

SORTA BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
SORTA/METRO AT HUNTINGTON CENTER
SORTA BOARD ROOM-6th FLOOR
525 VINE STREET, CINCINNATI OHIO 45202

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, November 19th 2024, 9:00 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chelsea Clark, Dan Driehaus, Blake Ethridge, Kala Gibson, Neil Kelly, Pete Metz, Briana Moss, Gwen Robinson, Sara Sheets, KZ Smith and Sonja Taylor

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Tony Brice, Jay Bedi, Trent Emeneker and Greg Simpson,

STAFF MEMBERS: Andy Aiello, Julie Beard, John Edmondson, Joe Ferguson, Pat Giblin, Darryl Haley, Adriene Hairston, Brandy Jones, Natalie Krusling, Kevin Ruth, August Sweitzer, Tim Walker and Mike Weil

LEGAL COUNSEL: Kim Schaefer (Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP) and Doug Moormann, GSG

GUEST/PUBLIC PRESENT: N/A

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

HEARING FROM CITIZENS

N/A

CHAIRMAN UPDATE

Discussed ridership and missed trips.

Blink was a great success.

A BRT station design was selected and named.

\$5.1 million investment for the University of Cincinnati to improve and accelerate transit construction projects in Ohio.

Golden Bus Awards are in March.

Congratulated Darryl, Kala, KZ, Brandy and Khaled for recent awards. Thanked Gwen for helping at the Men of Honor Event.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 22ND, 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Metz made a motion that the minutes from the October 22nd, 2024, board meeting be approved as previously mailed and Ms. Clark seconded the motion.

By voice vote, the SORTA Board approved the minutes.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Driehaus reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on November 12th 2024, and there were items(s) to present for Board Approval.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF 2025 BUDGET

Ms. Clark moved for adoption and Mr. Driehaus seconded the motion. The resolution approves the 2025 budget.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF RED BIKE

Mr. Ethridge moved for tabling until the next meeting and Mr. Metz seconded the motion.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved tabling the resolution until the next meeting.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2024 – NOVEMBER 2025 PROPERTY & GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGES

Mr. Driehaus moved for adoption and Ms. Clark seconded the motion. The resolution approves the December 2024 – November 2025 Property & General Liability Insurance Coverages.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED MOTION: APPROVAL OF 2025 SORTA MEETING SCHEDULE

Mr. Driehaus moved for adoption and Ms. Clark seconded the motion. The resolution approves the 2025 SORTA meeting schedule.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Driehaus reported on the Planning and Operations Committee meeting held on November 12th 2024, and there were items(s) to present for Board Approval.

PROPOSED MOTION: APPROVAL OF 2025 AGENCY SAFETY PLAN

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Clark seconded the motion. The motion approves the 2025 Agency Safety Plan.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the motion.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AWARD FOR 153-2024 MICROSOFT 365 ENTERPRISE ACCESS

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Mr. Metz seconded the motion. The resolution approves the contract award for 153-2024 Microsoft 365 Enterprise Access.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF OCTOBER 31st, 2024

Mr. Walker presented the October financial results. Total revenues were \$13.0 million, which was unfavorable to budget by \$467k. Total expenses were \$13.5 million, which is favorable to budget by \$371k. Operator Capital Contribution was \$0.5 million, which was unfavorable to budget by \$96k. Ridership was 1,434k, which is favorable to budget by 53k. Mr. Walker presented the Investment of Funds Reserve Summary with a total All Securities at \$168,702,529, Net Unrestricted Securities Available at \$1,757,310 and Net Unrestricted Securities and 2024 Operating Budget Surplus at \$1,009,817. Mr. Walker then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

METRO ON THE MOVE

Mr. Haley presented the Metro on the Move report. He shared the new ODOT grant of \$4,077,236, the upcoming BRT meetings and the upcoming stuff the bus.

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees has been scheduled for
December 17th, 2024, at 6:00 P.M.
the SORTA/Metro Board Room, at 525 Vine Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

APPROVED:



Blake Ethridge
Chair, SORTA Board

ATTESTED:



Darryl Haley
CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer