown, Gary Greenberg, and Mary Miller

STAFF MEMBERS: Dwight Ferrell, Donna Adkins, Al Bens, John Edmundson, Dave Etienne, Patrick Giblin, Paul Grether, Darryl Haley, Adriene Hairston, Sallie Hilvers, Mary Huller, Brandy Jones, Maria Jones, Mark McEwan, Ted Meyer, Mary Moning, Heather Morris, Julie Motsch, Demarcus Peters, Tim Pfizenmayer, John Ravasio, Cindy Resor, David Riposo, Ronald Salerno, Shannel Satterfield, TJ Thorn, and Mike Weil

OTHERS: Kimberly Schaefer (Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP), Chris Moran (L.W.V), Troy Miller (ATU), Nick Vehr (Vehr Communications), Todd Portune (Hamilton County Commissioner), Molly O'Donnell (City Hall), Aleah Holley (City Hall), Reginald Harris (The Community Builders)

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.

Troy Miller from the ATU- Thanked the Board Chair and Vice Chair for the work they've done and stated he looked forward to meeting with the new officers.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 12, 2017 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Reed made a motion that the minutes of the December 12, 2017 meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Keesee seconded the motion.

By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Keesee reported on the Finance Committee meeting that was held on January 9, 2018, and presented the following to the Board:

Proposed Resolution No. 2018-01: Approval of Contract for Strategic Public Relations Services

Mr. Mosby moved for adoption and Mr. St. Charles seconded the motion. This resolution authorizes a one (1) year contract with an optional second year between SORTA and Vehr Communications, at a total cost not to exceed \$346,565 for strategic public relations services.

By roll call vote, the Board approved Resolution No. 2018-01.

PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Reed reported on the Planning and Operations Committee meeting that was held on January 9, 2018, and presented the following to the Board:

Proposed Motion: Adoption of Annual Board Meeting Schedule

Mr. Reed moved for adoption and Mr. Keesee seconded the motion. Mr. Cull explained this motion is to adopt the 2018 Board Meeting schedule beginning with the February 20 meeting to alternate meeting times from 8:30 A.M and 6:00 P.M.

By roll voice vote, the Board approved the motion.

Proposed Motion: Approval of Extension of Service Contract with Butler County

Mr. Cull moved for adoption and Mr. Mosby seconded the motion. This motion is to extend the current service agreement between SORTA and Butler County Regional Transit Authority through February 28, 2018 with a total expenditure of \$82,089.

By voice vote, the Board approved the motion.

Proposed Motion: Acceptance of Recommendation for Underperforming Express Routes

Mr. Cull moved for adoption and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. This motion requests the acceptance of SORTA staff recommendations on the proposed service changes to the underperforming express routes 38X, 81X, 75X, and 52X. The proposed express service changes will reduce operating expenses and improve the efficiency of low performing express routes. The service changes will come back to the SORTA Board of Trustees, for approval after public comments and if approved would be implemented on August 12, 2018.

By roll voice, the Board approved the motion.

Proposed Resolution 2018-02: Approval to Release Legal Notice and Hold Public Meeting To Receive Public Comments on Proposed Service Changes

Ms. Robinson moved for adoption and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. This resolution is the approval to release a legal notice to run prior to a date, time and place in February to receive public comments and conduct a public meeting on a date, time, and place on proposed service changes for implementation in August 2018. SORTA's public participation policy states that SORTA encourages community comment on proposed major service changes.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2018-02.

General Items:

Hamilton County Commissioner, Todd Portune

Mr. Portune expressed his gratitude for service to citizens of Hamilton County and presented Commendation awards to five (5) county appointees; Gary Greenberg, Ron Mosby, Ken Reed, Karl Shultz, and Dan St. Charles.

BRIEFING ITEMS

Monthly Financial Report for December 31st 2017

Mr. Riposo presented the December 2017 financial reports. Total revenues were \$ 8.0 million, which is favorable to budget by \$57,000. Total expenses were \$8.0 million, which is unfavorable to budget by \$75,000 or 0.9%. The end result was a net unfavorable variance of \$17,000 or 0.2% for the month. Fare revenue was unfavorable to budget by \$56,000 or 3.9%. Mr. Riposo then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

SORTA Board of Trustees

He also presented the Cincinnati Bell Connector financial report for December 2017. Total revenues were \$297,343, which is unfavorable to budget by \$33,185 or 10%. Total expenses were \$343,501 which is unfavorable to budget by \$12,973 or 4%. The end result is a net unfavorable variance of \$46,158 for the month. Mr. Riposo then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

Ridership Report for December 31st 2017

Mr. McEwan presented the December 2017 ridership reports. Total ridership for the month of December was 1,028,501, which was 0.4% below budget. On-time performance was 85.0% for local routes, against a goal of 88%. Local routes are carrying 17.8 passengers per hour, against a goal of 20.7 and express routes are carrying 12.3 passengers per trip, against a goal of 16.2.

The December 2017 Access ridership report: total ridership for Access was 17,023, 4.7% above budget. Year-to-date Access ridership was up 3.8% or 8,364 rides. On-time performance was 93.0% against a goal of 93%.

The Cincinnati Bell Connector ridership report for December 2017; total preliminary ridership was 32,611, 38.1% and 18,449 below budget. Passengers per hour were 26.6 against a goal of 52.8. Average Headway (Peak/Off Peak) was 13:05/15:40 against a goal of 12:00/15:00.

The Board accepted the report as presented.

Rail Update for December 31st 2017

Mr. Grether presented the December 2017 rail update. The report included safety metrics, marketing communications highlights, ridership & operations summaries, and the current fleet status. In December, 29 citations were issued for fare invasion.

December ridership summary includes; weekday ridership at 17,411 riders, Saturday's 10,451, and Sunday's ridership 4,586, with a preliminary total of 32,611 for the month of December. The key statistics for the streetcar, included trips scheduled (2,287), trips operated (2,171), missed trips (116), blockages (65), signal failures (1), close calls (35), TAA (16) and charters (0). Current fleet status: One vehicle out of service for field modifications.

The Board accepted the report as presented.

CEO BOARD UPDATE

Mr. Ferrell provided his *CEO Board Update* with a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation included updates such as: the Metro Futures Task Force meeting which consist of 12 members hosted by Co-Chairs George Vincent and Dolores Hargrove-Young; the Federal Title VI survey which results are expected in March; Reinventing Metro Outreach online survey; Oakley transit center, which is still in progress, but anticipated to open in April, and the new City Council Committees. Mr. Ferrell concluded his presentation with Metro's 2017 Year In Review video.

The Board accepted the report as presented.

GENERAL ITEMS:

Chair and Vice-Chair Reflections

Mr. Dunn and Mr. Reed both reflected on their time spent with the Metro and the other SORTA Board Members, wishing everyone good luck and stating there is more work to be done.

GOVERNANCE & NOMINATING

Election of Officers

Mr. Schultz stated the Governance and Nominating Committee (Mr. Keesee, Mr. Mosby, and Ms. Robinson) recommended Kreg Keesee as the Chair and Maurice Brown as the Vice-Chair of the SORTA Board.

Mr. Dunn asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, he declared the nominations closed.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Mr. Keesee as Board Chair and Mr. Brown as Vice Chair.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:33 A.M.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 8:30 AM, the SORTA/Metro Board Room, 602 Main Street, Suite 1200, Cincinnati, Ohio.

APPROVED:



Kreg Keesee
Chair, SORTA Board

ATTESTED:



David A. Riposo
CFO/Secretary Treasurer

