

**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, April 19, 2018 in Suite 1650, 175 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois pursuant to notice.

Chairman Dillard called the meeting to order at 10:25 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

**ROLL CALL**

**Board members present (16):** Anderson, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes (phone), Higgins, Hobson, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani (phone), Chairman Dillard

**Approval of minutes from the meeting held on February 15, 2018**

Director Frega moved, and Director Kotel seconded that the minutes from the meeting held on February 15, 2018 be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

**16 Ayes:** Anderson, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani, Chairman Dillard

**Executive Director's Report**

On behalf of Ms. Leanne Redden, Nadine Lacombe reported through the end of March, the State owes the RTA \$484.8 million of ASA, AFA, and PTF. The State is 12 months behind on ASA; 19 months behind on AFA and the equivalent of 10.5 months behind on PTF. The YTD cost of short-term debt is \$1.2 million.

Ms. Lacombe then briefed the Board on state legislative matters. The Illinois General Assembly returned to Springfield last week following a four week spring legislative break. On April 6th, the Senate Environment and Conservation Committee heard testimony in Chicago from various interest groups and government entities, including Metra, regarding the award of over \$100 million in Volkswagen (VW) emissions settlement funds. VW entered into a multi-billion dollar settlement with the federal government for violations of the Clean Air Act. The IEPA has been designated as the lead agency to the administer funds allocated to Illinois, which is \$108 million and has prepared a draft plan which begins to set the framework as to how these funds will be awarded throughout the state. Transit projects will be eligible for funding under at least two of the three categories of funding set forth in the plan. The Service Boards are currently drafting comments on the draft which will be submitted to the IEPA later this week.

Several transit-related measures have been filed in recent weeks that have the potential for impacting the RTA or the Service Boards. This includes several measures relating to a rollback of the 2% Department of Revenue administration fee that was included in last summer's budget deal. The 2% fee impacted not only the RTA region, but also local municipalities and counties across the state.

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MAY 17, 2018**

Ms. Lacombe continued the report by updating the Board on federal legislative matters. Specifically, she explain that during the week of March 19 Congress passed - and the President signed - the final omnibus FY2018 funding bill which keeps the government running through September 30. There was language in that agreement directing Congress to include at least \$10 billion for infrastructure investment. So the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) received an additional \$1 billion for FY18. The Capital Investment Grant (CIG), which has been targeted for large reductions and eventual elimination in the President's budgets received a significant increase in funding. And \$100 million was allocated for the Red and Purple Line Modernization Program. The spending agreement also uses strong legislative text to ensure that the Secretary of DOT obligates the CIG money within a short time frame and moves projects through the program from initial application to construction. Congressional staff and members believe the strong language will require Secretary Chao to sign Full Funding Grant Agreements for new project, which has been resisted by DOT since the beginning of the Trump Administration. Also part of the agreement is the expansion of PTC deployment grant eligibility to include commuter rail lines like Metra.

Finally, Ms. Lacombe told the Board that the RTA celebrated Women's History Month in several ways. The agency hosted a Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) luncheon where women transportation and transit leaders shared their experiences, and advice, with a room full of CPS students. The agency also thanked Director Sarah Pang for sharing her experience and insights in a RTA Ride On blog post.

#### **Consent Agenda**

Director Melvin had requested that item 6c be removed from the Consent vote and taken separately. In addition, item 6d was tabled and will be considered at a later meeting. Director DeWitte then moved, and Director Melvin seconded the adoption of the following ordinances from the Consent Agenda:

- 2018-14      This ordinance amends the 2018-2022 Capital Program that incorporates technical corrections for CTA, and changes in program revenue and expenditures for Metra and Pace.
  
- 2018-15      This ordinance approves time extensions for the implementation of two CTA Innovation, Coordination, and Enhancement (ICE) funded projects.
  
- 2018-16      This ordinance authorizes the RTA to issue up to \$150 million of working cash notes ("Notes"), as permitted by Section 4.04 of the RTA Act. The notes will retire existing notes in the amount of \$150 million, as well as provide the opportunity to address cash flow interruptions related to the State's late payments. Costs to issue the notes other than underwriter's discount will be paid from existing internal funds.

The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

**16 Ayes:** Anderson, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani, Chairman Dillard

Director Melvin commented that he believed the Service Boards should make the decision on long-term borrowing. Director Higgins suggested the Service Boards be invited to appear before the Board to justify the need for this bonding. Director Ross moved and Director Durante seconded the adoption of the following ordinance as from the Consent Agenda

2018-17 This ordinance authorizes the RTA to issue up to \$150 million of 30-year General Obligation Bonds ("Bonds") through a competitive sale, as permitted by Section 4.04 of the RTA Act. This issuance was included in the 2017 – 2021 capital program that was approved by the RTA board in December 2016.

The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

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

**2 Nays:** Higgins and Melvin

#### **Contracts/Expenditure Items**

Director Durante moved, and Director Fuentes seconded the adoption of the following ordinance, as well as the approval of staff and Board travel expenditures as submitted:

2018-18 This ordinance authorizes a contract with Amazon Web Services ("AWS") to provide cloud computing services for the RTA Trip Planner application for a period of two years, for an amount not-to-exceed \$120,000.

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

**16 Ayes:** Anderson, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Higgins, Hobson, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Troiani, Chairman Dillard

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION/ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the public session of the Board, Chairman Dillard asked RTA General Counsel Nadine Lacombe to cite the exceptions for the closed session. Ms. Lacombe cited IOMA Section 2(c)(1), Section 2(c)(5), and Section 2(c)(11), as the exceptions. Director Melvin then moved, and Director Ross seconded that the meeting move into Executive Session and adjourn from there. The motion carried on the following leave for last unanimous roll call vote.

The public portion of meeting ended at 10:45 p.m.

*Audrey MacLennan*

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AUDREY MACLENNAN  
Secretary of the Authority