

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

The Board of Directors of the Regional Transportation Authority met in public session on **Thursday, March 19, 2015** in Suite 1650, 175 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois pursuant to notice.

Chairman Dillard called the meeting to order at 9:55 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

ROLL CALL

Board members present (13): Anderson, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Melvin, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

Board members absent (3): Buchanan, Magalis, and Pang

Approval of minutes from the meetings held on January 22, 2015

Director Frega moved, and Director Totten seconded that the minutes from the meetings held on January 22, 2015 be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

13 Ayes: Directors Anderson, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Melvin, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

3 Absent: Directors Buchanan, Magalis, and Pang

Public Comment

Ms. Brenda Trotter commented on the lack of cleanliness on one of the paratransit carriers. She asked that the RTA contact Pace to look into the matter with the specific carrier.

Mr. Michael Payne remarked on duplicative services that should be eliminated and referenced his Grey Line proposal as a viable option.

RTA Transit Access Advisory Committee Update

Mr. Greg Polman, Vice-Chair of the RTA Transit Access Advisory Committee (RTAAC) and a Senior Vice-President at Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, provided the RTAAC Quarterly Report to the Board. The most recent RTAAC meeting was held January 20, 2015. Mr. Polman thanked staff for updating the RTAAC about Governmental Affairs Department activities in Springfield and Washington, DC. He also praised the RTA for developing and pre-testing its new website and ensuring that it is compatible with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Illinois Information Technology Accessibility Act (IITAA)

**APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
APRIL 16, 2015**

Standards for Web-Based Information and Applications prior to being made public. He noted that he and two other members with vision impairments pre-tested the website using different screen reading software and found the site to be accessible, identifying only one minor issue. He also noted that the RTA website attained a near-perfect score using the Functional Accessibility Evaluator (FAE) 2.0 beta test and recommended that RTA suggest that the Service Boards adhere to the same standards. Finally, Mr. Polman noted that the RTA and CTA have partnered with the "ADA 25 Chicago" initiative, hosted by Chicago Community Trust, and part of a national effort to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the ADA (July 26, 2015). He noted that the RTAAC members are working with RTA staff to support participation in this year-long initiative. The RTA Board will receive a briefing about the ADA 25 Chicago activities at its next meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Redden began by reporting the amount of money currently owed to the RTA by the State is \$248.0 million.

Ms. Redden then discussed the RTA's recent transit-oriented development survey, which was an online survey of residents living in 14 suburban TOD areas. The results provided for a better understanding as to why individuals chose to live in TOD areas and how their travel habits differ from when they lived at their previous residences.

The RTA has also recently completed two community planning projects in Kane County: The City of Elgin Chicago Street Station Area Plan and the Village of Carpentersville Transit Improvement Plan. These projects will help improve the transit strategies and options within those areas.

New and updated RTA maps are now available online and through paper distribution. These maps are also available in Spanish, and include new cover designs and reflect the new **Ride On** Marketing campaign.

Ms. Redden then gave an update on the work in Washington DC. There is continued discussion and work around the MAP-21 reauthorization issue. Committees are continuing to hold their hearings and the biggest issue that is preventing the next surface transportation bill from moving forward remains the funding. The RTA and the three service boards participated in DC visits that focused on several priorities, including the State of Good Repair and the importance of transit tax benefit parity. Getting America to Work also held meeting during the APTA legislative conference, which was a huge success with several attendees.

Lastly, Ms. Redden discussed the proposed State budget cuts for SFY 2016 and the RTA's continued work with the Governor throughout the process. It is estimated that these cuts would total \$169.5 million regionwide. The RTA looks forward to continued communication and helping find a new solution that would provide for the least cuts possible.

Resolution proclaiming April 9th as “Stand Up for Transportation Day”

Chairman Dillard explained the national day and asked the Secretary to read the resolution into the record, which she did. Director Troiani then moved, and Director Lewis seconded that the resolution be adopted. The motion carried on the following leave for last unanimous roll call vote:

- 13 Ayes: Directors Anderson, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Melvin, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard
3 Absent: Directors Buchanan, Magalis, and Pang

Contract and Procurement Items

Director Ross moved, and Director Durante seconded that the one ordinance listed below be adopted as submitted.

- 2015-05 This ordinance authorizes a contract for state and local legislative consulting services to be provided by Nancy J. Kimme of NJ Kimme and Company, LLC (NJK). The proposed contract term is March 19 through July 31, 2015. The total expenditures for this contract will not exceed \$35,000.

The motion carried on the following leave for last unanimous roll call vote:

- 13 Ayes: Directors Anderson, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Melvin, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard
3 Absent: Directors Buchanan, Magalis, and Pang

Consent Items

Director Hobson requested that the two items identified for a Consent vote be considered separately. Director Frega then moved, and Director Fuentes seconded that the items below be adopted as submitted.

- 2015-06 These resolutions certify the operating financial results for each Service Board and the region
2015-07 region as a whole, through the fourth quarter of 2014. Based on data available to
2015-08 date, staff expects that the system-generated revenue recovery ratio, the Service
2015-09 Board recovery ratios, and the operating deficits at the CTA, Metra, Pace
2015-10 Suburban Service, and Regional ADA Paratransit will be substantially in accordance with the adopted budgets.

The motion carried on the following leave for last unanimous roll call vote:

- 13 Ayes: Directors Anderson, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Melvin, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard
3 Absent: Directors Buchanan, Magalis, and Pang

Director Fuetes moved, and Director Totten seconded that the item below be adopted as submitted.

2015-11 This ordinance repeals the existing RTA Procurement Rules and Regulations and adopts the attached amended Procurement Rules and Regulations governing the conduct of RTA purchasing and contracting. The amended rules are consistent with the RTA Act, in keeping with industry standards and should lead to a clearer, more efficient procurement process for RTA staff and potential vendors.

The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

13 Ayes: Directors Anderson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Lewis, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard
3 Nays: Directors Coulson, Hobson, and Melvin
3 Absent: Directors Buchanan, Magalis, and Pang

New Business

In response to a question raised at the Finance Committee, Ms. Donna Anderson, Manager of Budgeting provided an explanation on how the RTA's regional fares compare to its peers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION/ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the public portion of the meeting of the Board, Chairman Dillard explained that the next item on the agenda was an Executive Session. He pointed out that since there was no action to come out of the closed session, he would like the Board to move into Executive Session and adjourn from there. Director Ross moved, and Director Anderson seconded. The motion carried on the following leave for last unanimous roll call vote.

13 Ayes: Anderson, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Melvin, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard
3 Absent: Buchanan, Magalis, and Pang

The public portion of the meeting ended at 11:10 a.m. and the Board moved into Executive Session.

Audrey MacLennan

AUDREY MACLENNAN

Secretary of the Authority