

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 10:00 A.M.  
MEETING HELD VIA GO-TO-MEETING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Maurice Brown, Brendon Cull, Blake Ethridge, Allen Freeman, Robert Harris, Roderick Hinton, Thaddeus Hoffmeister, Mary Miller, Gwen Robinson and Kathleen Wyenandt

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Heidi Black, Kreg Keesee and Pete McLinden

STAFF MEMBERS: Darryl Haley, Donna Adkins, David Braun, Dave Etienne, Pat Gilbin, Adriene Hairston, Michelle Jeng, Brandy Jones, Maria Jones, Caprice Jones, Natalie Krusling, Kathleen McKeon, Jeff Mundstock, Matt Niehaus, John Ravasio, Shannel Satterfield, Khaled Shammout, and TJ Thorn

OTHERS: Kim Schafer (Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease, LLC)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Robinson, SORTA Board Vice Chair, called the meeting to order.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no comments from citizens forward to the [askmetro@go-metro.com](mailto:askmetro@go-metro.com) email address.

**APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Ms. Miller made a motion that the minutes of the October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 board meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Ethridge seconded the motion.

By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Hinton reported the Finance Committee meeting that was held on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and there were action items to present for Board approval.

Ms. Wyenandt moved for adoption and Mr. Ethridge seconded the motion to approve item(s) 2 through 4 on the agenda.

By roll call, the Board approved Motion through Resolution No. 2020-26.

**Proposed Motion: Approval of Legal Expenditures with for Vorys, Sater, & Pease LLC**

This motion approves a one (1) agreement with Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease, LLP at the rates set forth in the engagement letter at a cost not to exceed \$250,000 for legal services

**Proposed Motion: Approval of Legal Service Expenditures with Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP**

This motion approves a one (1) agreement with Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP at the rates set forth in the engagement letter at a cost not to exceed \$100,000 for legal services.

**Proposed Resolution 2020-26: Approval of 2021 Insurance Program Renewal**

This resolution approves a one (1) year contract with the Ohio Transit Risk Pool (OTRP) at a cost not to exceed \$660,705 for liability insurance program covering: General Liability, Automobile Liability, Public Officials Liability, Cyber Liability and Crime.

**PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Ms. Robinson reported the Planning and Operations Committee meeting that was held on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and there were items to present for Board approval.

Ms. Miller moved for adoption and Ms. Wyenandt seconded the motion to approve items 5-8 on the agenda.

By roll call, the Board approved Motion through Resolution No. 2020-28.

**Proposed Motion: Approval of OKI Board Appointment**

This motion appoints Darryl Haley as SORTA's representative to the OKI Board of Trustees and Khaled Shammout as the alternate.

**Proposed Motion: Approval of Everybody Rides Metro (ERM) Board**

This motion appoints the following individuals be appointed as Directors of Everybody Rides Metro: Kreg Keese, Kathy Wyenandt, Gina Marsh, Aaron Bley, Angela King, Katie Frazier and Lisa Nichols.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2020-27: Approval of Modernization for Fleet Communications**

This resolution approves a contract with Apollo/Luminator Technology Group on behalf of SORTA at a cost not to exceed \$1,342,360. This purchase will address two major issues: Purchase of video recording solution hardware and software to allow for remote upload of videos to the existing Apollo/Luminator solution. This will replace systems on existing buses unable to be networked with current solution. Purchase and installation of WI-FI routers to allow for the upload of video to current solution for viewing and distribution as needed.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2020-28: Approval of HVAC Preventive Maintenance and Repair Contract**

This resolution approves a three (3) year contract with two (2) one-year options, at a total cost not to exceed \$1,074,881 with Peck Hannaford + Briggs Service Corporation preventative maintenance and repairs for equipment and controls at the following SORTA locations: Queensgate Terminal, Bond Hill Terminal, Access Terminal, Riverfront Transit Center, Radio Towers, and the Queensgate Training Facility.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR OCTOBER 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2020**

Ms. Jeng presented the October financial reports. Total revenues were \$3.1 million, which is unfavorable to budget by \$5,081,000. Total expenses were \$8.4 million, which is favorable to budget by \$234,000 or 2.7%. The final result was a net unfavorable variance of \$4,847,000 for the month. Fare revenue was unfavorable to budget by \$621,000. Ms. Jeng then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

The Board accepted the report as presented.

**METRO ON THE MOVE REPORT**

Mr. Haley presented the Metro on the Move Report. His report highlighted: the collection of the Hamilton County Sales Tax began on October 1<sup>st</sup> and SORTA will receive funds January 2021; SORTA received the APTA Gold Award for Security Excellent; OKI granted SORTA a grant of \$5 million dollars for the purchase of "greener" buses; implantation of the Metro Veteran's Program (MVP) beginning November 11<sup>th</sup>; and a mask give away at governments square.

He then concluded his report and the Board accepted as presented.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Keese made a motion that the Board go into Executive Session as provided in O.R.C. Executive Session: "Section 121.22(G)(4) Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees..." and Mr. Hinton seconded the motion. By roll call vote the Board approved the motion and went into Executive Session at \_\_\_\_\_. Mr. Keese made a motion that the Board return to regular session and Mr. Hinton seconded the motion. By voice vote the Board approved the motion and returned to regular session at \_\_\_\_\_.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 A.M.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for **December 15, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.**, the SORTA/Metro Board Room, at 525 Vine Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

APPROVED:

  
Kreg Keese  
Chair, SORTA Board

ATTESTED:

  
Darryl Haley  
CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer