

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, August 17th, 2021 6:00 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Alyson Beridon, Heidi Black, Maurice Brown, Chelsea Clark, Brendon Cull, Blake Ethridge, Kreg Keesee, Robert Harris, Roderick Hinton, Thaddeus Hoffmeister, Gwen Robinson, Larry Thompson, Sonja Taylor,

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Allen Freeman and Kathleen Wyenandt

STAFF MEMBERS: Darryl Haley, Steve Anderson, Donna Adkins, Adriene Hairston, Jennifer Jackson, Brandy Jones, Caprice Jones, Natalie Krusling, Jeff Mundstock, John Ravasio, Cindy Resor, Jason Roe, Mark Samaan, Shannel Satterfield, and Khaled Shammout

OTHERS: Kim Schafer (Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease, LLC), Lisa Smith (WCPO), Jamar Dunbar (SORTA Coach Operator), Nichole Leporati (AFGE), Katie Hofmann (CFT), Michelle, Dillingham (CFT), Julie Sellers (CFT), Michelle A. (Parent), Justine Jeffre (Citizen) and Derrick D. Blessingame (Government Watchdog)

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jamar Dunbar: Mr. Dunbar, SORTA coach operator addressed his concerns about the new service changes. He wished there was more operator and staff collaboration and expressed his concerns regarding students riding regular service.

Julie Sellers: Ms. Sellers, President of the Cincinnati Federation of Teachers Union, expressed her disappointment with the SORTA Board/staff and CPS leadership regarding the new service changes, student safety concerns, and requested the SORTA Board reinstate XTRA service.

Michelle Dillingham: Ms. Dillingham, Organizer CFT Office, expressed her concerns regarding the new service changes, student safety concerns, and requested the SORTA Board reinstate XTRA service.

Antwone Clay: Mr. Clay, bus rider, shared his experiences with riding the XTRA service as a student and shared his positive experiences as an adult with riding Metro buses. He expressed his concerns regarding student safety and request the SORTA Board return the XTRA service.

Michelle A.: Parent, shared her disappointment with the SORTA Board, staff, CPS leadership and local officials. She shared her experiences with riding Metro XTRA service as a student and mentioned how dependable the service was. She requested the SORTA Board reinstate XTRA service.

APPROVAL OF JULY 20TH, 2021 AND JULY 27TH, 2021 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Hoffmeister made a motion that the minutes of the July 20th, 2021 and July 27th, 2021 board meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Thompson seconded the motion.

By voice vote, the SORTA Board approved the minutes.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Hinton reported the Finance Committee meeting that was held on August 10th, 2021 and there were no action items to present for Board approval.

PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Ethridge reported the Planning and Operations Committee meeting that was held on August 10th, 2021 and there were item(s) to present for Board approval.

MOTION: ACCEPTANCE OF PUBLIC MEETING COMMENTS AND SUMMARY

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. This motion accepts the public meeting summary and comments from August 5th, 2021.

By voice vote, the SORTA Board approved the motion.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 2021-25: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR VALLEY VIEW AND QUEENSGATE RADIO TOWERS REPAIR

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. This resolution approves a contract with Allstate Tower, Inc. for tower repair services, as recommended by the SORTA staff, to be the lowest responsive bid from a responsible bidder, and awards it a contract at a total cost not exceed \$140,750.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the Resolution No. 2021-25.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 2021-26: APPROVAL OF SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH FIFTH THIRD BANK FOR ROUTE 11

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. This resolution approves a one year contract with two one- year options with Fifth Third Bank, for bus services on Madison Road, via Route 11, at total cost of \$52,989 for the first year. Funding for the second and third year will be negotiated at a later date.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the Resolution No. 2021-26.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Keese reported the Employee Relations Committee meeting that was held on August 17th, 2021 and there were no action items to present for Board approval.

FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR JULY 2021

Ms. Resor presented the July financial reports. Total revenues were \$13 million, which is favorable to budget by \$2,735,000. Total expenses were \$9.4 million, which is favorable to budget by \$882,000 or 8.6%. The estimated sales tax revenue was \$ 7,786,000 for the month. Fare revenue was unfavorable to budget by \$262,000. Ms. Resor then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

The Board accepted the report as presented.

METRO ON THE MOVE REPORT

Mr. Haley deferred his report; stating information was available in the Board books.

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 Ms. Black seconded the motion. By roll call vote the Board approved the

motion and went into Executive Session at 7:25 P.M. Mr. Keesee 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 8:45 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

NEXT MEETING

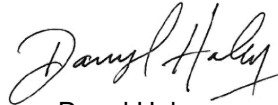
The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for **September 21st, 2021 at 9:00 A.M.**,
the SORTA/Metro Board Room, at 525 Vine Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

APPROVED:



Kreg Keesee
Chair, SORTA Board

ATTESTED:



Darryl Haley
CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer