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| MINUTES OF: | Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees |
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| DATE: | Tuesday, January 23rd 2024, 6:00 a.m. |
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| BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: | Tony Brice, Amanda Carleski, Chelsea Clark, Dan Driehaus, Blake Ethridge, Kreg Keesee, Neil Kelly, Pete Metz, Briana Moss, Gwen Robinson and KZ Smith |
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| BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: | Jay Bedi, Trent Emeneker, Rod Hinton, Sara Sheets and Sonja Taylor |
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| STAFF MEMBERS: | Andy Aiello, Steve Anderson, John Edmondson, Darryl Haley, Adriene Hairston, Brandy Jones, Natalie Krusling, Troy Miller, Jeff Mundstock, Breanna Rahe, August Schweitzer, Khaled Shammout, Bill Spraul and Mike Weil |
| LEGAL COUNSEL: | Tony Osterlund and Kimberly Schafer (Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP) |
| GUEST/PUBLIC  PRESENT: |  |
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**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**CHAIRMAN UPDATE**

None.

**APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 14TH, 2023 BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Keesee made a motion that the minutes from the November 14th, 2023, board meeting be approved as previously mailed and Ms. Clark seconded the motion.

By voice vote, the SORTA Board approved the minutes.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Ms. Taylor reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on December 5th 2023, and there were items(s) to present for Board Approval.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION 2023-64: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR EXCESS WORKERS COMPENSATION**

Ms. Taylor moved for adoption and Ms. Clark seconded the motion. The contract will approve a 1-year contract with Assured Partners, at a total cost of $119,448 for Workers Compensation claims.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION 2023-65: APPROVAL OF THE 2024 BUDGET**

Ms. Taylor moved for adoption and Mr. Ethridge seconded the motion. The approval of the 2024 budget to include the operating and capital plan, the total cost to not to exceed $223,705,688 of which $160,168,013 is for operating and $63,537,675 is for capital.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

**PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Ethridge reported on the Planning and Operations Committee meeting held on December 5th 2023 and there were items(s) to present for Board Approval.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION 2023-66: APPROVAL OF LEASE AGREEMENT WITH TKG COLERAIN TOWN CENTER, LLC**

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Clark seconded the motion. The contract approves a 3-year lease with TKG Colerain Center, LLC., total cost not to exceed $134,000.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION 2023-68: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT NO: 151-2023 FOR BUS STOP SIGNS AND POLES MAINTENANCE**

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. The contract will approve a 5-year contract with Oberson’s Nursery & Landscapes, LLC., at a total cost not to exceed $907,808 for bus stop signs and poles maintenance.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 2023-67 APPROVAL OF SALES OFFICE LEASE**

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Mr. Driehaus seconded the resolution. This resolution approves a three (5) year contract with MCA Center, LLC. for the sales office lease agreement at a total cost not to exceed $376,822.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION 2023-69: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AWARD 158-2023 FOR RETAIL ELECTRICITY SUPPLY**

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Mr. Driehaus seconded the resolution. This resolution approves a three (5) year contract with Retail Electric Supply for electric with various electrical vendors, at a total cost not to exceed $8,000,000.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

**PROPOSED MOTION: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AWARD 167-2023-SS FOR 2024 GENERAL LEGAL SERVICES**

This motion approves the agencies 2024 General Counsel Legal Services with Vorys, Sater, Seymour, and Pease LLP.

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Mr. Driehaus seconded the motion. This motion approves the 2024 General Counsel Legal Services at a cost not to exceed $300,000.

By roll call, the Board approved the motion.

**PROPOSED MOTION: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AWARD 168-2023-SS FOR 2024 LABOR & EMPLOYMENT LEGAL SERVICES**

This motion approves the agencies 2024 Labor & Employment Legal Services with Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP.

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Mr. Driehaus seconded the motion. This motion approves the 2024 Labor & Employment Legal Services at a cost not to exceed $400,000.

By roll call, the Board approved the motion.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF NOVEMBER 30TH, 2023**

Mr. Aiello presented the November financial results. Total revenues were $13.7 million, which was favorable to budget by $940,000. Total expenses were $12.6 million, which is favorable to budget by $273,000. Surplus/Deficit was $1.1 million, which was favorable to budget by $1.21 million. Ridership was 1.126 million, which is favorable to budget by 22 thousand. Mr. Aiello presented the Investment of Funds Reserve Summary with a total All Securities at $176,133,003, Net Unrestricted Securities Available at $5,730,949 and Net Unrestricted Securities and 2023 Operating Budget Surplus at $6,873,552. Mr. Aiello then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

**METRO ON THE MOVE REPORT**

Mr. Haley presented the Metro on the Move report. It’s beginning to look a lot like the holidays at Metro. Today we spread cheer to customers on Government Square with a special visit from Santa. The Merry Merry Bus is back with two Metro buses decked out for the season that will begin circulating on our fixed-route service on Saturday, December 16th and run through December 29th. For the past two weeks Metro has partnered with Radio One in an effort to stuff the bus with the next opportunity to be on Saturday, December 16th at the Oakley Kroger from noon until 3:00 p.m. Metro’s procurement team is hosting a holiday themed vendor expo on Thursday, December 14th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at TQL stadium. He then concluded his report.

**NEW BUSNIESS**

Mr. Keesee thanked everyone for their hard work and a great year.

Mr. Keesee announced that this is Alyson Beridon’s last meeting and thanked her.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees has been scheduled for

**January 16th, 2024, at 9:00 A.M**.

the SORTA/Metro Board Room, at 525 Vine Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

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| APPROVED: | ATTESTED: |
| Kreg Keesee  Chair, SORTA Board | Darryl Haley  CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer |
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