

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, September 24th 2024, 9:00 a.m.

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Tony Brice, Kala Gibson & Greg Simpson

STAFF MEMBERS: Andy Aiello, Vicki Barker, Joe Ferguson, Pat Giblin, Adriene Hairston, Darryl Haley, Mary Huller, Brandy Jones, Natalie Krusling, Bradley Mason, Jeff Mundstock, John Ravasio, Bill Spraul, August Sweitzer, Tim Walker and Mike Weil

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

GUEST/PUBLIC PRESENT: Steve Johns (East End Area Council), Doug Moorman (GSG) and Ken Reed (OTRP)

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

N/A

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 27th, 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Ethridge made a motion that the minutes from the August 27th, 2024, board meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Kelly seconded the motion and an amendment per Board Member Ms. Sheets will be made to the Eminent Domain Resolution approval.

By voice vote, the SORTA Board approved the minutes with an amendment to the Eminent Domain Resolution.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Ethridge reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on September 17th 2024, and there were items(s) to present for Board Approval.

PROPOSED MOTION: APPROVAL OF REVISED SORTA TRAVEL TRAINING POLICY

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Ms. Clark seconded the motion. The motion approves a revised SORTA Travel Training Policy.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the motion.

PROPOSED MOTION: APPROVAL OF 2025 HEALTHCARE PLAN

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

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the motion.

PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Driehaus reported on the Planning and Operations Committee meeting held on September 17th 2024, and there were items(s) to present for Board Approval.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AWARD FOR 02-2024 CAPITAL PLANNING AND GRANTS TRACKING SOFTWARE

Mr. Driehaus moved for adoption and Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The contract approves a contract with Ignatius with a not to exceed value of \$199,800.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AWARD FOR 053-2024 FOR YARD MANAGEMENT SOLUTION

Mr. Driehaus moved for adoption and Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The contract approves a contract with Trapeze Software Group, Inc. with a not to exceed value of \$2,795,915.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF EMINENT DOMAIN AUTHORITY

Mr. Driehaus moved for adoption and Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The board approves a resolution authorizing the CEO/General Manager to move forward and exercise eminent domain authority to appropriate the property (Hamilton County parcels No's: 067-0003-0068-00, 067-0003-0071-00, 067-0003-0072-00 and 067-0003-0075-00.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF AUGUST 31ST, 2024

Mr. Walker presented the August financial results. Total revenues were \$13.6 million, which was favorable to budget by \$199k. Total expenses were \$13.8 million, which is unfavorable to budget by \$410k. Surplus/Deficit was \$0.1 million, which was unfavorable to budget by \$211k. Ridership was 1,230k, which is favorable to budget by 19k. Mr. Walker presented the Investment of Funds Reserve Summary with a total All Securities at \$178,750,483, Net Unrestricted Securities Available at \$435,297 and Net Unrestricted Securities and 2024 Operating Budget Surplus at \$3,423,887. 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 that Metro's fixed-route and Access service will be free to ride each day of Blink October 17-20, Ridership is at an all-time high, and encouraged participation in the walk with the Metro team at the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on October 19 starting at 8:30 a.m. at Yeatman's Cove. He shared that last week we held 11 Employee Townhall Meetings covering each facility and shift, because of a generous sponsorship of Miller Lite Metro's Fixed-route and Access services will be free on October 6th, new marketing campaign and Awards to include All About Women "Best Places to Work", Business Courier C-Suite Award Finalists to Chief Communications & Marketing Officer Brandy Jones and Chief Strategic Planning, Development and Innovation Officer Khaled Shammout, Darryl's Cincinnati NAACP "Game Changer" award and Board Member Chelsea Clark was recognized as a Business Courier 40 under 40 award recipient.

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Ethridge moved and Ms. Clark seconded going into executive session.

"Section 121.22(G)(3) Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action..."

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees has been scheduled for
October 22nd, 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