



Minutes

Greater Dayton RTA Board of Trustees
Public Board Meeting

December 6, 2022

Trustees: Sharon D. Howard, Vice President
Al Fullenkamp
Sharon Hairston
Adrienne L. Heard
Belinda Matthews-Stenson
Thomas Weckesser
David P. Williamson

Excused: John Lumpkin, President

Staff: Bob Ruzinsky, Chief Executive Officer
Daron Brown, Chief Maintenance Officer
Roland Caldwell, Chief Transportation Officer
Christopher Conard, Coolidge Wall, Co. LPA
Brandon Policicchio, Chief Customer and Business Development Officer
Mary K. Stanforth, Chief Financial Officer

Others: Interested citizens (see attached sheet)

Call Meeting to Order

Ms. Howard called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum was present and proper notice of the meeting had been given.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Howard led attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken:

Mr. Fullenkamp	Yes	Mr. Lumpkin	Excused
Ms. Hairston	Yes	Ms. Matthews-Stenson	Yes
Ms. Heard	Yes	Mr. Weckesser	Yes
Ms. Howard	Yes	Mr. Williamson	Yes

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Howard stated Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority (RTA) By-Laws require Board Trustees approval of today’s Board Meeting Agenda. The Agenda was mailed in advance, and Ms. Howard asked if there are any changes to the Agenda? Upon hearing no requests or changes, Ms. Howard DECLARED APPROVAL of today’s Board Meeting Agenda.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 1, 2022 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Howard asked if anyone requests a reading of the minutes or if there are corrections to the minutes?

Upon hearing no requests or changes, Ms. Howard DECLARED APPROVAL of the November 1, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes.

FINANCE/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT (BELINDA MATTHEWS-STENSON)

Ms. Matthews-Stenson stated the Finance/Personnel and Planning Committees held a meeting on November 15th and as a result, the Finance/Personnel Committee is recommending seven (7) Action Items for the Board’s consideration.

ACTION ITEM #2 – ADOPTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2023 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS

Ms. Matthews-Stenson stated RTA’s total Operating Revenues for 2023 are projected at \$79.3 million while total Operating Expenses are projected at \$79.2 million. This budget scenario reflects a gain of \$100,000 before local capital charges and a loss of \$2.8 million after local capital charges.

Regarding the Capital Budget, expenditures for 2023 are projected at \$67.0 million with \$13.4 million or 20% funded by RTA. Capital projects include the categories of: Electric

System Infrastructure, Revenue Vehicles & Equipment, Transit Hubs & Facility Improvements and Equipment, Technology, Amenities & Other. All projects must follow FTA procurement rules and be approved by the Board of Trustees (for individual projects over \$100 thousand) or the Chief Executive Officer (for projects under \$100 thousand). This ensures the Board has a second level of approval, in addition to approving the overall Capital Budget each year.

MOTION MADE by Ms. Matthews-Stenson and SECONDED by Ms. Heard to APPROVE the 2023 Operating and Capital Budgets. This APPROVAL allows the Secretary-Treasurer to file the appropriate documents with the Montgomery County Auditor and to receive a certificate authorizing 2023 expenditures.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

ACTION ITEM #3 – RESOLUTION NO. 2022-12-1, FISCAL YEAR 2023 ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS

Ms. Matthew-Stenson stated Board Trustees' adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023 Operating and Capital Budgets establishes budget limits for the upcoming year. Trustees' approval of Resolution No. 2022-12-1 will appropriate the needed funds to carry out the activities approved in the Budget documents.

MOTION MADE by Ms. Matthews-Stenson and SECONDED by Ms. Hairston to APPROVE Resolution No. 2022-12-1, Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Appropriations.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

ACTION ITEM #4 – ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION GUIDE

Ms. Matthews-Stenson stated RTA has an Administrative Employee Compensation Guide for non-union employees. Periodically, if not annually, the Compensation Guide is reviewed and adjusted. A recommendation has been made to the Chief Executive Officer to adjust the current Compensation Guide across the board by 5% to reflect the

quickly changing employment market. There are no implied or expressed guarantees on wage increases.

MOTION MADE by Ms. Matthews-Stenson and SECONDED by Mr. Fullenkamp to APPROVE the 2023 Administrative Employee Compensation Guide.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

ACTION ITEM #5 – 2023 BOARD AND COMMITTEES MEETING DATES

Ms. Matthews-Stenson stated as set forth in the RTA Bylaws, the Board of Trustees Meeting Dates occur on the first Tuesday of each month. The Finance/Personnel and Planning Committees meeting dates typically occur on the third Tuesday of each month. The Investment Advisory Committee meets quarterly on the third Thursday during the months of January, April, July, and October.

On an infrequent basis, it may be necessary to change a regularly scheduled meeting date.

After a comprehensive review of planned Agency activities, the attached 2023 Board and Committees meeting dates are recommended for approval by the Board of Trustees.

MOTION MADE by Ms. Matthews-Stenson and SECONDED by Mr. Weckesser to APPROVE the proposed 2023 Board and Committees meeting dates.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

ACTION ITEM #6 – INVESTMENT ADVISOR

Ms. Matthews-Stenson stated RTA requires the services of a qualified and experienced Investment Advisor to provide advice and assistance in managing a comprehensive investment program alongside RTA’s Investment Advisory Committee and Secretary-Treasurer. This procurement supports the core value of Stewardship as we manage our resources efficiently and responsibly.

MOTION MADE by Ms. Matthews-Stenson and SECONDED by Mr. Weckesser to APPROVE a CONTRACT AWARD to Meeder Investment Management for three (3) years at \$25,000 per year for a total of \$75,000 with two (2) one-year options at a cost of \$25,000 per year for a total of \$50,000 with a grand total of \$125,000. Investment Advisor expenditures will be funded through operating funds.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

ACTION ITEM #7 – PEST CONTROL SERVICES

Ms. Matthews-Stenson stated RTA requires the services of a qualified and experienced pest control company to provide a comprehensive proactive pest control program for all RTA facilities and vehicles. The program includes monthly services and urgent response services. This procurement supports our core value of Safety and Quality Service by serving our customers, employees, and stakeholders as we maintain a clean and pest-free environment.

MOTION MADE by Ms. Matthews-Stenson and SECONDED by Ms. Heard to APPROVE a CONTRACT AWARD to Terminix Commercial for Pest Control Services for five (5) years in the amount of \$122,304 for preventative services and an estimated amount of \$121,250 for additional urgent services for a grand total of \$243,554. Pest Control Services will be funded by operating funds.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

ACTION ITEM #8 – ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING

Ms. Matthews-Stenson stated the purpose of this procurement is to select an Environmental Consulting Service to partner with RTA to ensure we maintain environmental compliance with all applicable state, local, and national regulatory requirements, operate using best practices, and advise if issues occur.

MOTION MADE by Ms. Matthews-Stenson and SECONDED by Mr. Fullenkamp to APPROVE a CONTRACT AWARD to Trihydro Corporation for five (5) years at an estimated annual cost of \$60,000 for a total award not to exceed \$300,000. Environmental Consulting Services will be paid with operating funds.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

Discussion Items to Mention

Ms. Matthews-Stenson stated Small Purchases Information has been included in today’s Board package.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT (TOM WECKESSER)

Mr. Weckesser stated the Finance/Personnel and Planning Committees held a meeting on November 15th and while we do not have any Action Items to bring forth, we do have important updates to share.

Mr. Weckesser stated at the meeting, Mr. Brandon Policicchio provided a summary document of recent activities in the Customer and Business Development Department.

November kicked off RTA’s 50th anniversary celebration. In honor of this special occasion, RTA planned several events throughout the month. The media was invited to a news conference on November 1st, where it was announced the RTA would be running a special promotion that included free rides after 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, until December 30th. Also, three 50th anniversary buses were unveiled, with designs featuring iconic buses throughout RTA’s history.

The RTA also held a private employee celebration on November 3rd and a separate event was held for the public on November 25th. The public event was promoted through a press release, several social media posts, and via RTA’s “Food for Friends” sponsorship with WDTN and Grande Illumination sponsorship with WHIO.

The RTA’s Holiday bus was also unveiled during the Dayton Children’s Parade, which coincided with the 50th

anniversary public event. Throughout the holiday season, Santa will make special appearances on the bus, running on various bus routes.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Ruzinsky stated he was happy to report November preliminary ridership reports indicate overall ridership is up 34% over last year. Ridership is down 26% versus pre-Covid levels, which is an improvement compared to being down 50% at the beginning of the year. Mr. Ruzinsky stated schedule changes are starting to have a positive impact, we are running significantly less service than this time last year, while ridership is still up, so the changes that were made are working and efforts are paying off. Flyer ridership has almost doubled since last year, and it's up versus pre-Covid levels. Most of the Flyer increase is related to University of Dayton (UD) students riding back and forth between Campus and the Arcade.

Mr. Ruzinsky stated Staff has been working since the last announcement regarding RTA Service changes. Mr. Ruzinsky rescinded those changes due to not having the best information on some economic development initiatives taking place in the City of Trotwood. Mr. Ruzinsky communicated Staff is preparing to roll out a final service plan in January.

Mr. Ruzinsky stated RTA is going to implement a new service called the North Community Connector which is going to replace Route 34 and will run East and West across the Northern part of the County. This will be an extended route and it will cross ten fixed routes, so it will provide excellent transfer opportunities, so people won't have to come downtown to transfer. This new service will certainly be a welcome addition to serving the Trotwood area! Mr. Ruzinsky stated he made a presentation last night to Trotwood's City Leaders and Citizens and the presentation was well received.

Mr. Ruzinsky commented Staff will have full-service changes coming out in a press release over the next couple of days, however, he prefers to share this news with employees first. Mr. Ruzinsky stated with every service change Staff is operating with fewer and fewer fixed route CDL bus drivers. Mr. Ruzinsky stated Mr. Policicchio and

his team have worked very hard on these changes. Mr. Ruzinsky stated while he would love to say we are expanding services and hiring lots of drivers and growing services, the reality is we are not. We are doing the best we can with the resources we have available.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Ruzinsky followed up to comments from last month's Board meeting including:

- Ridership data
- Former Senior E-Z ride
- Flyer Service
- Commercial Drivers License (CDL) for upper management
- Printed Schedules, and
- Safety precautions for drivers

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Howard stated anyone wishing to address the Board must speak on their own behalf. After you are recognized to speak you must come to the lectern or if you're physically unable to do so a handheld microphone will be brought to you. You must first state your name and address, after doing so, at that point you have 3 minutes to make your comments. A yellow light will come on when you have 30 seconds remaining, and the Secretary will say 30 seconds. When your three minutes are up, the red light will come on and the Secretary will say stop, and at that time you must stop talking and leave the lectern or surrender the microphone.

Bishop E. Ray Cobia – 4746 Germantown Pike, Dayton, Ohio 45417. Bishop Cobia stated that he was here today representing New Life Temple of Deliverance and the Worldwide Apostolic Church Organization, in addition to being a Community Leader. Bishop Cobia commends RTA for all efforts in the community, however, he has issues regarding the Green Bus Pass, and the problems he was experiencing with a bus driver who told him to get off the bus. Mr. Cobia stated he feels that there is a need for better customer service tools applied within RTA and the bus drivers regarding the people they serve.

The following Citizens requested Senior E-Z Ride Service be reinstated:

- Charlene Dawson - 6045 North Main Street, Apartment #214, Dayton, Ohio 45415.
- Ms. Mary Miller - 229 Colgate Avenue, Dayton, Ohio 45417.
- Sandra Smothers - 215 McDaniel Street, Apartment #207 - McPherson Town, Dayton, Ohio 45417.

Ms. Tiki Kai-Krismano – 62 Central Avenue, Apartment #6, Dayton, Ohio 45406. Ms. Kai-Krismano stated her concern is that there are no seating and/or shelters on Salem Avenue. Passengers need a place to sit or stand while waiting to catch the bus.

Mr. Ruzinsky replied the City of Dayton is redoing a majority of Salem Avenue and rebuilding the streets and the infrastructure, and some of those amenities were probably 30+ years old have been removed by the contractors. RTA plans to put many of the benches back, there are just timing issues and construction concerns. Mr. Ruzinsky stated the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has stopped funding those types of capital projects and has made it almost impossible to get shelters installed anywhere because of the legal and environmental reviews they require now, and all the governmental signoffs.

Ms. Howard asked if Mr. Ruzinsky could meet directly with Ms. Kai-Krismano after the meeting?

Mr. Ruzinsky replied yes.

Ms. Howard thanked everyone for their comments and concerns.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Board members wished everyone Happy Holidays!

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION MADE by Ms. Heard and SECONDED by Ms. Hairston to ADJOURN the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

The meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

ATTEST



Sharon D. Howard
Vice President
RTA Board of Trustees



Mary K. Stanforth
Secretary/Treasurer
RTA Board of Trustees

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