

**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, October 19, 2017** in Suite 1650, 175 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois pursuant to notice.

Chairman Dillard called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Chairman Dillard then introduced Tom Kotel as the RTA's newest Board member representing the City of Chicago, replacing James Buchanan, who retired at the end of his term.

ROLL CALL

Board members present (14): DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

Board members absent (2): Anderson and Coulson

Approval of minutes from the meeting held on August 24, 2017

Director Ross moved, and Director Fuentes seconded that the minutes from the meeting held on August 24, 2017 be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

14 Ayes: DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

2 Absent: Anderson and Coulson

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Leanne Redden began by informing the Board that as of the end of September the State owed the RTA \$447.7 million and is roughly 15 months behind on ASA and AFA and the equivalent of 9 months behind on PTF. The YTD cost of short-term debt is \$3.8 million.

The Illinois General Assembly is scheduled to be in session October 24-26 and then again November 7-9 in order to take up legislative items vetoed by the Governor. The RTA's short-term borrowing extension, House Bill 3004, was the subject of an amendatory veto by the Governor in August. This means a portion of the bill was eliminated by the Governor and sent back to the General Assembly for consideration. The language of the bill that was removed through the Governor's executive action and was unrelated to the RTA's borrowing authority extension. A motion has been filed in the General Assembly to accept the Governor's amendatory veto, but it remains unclear as to whether there are enough votes available to successfully accept the veto.

The focus of September and early October in Washington is on the FY18 Budget Resolution and comprehensive tax reform. On Tuesday, September 26 during a bi-partisan meeting of House Ways & Means members, President Trump told lawmakers that he was in fact abandoning public-private partnerships (P3s) because they do not work. This was a major surprise to the members of Congress and stakeholders. The President and his Administration have stressed that their infrastructure proposal

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NOVEMBER 29, 2017**

will rely on private investment. On September 27, the tax reform blueprint agreed to by the White House, House and Senate leadership was released. While the September 27 tax reform blueprint did not specifically address the RTA priorities of shoring-up the sustainability of the Highway Trust Fund (HTF), there is some language that could be potentially troublesome for the commuter tax fringe benefit. In early September, RTA presented the congressional delegation its formal tax reform priorities in a letter calling for maintaining the tax-exempt treatment of municipal bonds and keeping the commuter transit benefit at its current level and at parity with the parking benefit.

Next, Ms. Redden provided an update on the process for developing the 2018-2023 Regional Transit Strategic Plan. Following the workshop held with the RTA Board in August, Chairman Dillard and Ms. Redden appeared before the Service Board Boards on September 13. There were good conversations about the importance of capital funding and the value of having a shared plan for investment as we make our individual and collective rounds in Springfield and Washington. The Draft Plan is nearly complete and will be released for public comment in November. In late November and early December there will be 8 hearings, as required by the RTA Act. This year the meetings will be held in combination with the Capital Program and Budget hearings. The Strategic Plan is on track to be completed in December and presented to the RTA Board in early 2018 for adoption.

Ms. Redden then provided a brief snap shot of some regional transit promotions, all of which can be found in the RTA "Ride On. Blog" and our social media pages.

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada has once again awarded the RTA the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for our fiscal year 2017 budget. This marks the 21st consecutive year that RTA has received this recognition. Finally, Chairman Dillard received the 2017 Local Distinguished Service Award from APTA. The APTA "best of the best" awards recognize excellence in the public transportation industry in North America, on both the individual and organizational level.

Resolution setting the regular RTA meeting dates for 2018

Director Higgins moved, and Director Durante seconded that the resolution be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following leave for last unanimous roll call vote:

14 Ayes: DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

2 Absent: Anderson and Coulson

Resolution honoring James Buchanan

Director Kotel moved, and Director Melvin seconded that the resolution be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following leave for last unanimous roll call vote:

14 Ayes: DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

2 Absent: Anderson and Coulson

Ordinance adopting the RTA Title VI Program for 2017-2020

Ms. Allison Noback, Deputy General Counsel briefly explained that recipients and sub-recipients of financial assistance from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) are required to adopt Title VI programs to ensure non-discriminatory practices and meaningful access to benefits, services information and important activities for all persons regardless of race, color or national origin. The program must also contain the RTA's plan for meaningful participation by individuals with limited English proficiency. Programs approved by the FTA remain in effect for three years. The RTA last submitted a Title VI program to the FTA in October of 2014, which expires on November 30, 2017.

Director Pang moved, and Director Melvin seconded that the ordinance be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following leave for last unanimous roll call vote:

14 Ayes: DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

2 Absent: Anderson and Coulson

Consent Agenda

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

2017-46 This ordinance restate the RTA Pension Plan, in full, incorporating all amendments made to the Plan and previously adopted by this Board since its last restatement in 2013. In order to maintain the Plan's tax-qualified status with the IRS, the Plan must be periodically submitted to the IRS for review and approval during a specified time period.

2017-47 This ordinance authorizes the Executive Director to provide a twelve-month extension to the two-year deadline for expending Innovation, Coordination, and Enhancement (ICE) program funds a Metra project.

2017-48 This ordinance authorizes the RTA to issue up to \$250 million of working cash notes ("Notes") through a direct placement facility with a draw down revolving feature so that repayment is on an ongoing basis over a 2-year period, as permitted by Section 4.04 of the RTA Act.

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

14 Ayes: DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

2 Absent: Anderson and Coulson

Contracts/Expenditure Items

Director Hobson requested that Item 8c be considered under separate vote. Director DeWitte moved, and Director Fuentes seconded the adoption of the following ordinances and approval of Board travel expenditures as submitted:

- 2017-49 This ordinance authorizes participation in the City of Chicago (“City”) Contract Number 26959, specification No. 105081 with CDW Government LLC (“CDW”) for Provision of Software, Apple Products, Panasonic Ruggedized Notebooks, Network Equipment, Servers, Storage Solutions, and Related Maintenance and Installation Services. The projects are required to enhance disaster recovery and maintain critical components of IT infrastructure.
- 2017-50 This ordinance authorizes a contract to be initiated with the firm Res Publica Group to provide integrated communications services, including public relations, strategic marketing and communications. The term of the contract is two years. The total expenditure for the contract is for an amount not to exceed \$250,000.

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

14 Ayes: DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard
2 Absent: Anderson and Coulson

Ms. Leary explained that RTAMS is a publicly-accessible website that houses transit and planning related datasets and reports. The website offers a wealth of information pertaining to ridership, assets and services, funding programs, capital projects, rolling stock, sales tax, and demographics. In addition, the website provides interactive maps that allow users to view some data sets spatially. RTAMS also has several password-protected applications used by RTA staff to manage specific data, projects, and tasks.

Director Hobson commented on the contract to support RTAMS website. He acknowledged that the \$100,000 was for hosting over five years, but questioned the remainder amount that would be funding other uses that include improvements and transfers. He stated he has asked a number of questions on this topic and has not been satisfied that the additional \$450,000 is justified at this point in time. He noted he has serious concerns about this particular item.

Director Fuentes moved, and Director Durante seconded the adoption of the following ordinance and as submitted:

- 2017-51 This ordinance will authorize the Executive Director to execute a contract between the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) and Clarity Partners for website hosting, enhancements, GIS and on-call support for the Regional Transportation Authority - Mapping and Statistics website (www.RTAMS.org <<http://www.RTAMS.org>>).

The motion carried on the following roll call vote.

12 Ayes: DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Pang, Ross, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

2 Nays: Hobson and Melvin

2 Absent: Anderson and Coulson

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting ended at 10:10 p.m.

Audrey MacLennan

AUDREY MACLENNAN
Secretary of the Authority