# 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 18, 2019 in Suite 1650, 175 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois pursuant to notice.

Chairman Dillard called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

## ROLL CALL

**Board members present (15):** Coulson, Frega, Fuentes, Groven, Higgins, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Sager, Troiani, Chairman Dillard **Board members absent (1):** Durante

## Approval of minutes from the meeting held on March 21, 2019

Director Sager moved, and Director Higgins seconded that the minutes from the meeting held on March 21, 2019 be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

**15 Ayes:** Coulson, Frega, Fuentes, Groven, Higgins, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Sager, Troiani, Chairman Dillard **1 Absent**: Durante

At this point in the meeting Chairman Dillard took a few minutes to remember Donald Totten, who was a long-standing Board member who also was very involved in the legislature having held a Senate seat for a number of years.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Redden reported that through the end of March, the State owes the RTA \$392.0 million of ASA, AFA, and PTF. The State is 9 months behind on ASA ,15 months behind on AFA and the equivalent of 7.7 months behind on PTF. The YTD cost of short-term debt is \$1.7 million.

The Illinois House and Senate are in the middle of a two-week legislative break and both chambers will reconvene on Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. Upon reconvening, both will be in session for five continuous weeks leading up to the May 31<sup>st</sup> scheduled adjournment date.

The RTA's short term borrowing extension - sponsored in the House by Revenue Chairman Mike Zalewski - passed the House on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The bill is sponsored by Senate Transportation Chair Martin Sandoval and is currently awaiting assignment to a committee in the Senate.

In Washington DC, Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao participated in a March 27<sup>th</sup> hearing with the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development. The hearing was meant to be about the Administration's budget request for FY2020, but much of the time was spent focusing on the Federal Aviation Administration and the recent Boeing 737 MAX controversies. However, at a recent House Democrats' retreat in Virginia, Speaker Pelosi is said to have walked her caucus through the outlines of an infrastructure bill that could be somewhere between \$1 trillion and \$2 trillion in size.

Ms. Redden then discussed the first annual Get On Board Day on April 25<sup>th</sup> sponsored by APTA. It encourages people to support public transportation by showcasing its benefits to communities and the economy.

The RTA created ads that are being carried on CTA, Metra and Pace vehicles, as well as on digital billboards that share the message that funding will improve the rider experience. These ads point riders to the webpage- GetonBoardIL.org – where riders and others can go to send an email and tweet to their statewide elected officials, asking them to support transit funding. Besides the webpage, the RTA is also hosting a Get On Board Day press event on April 26<sup>th</sup> at Union Station. The hope is stakeholders and transit partners will make it clear that the system is critical to our regional and statewide economy.

Director Coulson commented that with the State capital funding crisis, how is it possible for Metra to build stations. Ms. Redden explained that this projects were included in the last capital program and the funding was already set aside for these projects.

Chairman Dillard then raised the fact that Congressman Lipinski had held a hearing earlier in the week to discuss how Metra has been handling continuous delays. He explained that many of Metra's problems seem to be originating from their partners, namely Amtrak and BNSF.

### Contracts/Expenditure Items

Director Groven moved, and Director Magalis seconded the adoption of the following ordinances, as well as the approval of Board travel expenditures as submitted:

2019-14 This ordinance authorizes the execution of a contract amendment with CDW Government LLC (CDW-G) for Microsoft license renewals. The licenses are for software products - Windows server and desktop operating systems, Exchange Server, Office 365, and SQL Server - that are critical to RTA's daily operations. The proposed amendment extends the contract term from May 31, 2019 to September 30, 2019 and increases the total contract value by \$250,000.00, to \$454,873.57. The amendment allows RTA to purchase the licenses that takes us through May 31, 2022.

- 2019-15 This ordinance authorizes the execution of a contract with an authorized reseller of NetApp products, CDW to provide critical storage and computing systems that manage the RTA's technology platform. The total cost of this contract is for an amount not to exceed \$417,450.00 and includes the one-time initial service charges and five years of support and maintenance.
- 2019-16 This ordinance authorizes the execution of a 24-month contract extension with SolidLine Media and add a dollar amount not to exceed \$39,040 to the existing contract value of \$127,427.50. This amendment will allow SolidLine Media to make necessary updates to content in the five (5) videos this vendor previously produced for the RTA Mobility Management Video Series.

The motion carried on the following voice vote:

**15 Ayes:** Coulson, Frega, Fuentes, Groven, Higgins, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Sager, Troiani, Chairman Dillard **1 Absent**: Durante

Chairman Dillard stated that the next meeting of the RTA Board of Directors was scheduled for May 16, 2019.

Dr. Sager commented that it did not seem fair to always jump to blame Metra when there are delays in service. Several other rail entities utilize the same tracks and Union Station. It is not always the fault of Metra or it's equipment.

Director Ross commented on seeing quite a few Pace buses in the downtown and Michigan Avenue area. Ms. Redden explained with the overlap in the region, as well as the bus-on-shoulder service that Pace provides, there are more Pace buses with the termination of the certain routes being in the downtown/Michigan Avenue area.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

As there was no further business to come before the public session of the Board of Directors, Chairman Dillard asked Ms. Lacombe to cite the exceptions for the closed session. Ms. Lacombe cited IOMA Sections 2(c)21, 8 and 11 as the exceptions. Chairman Dillard then requested a motion and second to move into executive session and adjourn from there. Director Higgins moved, and Director Melvin seconded. The motion carried on the following voice vote

**15 Ayes:** Coulson, Frega, Fuentes, Groven, Higgins, Holt, Kotel, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Sager, Troiani, Chairman Dillard **1 Absent**: Durante

The public portion of the Board meeting concluded at 9:15 a.m.

Audrey Maclennan

AUDREY MACLENNAN Secretary of the Authority