

**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, May 25, 2017** in Suite 1650, 175 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois pursuant to notice.

Chairman Dillard called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

**ROLL CALL**

**Board members present (15):** Anderson, Buchanan (phone), Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Higgins, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani (phone), and Chairman Dillard

**Board members absent (1):** Fuentes

**Approval of minutes from the meeting held on April 20, 2017**

Director Pang moved, and Director Hobson seconded that the minutes from the meeting held on April 20, 2017 be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

**15 Ayes:** Anderson, Buchanan (phone), Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Higgins, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani (phone), and Chairman Dillard

**1 Absent:** Fuentes

**Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Leanne Redden Executive Director began by explaining that the State owes the RTA \$454.8 million and is 10 months behind on ASA and AFA payments and the equivalent of 11 months behind on PTF payments. The cost of this short-term borrowing is \$950,919.00, thus the RTA has maxed out our temporary short-term borrowing authority.

She then gave an update on the Illinois General Assembly's spring session. Adjournment date is set for May 31<sup>st</sup> and only the Illinois Senate has passed a budget package. The package sets the 2018 fiscal budget at \$37.3 billion and relies on more than \$5 billion of new tax revenue. It is still unclear what will happen in the House.

The RTA's short-term borrowing authorization bill has passed the House and earlier this week passed out of the Senate Transportation Committee. There will likely be a senate floor vote on the bill at the end of the week.

On April 26th, Chairman Dillard participated in a Capitol Hill roundtable event with the head of the Phoenix area transit system, as well as a representative from the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce. The panel discussed the importance of investment in transit and the bi-partisan

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
JUNE 22, 2017**

nature of transit spending. Following the roundtable event, the panel members participated in a large media phone interview with members of the press representing news organizations across the country.

On May 3rd and 4th, Ms. Redden joined with the nation's 8 largest legacy transit agencies (NY, Boston, Philly, D.C., Chicago, S.F., Cleveland, Pittsburg) across the nation to meet with members of Congress in Washington D.C. to discuss specific issues relevant to them. The group advocated against the President's proposed cuts to the capital investment grant program, as well as cuts to the TIGER grant program and discussed the positive economic impact of investing in the nation's legacy transit systems.

Earlier in the month, the RTA hosted a two-day comprehensive ADA Paratransit eligibility course. The National Transit Institute (NTI) course teaches transit professionals how to make these important eligibility decisions for customers with disabilities applying for ADA Paratransit service.

Ms. Redden also updated the Board on the 2017 Technical Assistance Symposium the RTA co-hosted with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP). More than 200 attendees learned about how to apply for technical assistance and public funding. The application period opened May 5 and closes June 29.

Finally, on Thursday, June 15th, the RTA along with CTA, Metra and Pace we will celebrate the 12th annual National Dump the Pump Day. It is estimated that more than 150 transportation agencies around the country will take part in this annual event. This year, Cubic is the official sponsor of our "Dump the Pump & Have a Cup on us" coffee giveaway.

#### Dump the Pump Proclamation

Chairman Dillard introduced the Proclamation for Dump the Pump Day, and Ms. MacLennan read it into the record. Director Melvin moved, and Director Anderson seconded the RTA proclamation. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

**15 Ayes:** Anderson, Buchanan (phone), Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Higgins, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani (phone), and Chairman Dillard

**1 Absent:** Fuentes

#### Update on activities of the RTA Transit Access Citizens' Advisory Board

The RTACAB held its second-quarter meeting on April 17, 2017. RTACAB Chairman Greg Polman provided an update to the Board. Mr. Polman explained that Ms. Leary gave a briefing on the 2018 Strategic Plan, similar to the briefings the RTA Board had recently received. The RTACAB is looking forward in participating in these stakeholder meetings throughout the summer and fall.

Ms. Leary also provided an update on the current Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (aka Section 5310) call for projects. Currently, there are 14 active projects in the program and each current grantee operating service is expected to reapply. Although fully funding all programs is unlikely due to the limited funds available, new projects may be added to the program if they are deemed eligible and fulfill a transportation need. The call is limited to Units of Local Government, Transit Agencies and Private non-profit organizations. Because these funds are orientated to coordinated services; those serving only one town or township are unlikely to get funded. Applications were due on May 1<sup>st</sup>, with final recommendations to be presented to the Board in August.

Mr. Scott Hennings, RTACAB Member and Principal Transportation Planner for McHenry County Division of Transportation then briefed the committee on a new MC Ride Pilot Project aimed at expanding transportation options through the use of TNCs (Transportation Network Companies). The program will serve seniors and people with a disability who have current eligibility in the RTA Reduced Fare, Ride Free or ADA Paratransit Certification programs. Unfortunately, the County did not receive bids for the RFP they issued in March. McHenry DOT with the RTA's cooperation, are drafting a new RFP that might be more attractive to TNCs.

### **Consent Agenda**

Director Magalis moved, and Director Ross seconded the adoption of the following ordinances as included in the Consent Agenda:

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 2017-16 | These resolutions certifying that the operating financial results for each Service |
| 2017-17 | Board, through the first quarter of 2017, are substantially in accordance with     |
| 2017-18 | the budgets adopted on December 15, 2016, and that the operating financial         |
| 2017-19 | results of the region as a whole are not substantially in accordance with the      |
| 2017-20 | adopted regional budget due to a proposed reduction in Reduced Fare                |
|         | Reimbursement (RFR) funding from the State.  |
| 2017-21 | This ordinance approves and releases the 2018 Business Plan Call. The Business     |
|         | Plan Call defines the schedule and information requirements that the Service       |
|         | Boards must follow for the development of the 2018 Business Plan, which            |
|         | includes the 2018 Operating Budget, 2019-2020 Two-Year Financial Plan, and         |
|         | 2018-2022 Five-Year Capital Program.   |

The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

**15 Ayes:** Anderson, Buchanan (phone), Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Higgins, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani (phone), and Chairman Dillard

**1 Absent:** Fuentes

**Contracts/Expenditure Items**

Director Frega moved, and Director Durante seconded the adoption of the following ordinances and approval of Board travel expenditures as submitted:

- 2017-22      This ordinance authorizes the purchase of excess liability insurance policies by the RTA's Loss Financing Plan/Joint Self-Insurance Fund. RTA's current policies expire on June 15, and renewal policies are required in order to ensure continuous coverage in the event of a claim. The total cost of premiums for coverage from 2017-2018 will not exceed \$5,339,000, plus applicable taxes.
- 2017-23      This ordinance authorizes a two-year contract with Sam Schwartz Consulting, L.L.C. to develop a Corridor Plan for Harlem Avenue, from North Avenue in Oak Park, south to 71<sup>st</sup> Street at Toyota Park in Bridgeview for Pace . The total contract amount is not-to-exceed \$200,000. In addition, Sam Schwartz Consulting, L.L.C. meets the 10% DBE goal established for this contract.

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

**15 Ayes:** Anderson, Buchanan (phone), Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Higgins, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani (phone), and Chairman Dillard

**1 Absent:** Fuentes

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, Director Pang moved, and Director Melvin seconded that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried on the following voice vote.

**15 Ayes:** Anderson, Buchanan (phone), Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Higgins, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani (phone), and Chairman Dillard

**1 Absent:** Fuentes

The meeting ended at 10:10 a.m.

*Audrey MacLennan*

AUDREY MACLENNAN

Secretary of the Authority