



Minutes

Greater Dayton RTA Board of Trustees Public Board Meeting

September 7, 2021

- Trustees: David P. Williamson, President
Vince Corrado
Al Fullenkamp
Adrienne L. Heard
Thomas Weckesser
- Excused: John A. Lumpkin, Jr.
Sharon E. Hairston
Sharon D. Howard
Belinda Matthews-Stenson
- Staff: Bob Ruzinsky, Chief Executive Officer
Christopher Conard, Coolidge Wall, Co., LPA
Cathy Garner, Senior Executive Administrative Assistant
Brandon Policicchio, Chief Customer & Business Development Officer
Mary Kay Stanforth, Chief Financial Officer
- Others: See attached attendance sheet

Call Meeting to Order

Mr. Williamson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum was present and proper notice of the meeting had been given.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Williamson led attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken:

Mr. Corrado	Yes	Mr. Lumpkin	Excused
Mr. Fullenkamp	Yes	Ms. Matthews-Stenson	Excused
Ms. Hairston	Excused	Mr. Weckesser	Yes
Ms. Heard	Yes	Mr. Williamson	Yes
Ms. Howard	Excused		

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Williamson stated Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority (RTA) By-Laws require Board Trustees approval of today’s Board Meeting Agenda. Mr. Williamson asked if there are any changes to the agenda?

Ms. Heard asked if there will be an Executive Session today?

Mr. Williamson replied yes.

Upon hearing no other questions or comments, Mr. Williamson DECLARED ACCEPTANCE of today’s Board Meeting Agenda.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 3, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Williamson asked if anyone requests a reading of the minutes or if there are corrections to the minutes? Upon hearing no requests or corrections, Mr. Williamson DECLARED ACCEPTANCE of the August 3, 2021 Meeting Minutes.

FINANCE/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT (DAVID P. WILLIAMSON)

Mr. Williamson stated the Finance/Personnel and Planning Committees held a meeting on August 17th and as a result the Finance/Personnel Committee is recommending one (1) Action Item for the Board’s consideration.

ACTION ITEM #2 – OHIO TRANSIT RISK POOL INSURANCE

Mr. Williamson stated over the past year RTA has experienced a significant increase in the cost of liability and property insurance coverage. For the December 1, 2020 to November 30, 2021 coverage year Board Trustees previously approved a \$2.6 million Marsh and McLennan

insurance package, which was 53% higher than the previous coverage year. The self-insured retention for liability coverage also increased significantly going from \$100,000 to \$500,000. With that in mind RTA Staff has been looking into other potential coverage options.

The Ohio Transit Risk Pool (OTRP) has proposed a liability and property insurance package with increased levels of coverage for December 1, 2021 to November 30, 2022. A coverage comparison is included in today's Board package, which details the specific lines of coverage, retention levels and associated cost. OTRP's overall program cost is \$1.4 million and includes a retention level of \$100,000 for liability coverage. Projected annual savings equal \$1.2 million compared to current coverage cost.

Mr. Williamson stated about 25 years prior to his association with the RTA Board of Trustees that his law firm served as claims counsel to the OTRP. Mr. Williamson stated given this new set of circumstances, there is a possibility his present law firm may be interested in this work in the future. Mr. Williamson further stated, as some are aware, he is preparing to retire from his law firm in the upcoming year. Presently that presents a conflict of interest, so with that in mind, Mr. Williamson intends to abstain from the vote and to make certain there is no undue influence. Mr. Williamson stated he will absence himself from the room and ask former President Heard to ask for the MOTION. Additionally, Mr. Williamson stated that he has discussed this matter with legal counsel prior to today and as we have a declared quorum, the vote will be a majority of those present at today's meeting. Mr. Williamson then asked Attorney Conard if he had additional comments.

Attorney Conard communicated that he did review RTA By-laws and as stated in this instance there are five (5) Board members here today that constitute a quorum, and even though the President is recusing himself, it's the majority vote that counts. Therefore, requiring a MOTION vote of three (3) or more to pass upon this particular Action Item followed by a SECOND.

Mr. Williamson stated with that said he would temporarily yield the Chair to former President Heard and at that time Mr. Williamson excused himself from the room.

Ms. Heard asked Mr. Williamson prior to leaving the room if she was to include the language that was previously agreed upon in the previous Committee Meeting.

Mr. Williamson replied yes, as that was something that was discussed in the previous meeting. And with that Mr. Williamson left the room.

MOTION MADE by Ms. Heard and SECONDED by Mr. Fullenkamp to APPROVE Resolution No. 2021-9-1, Approving and Authorizing the Execution of Bylaws of Membership into the Ohio Transit Risk Pool, and if accepted into the pool, that RTA prefund the shock loss fund.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Four Nays: None

Abstention: One - Mr. Williamson

Additional items to mention:

Mr. Williamson stated at the Committee meeting, Ms. Stanforth reported on July financial performance and current sales tax receipts. Staff continues to see positive results with both, which ultimately will allow a smoother economic recovery post Covid. RTA is positioned to restore the unrestricted net position shortfall which was caused by the state pension system funding liability.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT (AL FULLENKAMP)

Mr. Fullenkamp stated the Finance/Personnel and Planning Committees met for a jointly held meeting on August 17th and as a result the Planning Committee is recommending one (1) Action Item for the Board's consideration.

ACTION ITEM #3 – TEMPORARY SERVICE ADJUSTMENTS

Mr. Fullenkamp explained that the RTA, in response to a severe current shortage of bus route operators along with decreased customer demand due to COVID-19, is recommending temporary service adjustments that would impact the agency's service hours and bus routes.

On Thursday, August 12, 2021, the RTA conducted public hearings to discuss the proposed temporary service adjustments and collect community feedback.

The final proposed adjustments were determined based on analysis of ridership on routes, specific trips, time periods experiencing lower ridership, and review of all public comments received. Maintaining basic geographic service coverage were also priorities in the final design of the service adjustments.

Based on community feedback received, RTA is proposing to preserve current Route 14 frequencies, and alter the originally proposed reduction in overall service hours.

Implementation is planned for Sunday, October 3, 2021 and the final proposed temporary service adjustments are as follows:

Service Hours:

- Fixed Route & Paratransit Service hours Monday through Saturday from 5:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.
- Fixed Route & Paratransit Service hours Sunday from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Route Eliminations:

- Routes 64, 65 and 66

MOTION MADE by Mr. Fullenkamp and SECONDED by Ms. Heard to APPROVE the Temporary Service Adjustments, to be effective Sunday, October 3, 2021. Furthermore, the Chief Executive Officer is authorized to do all things necessary to implement the Temporary Service Adjustments.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Five

Nays: None

Mr. Williamson stated that Staff considered all comments made at last month's Board meeting. Staff also considered all input that came from the public hearings, and worked very hard under difficult circumstances to come up with the service adjustments. Mr. Williamson reiterated that this Board is not in favor of cutting service, however, Staff has a dilemma on their hands and that dilemma is that RTA does not have enough drivers, so we have to make adjustments.

Mr. Weckesser stated that these changes are temporary.

Mr. Williamson replied yes these changes are indeed temporary.

Planning Update:

Mr. Fullenkamp stated at the committee meeting Mr. Policicchio also provided a summary document of recent activities in the Customer & Business Development Department.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Ruzinsky stated that he did want to publicly share that RTA Staff did lose a co-worker about a week ago to COVID 19. Mr. Ruzinsky further explained that the Operator had begun his career with RTA about twelve years ago, left and then returned to RTA to work really hard to obtain his CDL. Mr. Ruzinsky stated that this Operator was a really good guy. One of the last communications that Mr. Ruzinsky received from his family was that he was looking forward to returning to RTA and getting his vaccine and he wished he would had done it sooner and sadly he did not get that chance.

Mr. Ruzinsky stated he attended the funeral of Mrs. Dora Donaghy last week. Mrs. Donaghy was Mr. Mark Donaghy's wife. As many are aware she passed away due to having pancreatic cancer. Mr. Ruzinsky stated that he did stay for the entire service and while it was difficult, it was also very moving. Mr. Ruzinsky stated that Mr. Donaghy seems to be doing as best he can under the circumstances. Mr. Ruzinsky stated that he did reach out to Mr. Donaghy today to make him aware the Ohio Public Transit Association (OPTA) is hosting their annual meeting next week and Mr. Donaghy had been nominated and approved to receive a Lifetime of Achievement Award several months ago, however, there were some snafus in making Mr. Donaghy aware that he was this year's recipient through OPTA. After Mr. Ruzinsky communicated with Mr. Donaghy earlier today Mr. Donaghy will be attending OPTA's annual meeting with his son and with OPTA's permission, Mr. Ruzinsky will present the Lifetime Achievement Award to Mr. Donaghy. The Annual meeting this year will be in Akron.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #1 – NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Williamson turned the microphone over to Mr. Corrado. Mr. Corrado communicated that as Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, and in accordance with the RTA Bylaws, the Boards' Nominating Committee consisting of: Ms. Sharon Howard, Mr. Al Fullenkamp and Mr. Vince Corrado, wish to nominate for a second term Mr. David P. Williamson as President and Mr. John A. Lumpkin as Vice President for the 2021-2022 year.

The newly elected officers shall be voted on today and installed at the October 5, 2021 Board meeting.

In addition, the newly elected officers shall be tasked with establishing Chairs for each of our Committees (Planning, Finance & Personnel, and Investment Advisory) as well as member assignments for each committee.

The Committee thanks both Mr. David P. Williamson and Mr. John A. Lumpkin for their past service and continued willingness to serve a second term for the upcoming calendar year. There is still much to be done as in meeting the normal challenges in progressing with RTA's Mission, Vision and Core Values of Safety, Stewardship and Quality Service along with the continuing challenges of Covid-19 and the Delta Variant.

Please know that your leadership and continued involvement in this area is very much appreciated and is significant as we move the RTA agenda into next year.

Mr. Corrado then closed the nominations for President and Vice President.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Corrado and SECONDED by Ms. Heard to ACCEPT the following recommendations: Mr. David P. Williamson as President and Mr. John A. Lumpkin as Vice President for the 2021-2022 year. Mr. Corrado stated the above nominations will take effect October 5, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Five Nays: None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Williamson reminded attendees that anyone who wishes to speak must speak on their own behalf and not someone else's and one must address comments and/or concerns to the full Board and not directly to any individual in management. Mr. Williamson further stated that if you don't have enough time to speak during the three (3) minute time limit that one may remain after the meeting to discuss any concerns further with RTA Staff.

Ms. Sandra M. Smothers – 215 McDaniel Street, Apt. #207, Dayton, Ohio, 45405. Ms. Smothers communicated that Staff has made a big mistake in her opinion removing Routes 65 & 66 out of service and away from the seniors. Ms. Smothers stated there are senior citizens who rely on and utilize this bus all the way from the Veterans Administration Community, Hope Villa Apartment Complex, along with seniors from Ms. Smother's apartment Complex at Mercy Sienna. Ms. Smothers stated this is wrong and she will fight until this service is restored.

Mr. Williamson thanked Ms. Smothers for her comments and stated that he along with the Board of Trustees continue to look for solutions.

Ms. Melissa Monshke – 215 McDaniel Street, Apt. # 715, Dayton, Ohio, 45405. Ms. Monshke commented she needs help and is very concerned about losing the senior easy ride as her only means of transportation. She relies on the service daily to get her to and from her appointments.

Mr. Williamson again commented these routes changes mentioned today are indeed temporary. Mr. Williamson stated that Staff is working diligently in order to hire more drivers.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Williamson stated there is a request to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Labor Negotiations. No action will be taken today.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Williamson and SECONDED by Ms. Heard to RECESS into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Labor Negotiations.

Roll call was taken:

Mr. Corrado	Yes	Mr. Lumpkin	Excused
Mr. Fullenkamp	Yes	Ms. Matthews-Stenson	Excused
Ms. Hairston	Excused	Mr. Weckesser	Yes
Ms. Heard	Yes	Mr. Williamson	Yes
Ms. Howard	Excused		

The meeting recessed at 3:28 p.m.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Williamson and SECONDED by Mr. Fullenkamp to RECONVENE into regular session.

Roll call was taken:

Mr. Corrado	Yes	Mr. Lumpkin	Excused
Mr. Fullenkamp	Yes	Ms. Matthews-Stenson	Excused
Ms. Hairston	Excused	Mr. Weckesser	Yes
Ms. Heard	Yes	Mr. Williamson	Yes
Ms. Howard	Excused		

The meeting reconvened at 4:15 p.m.

Mr. Williamson reminded everyone that the next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Williamson also stated the next upcoming Committee meetings are:

- Jointly Held Finance/Personnel & Planning – September 21, 2021 – 8:30 a.m.
- Investment Advisory Meeting – October 21, 2021 – 11:45 a.m.

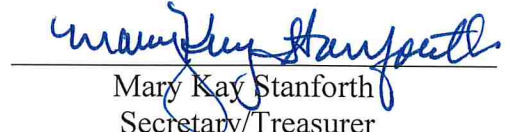
ADJOURNMENT

Upon hearing no objections, Mr. Williamson DECLARED
the meeting ADJOURNED at 4:17 p.m.

ATTEST



David P. Williamson
President
RTA Board of Trustees



Mary Kay Stanforth
Secretary/Treasurer
RTA Board of Trustees

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