

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, March 19th, 2019, 6:00 P.M.
SORTA/ Metro
602 Main Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Heidi Black

STAFF MEMBERS: Darryl Haley, Donna Adkins, Lisa Aulick, John Edmondson, Dave Etienne, Dan Feldman, Patrick Giblin, Paul Grether, Adriene Hairston, Mary Huller, Michelle Jeng, Caprice Jones, Maria Jones, Ted Meyer, Mary Moning, Mike Nagy, Matt Niehaus, John Ravasio, Cindy Resor, David Riposo, Shannel Satterfield, Khaled Shammout, T.J Thorn, and Mike Weil

OTHERS: Tony Osterlund (VSSP), Troy Miller (ATU), Cam Hardy (BBC), Hannah Sparling (Cincinnati Enquirer), Neil Kelly (Citizen), Barbara Wolf (BBC) and Chris Moran (LWV)

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

VISION AND MISSION

SORTA's vision and mission statements were recited.

HEARINGS FROM CITIZENS

Barbara Wolf: Ms. Wolf from the BBC shared her concerns regarding the elimination of a bus top at Taft & Kemper in the Walnut Hills Area. She shared she retrieved seventy (70) signatures. Mr. Haley requested the signature sheet and stated SORTA will consider the elimination.

Neil Kelly: Mr. Kelly expressed he relies heavily on Metro. He then expressed the public should be involved in the selection process of a new CEO. He proposed three interviews should be held to involve the public to provide feedback to the board. Mr. Kelly explained having the community involved would lead to a great start to connect with riders and interact with public.

CHAIRMAN UPDATE

Mr. Keesee stated a letter was sent to Mayor Cranley regarding re-enforcements at the Bus Only Lane. Ms. Schaefer provided a brief update regarding an in-house transit police force and issuing tickets for parking violations.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2019 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Cull made a motion that the minutes of the February 19th meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Brown seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Hinton reported on the Finance Committee meeting that was held on March 12th and there were no items that required Board approval.

PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Cull reported on the Planning and Operations Committee that was held on March 12th and there were no items that required Board approval.

BRIEFING ITEMS**ACCESS SERVICES PRESENTATION**

Ms. Aulick provided an overview of access services; this included understanding what "Access" is and how it operates. She covered the application, eligibility, appeal, and reservations processes. Also, Ms. Aulick discussed the "pick-up" windows and fares. The Board accepted the report as presented.

RIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. Etienne presented Rider Advisory Committee presentation. He discussed the purpose of the committee and its' plan. COhear will conduct 4 to 6 focus groups with select participants (low-income riders, students, Millennials, seniors and downtown workers) to hear service suggestions and recommendations from real customers and learn perceptions from non-riders. Also, to receive feedback on proposed service changes, amenities, marketing campaigns, etc. The committee The Board accepted the report as presented.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2019

Mr. Riposo presented the February 2019 financial reports. Total revenues were \$7.5 million, which is favorable to budget by \$1,000. Total expenses were \$7.8 million, which is favorable to budget by \$50,000 or 0.6%. The final result was a net favorable variance of \$51,000 for the month. Fare revenue was favorable to budget by \$2,000 or 0.2%. Mr. Riposo then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

He also presented the Cincinnati Bell Connector financial report for February 2019. Total revenues were \$269,285 which is unfavorable to budget by \$72,965 or 21%. Total expenses were \$343,040 which is unfavorable to budget by \$2,749 or <1%. The end result is a net unfavorable variance of \$73,755 for the month. Mr. Riposo then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances. The Board accepted the report as presented.

METRO ON THE MOVE

Mr. Haley provided a brief overview of the Metro on the Move report. His report included: kudos to the Marketing department regarding their efforts on several new campaigns and Finance departments for its' 28th consecutive year receiving Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). He also discussed upcoming events. The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

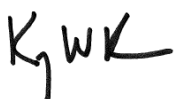
NEW BUSINESS**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16th, 2019 at 8:30 A.M., 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