

**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, June 22, 2017** in Suite 1650, 175 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois pursuant to notice.

Chairman Dillard called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

**ROLL CALL**

**Board members present (13):** Anderson (phone), Coulson, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Ross, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

**Board members absent (3):** Buchanan, DeWitte, and Pang

**Approval of minutes from the meeting held on May 25, 2017**

Director Frega moved, and Director Durante seconded that the minutes from the meeting held on May 25, 2017 be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

**13 Ayes:** Anderson (phone), Coulson, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Ross, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

**3 Absent:** Buchanan, DeWitte, and Pang

**Public Comment**

Dr. Ayo Maat and William Crosby provided comments on the need for better paratransit service.

**Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director Leanne Redden reported that the RTA is owed \$466 million in debt service and PTF by the state of Illinois. The state is 11 months behind on the debt service and the equivalent of 11 months behind on PTF and the cost of this short term borrowing to the RTA is \$1,432,065.00. The RTA has maxed out temporary short-term borrowing authority

Ms. Redden then gave an update on the state General Assembly, which concluded its spring session on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Prior to the end of the legislative session, the Senate passed a budget package with several reform measures as well as a revenue bill, but no action was taken by the House. As the end of the state fiscal year approaches, the Governor called both the Senate and House chambers back into session for the next week and a half leading up to June 30th. The budget proposal included cuts to state transit funding including a reduction of the RTA's state sales tax match funding from 30% to 27.5%. The budget proposal also included a 2% Department of Revenue surcharge on all sales tax collected on behalf of the RTA. The reduced funding included in the budget proposal would amount to an approximately \$100 million cut for the region.

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
AUGUST 24, 2017**

The RTA's \$400 million short-term borrowing extension has passed both the Senate and the House chambers and will soon be sent to the Governor's desk for signature.

Ms. Redden then gave an update on events happening in Washington DC. President Trump released a fact sheet outlining the principles of his \$1 trillion infrastructure plan. The plan would invest \$200 billion in federal funds, which is predicted to leverage \$800 billion in non-federal funds to reach the proposed \$1 trillion in total investment over 10 years. The proposal focuses on "making targeted federal investments" in the highest priority projects. The administration says it is "encouraging self-help" by having states and counties raise their own revenue and "aligning infrastructure investment with entities best suited to provide sustained and efficient investment"

Next, Ms. Redden provided an update on the process for developing the 2018-2023 Regional Transit Strategic Plan. Following the RTA Board workshop held in March, staff conducted a similar workshop for regional agency and county staff on May 23. Over the remaining weeks of the summer, RTA and Service Board staff will use the synthesized input from stakeholders to develop policy statements, a refreshed vision, and new goals for the Plan. Staff is still on track to complete the plan in the fall and present for your adoption first thing next year.

Ms. Redden then briefed the board on the proposed projects for federal 5310 funding program that are now posted for public comment. These projects were reviewed for program eligibility by the RTA in conjunction with a project selection team composed of staff from IDOT, CMAP, and the RTA.

The RTA conducted a Customer Satisfaction Survey with the cooperation with CTA, Metra and Pace from November 2016 to February 2017. This latest survey follows up on those done in 2013-14 and 2011. The survey looked into three areas of satisfaction: loyalty (which is the likelihood to recommend the service to a friend); value of service for the fare paid and overall satisfaction. When the final report is completed within the next week or so, staff will forward it to Board members.

Finally, on June 15<sup>th</sup>, the RTA, along with CTA, Metra and Pace celebrated the 12<sup>th</sup> annual National Dump the Pump Day! This event is nationally supported by the APTA, encouraging everyone to give up their cars for a day and explore alternative forms of transportation. Ms. Redden thanked everyone involved for their hard work.

### **Consent Agenda**

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

- 2017-24 This ordinance will approve the 2016 Combining Financial Report (Report) for the RTA and the Service Boards, and certify compliance with the RTA Act's recovery ratio (including ADA) requirement for 2016. Upon approval, the Report will be distributed to the parties specified in Section 4.05 of the Act and to others upon request.
- 2017-25 This ordinance will approve and release the RTA's 2016 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Upon approval, the CAFR will be distributed to the trustee designated for debt obligations of the Authority and to any holders of Authority obligations or any other interested person upon request
- 2017-26 This ordinance authorizes a capital amendment to allow Pace to reprogram current year Service Board funds from the purchase of new buses to a project that will replace and upgrade Pace's Oracle Business Enterprise Business Suite (EBS) system, and the addition of Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds that will be applied to the Randall Road Transit Infrastructure Project.
- 2017-27 This ordinance authorizes the RTA to issue bonds through a competitive sale that will refund bonds outstanding from the 2006A series, as permitted by Section 4.04 of the RTA Act. The bonds issued in 2006 can be refunded at lower interest rates, thereby reducing the RTA's debt service costs.
- 2017-28 This ordinance amends the RTA 457 (B) Plan to provide for bylaws by which the Plan's Committee will operate.

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

**13 Ayes:** Anderson (phone), Coulson, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Ross, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

**3 Absent:** Buchanan, DeWitte, and Pang

### **Contracts/Expenditure Items**

Director Ross moved, and Director Melvin seconded the adoption of the following ordinance and approval of Board travel expenditures as submitted:

- 2017-29 This ordinance authorizes an emergency contract with vTech Solutions Inc. to provide temporary staffing for the IT department to address significant staffing shortages. The contract for professional services is at an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

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

**13 Ayes:** Anderson (phone), Coulson, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Ross, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

**3 Absent:** Buchanan, DeWitte, and Pang

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**13 Ayes:** Anderson (phone), Coulson, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Ross, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

**3 Absent:** Buchanan, DeWitte, and Pang

The meeting ended at 10:20 a.m.

*Audrey MacLennan*

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AUDREY MACLENNAN

Secretary of the Authority