

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, January 13, 2009, 10:00 a.m.
The SORTA/Metro Board Room
602 Main Street, Suite 1100
Cincinnati, Ohio, 45202

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Sean Rugless; Minette Cooper; Margaret C. Gutsell; Stephan Louis;
William L. Mallory, Sr.; Melody Sawyer Richardson; James Tarbell, Lamont
Taylor

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT: Robert W. Buechner

STAFF MEMBERS

PRESENT: Marilyn G. Shazor, H. Theodore Bergh, Bill Desmond, Sallie Hilvers,
Mary Moning, Donna Adkins, Perriann Allen, Yvonne Farris, Colin Groth,
Mike Restle, Tim Reynolds, Carole Senior

OTHERS: Richard Moore, Vorys Sater Seymour & Pease; Chris Moran, League of
Women Voters; Will Scott, Veolia Transportation

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Richardson, Chair of the Board, noted the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order.

HEARINGS FROM CITIZENS

Mrs. Richardson asked if there were any citizens who would like to address the board. There were none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Mallory moved that the minutes of the December 9, 2008, regular meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Louis seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board unanimously approved the minutes.

MEET THE TEAM

Ms. Shazor congratulated Kym Jackson, Gary Parker, Jeff Brickler and Eric Strietelmeyer for their world class customer service efforts for keeping service running on a very icy December 23, 2008. Ms. Shazor then introduced Allen Carter and commended him for assisting a handicapped individual in a motorized wheelchair which had lost power. Mr. Carter pushed the wheelchair to a safe and dry place to recharge the wheelchair. Each individual received the CEO Coin of Excellence.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

**JOINT OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Planning and Development Committee Chair William Mallory Sr. presented the action items from the combined meeting of the Operations and Management and the Planning and Development committees. The following items from the combined committee were presented to the Board:

1. **Proposed Resolution No. 2009-06: Approval of Agreement with Warren County**

Mr. Louis moved for adoption and Mr. Tarbell seconded the motion. This resolution approves the fare increase and service reduction for Warren County.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2009-06.

2. **Proposed Resolution No. 2009-01: Approval of Agreement with Butler County**

Dr. Gutsell moved for adoption and Mr. Mallory seconded the motion. This resolution approves the agreement between SORTA and Butler County Regional Transit Authority for the continuation of services, including a fare increase and service modifications.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2009-01.

3. **Proposed Resolution No. 2009-02: Approval of Plan for Reauthorization**

Mr. Taylor moved for adoption and Mr. Louis seconded the motion. This resolution recommends that the Board officially adopt the Strategic Capital Plan, prepared by Parsons Brinckerhoff, to be used for competitive procurement of federal funding through the SAFETEA-LU reauthorization process and other funding opportunities.

By roll call vote the Board approved Resolution No. 2009-02.

3. **Proposed Resolution No. 2009-03: Agreement of Contract for Purchase of Diesel Fuel**

Dr. Gutsell moved for adoption and Mrs. Richardson seconded the motion. This resolution authorizes and directs the Director of Procurement or in his absence the Purchasing Agent to sign purchase orders for diesel fuel, either through the Ohio Department of Administrative Services (ODAS) Cooperative Purchasing Program or, following established procedures, from the open market for the period of January 2009 through December 2010. The resolution also authorizes SORTA staff to solicit bids for diesel fuel requirement and authorizes the CEO or the CFO/Secretary-Treasurer to sign diesel fuel contracts when SORTA has elected to obtain bids.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2009-03.

5. **Proposed Resolution No. 2009-04: Approval of Contract for CAD/AVL Consultant**

Ms. Cooper moved for adoption and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. This resolution recommends that the Board accept the proposal of Macro Consultants to provide technical support and guidance in the procurement and installation of a replacement CAD/AVL system as recommended by SORTA after a thorough review of cost and deliverables.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2009-04.

6. Proposed Resolution No. 2009-05: Acceptance of Public Hearing Record and Final Approval of 2009 Budget and the Biennial Funding Request for 2009 and 2010

Mrs. Richardson moved for adoption and Mr. Mallory seconded the motion. This resolution recommends that the Board accept the January 6, 2009 public hearing transcript for the proposed changes to the Metro fares and services, and that the SORTA Board approve the Metro fare and service adjustments contingent on the approval by Cincinnati City Council.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2009-05.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

A Legislative Update was given by Colin Groth. Metro hosted a regional summit of key stakeholders to discuss the importance of upcoming reauthorization of SAFETEE-LU in late December. As a result, the Cincinnati Chamber has agreed to compile a list of projects that will serve as the region's priorities for funding. Metro leadership will travel to Washington D.C. in February to speak with elected officials about Metro projects.

Lamont Taylor discussed the Transit Board Seminar scheduled for July 18-21, 2009. Approximately 150 board members, spouses and staff are expected to attend. A conference call is scheduled to discuss evening events. Mrs. Richardson and Mr. Rugless would like to work with this group to plan the events.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee consisting of Dr. Gutsell, Mr. Mallory and Mr. Tarbell met to make recommendations for SORTA Board Chair and Vice Chair. The committee recommended Mrs. Richardson for the position of Chair with a unanimous vote and Mr. Mallory for the position of Vice Chair with two in favor and one abstention. No other nominations were made.

Mr. Taylor moved for the acceptance of the slate and Mr. Louis seconded the motion. By voice vote the board unanimously accepted the slate.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Louis discussed the idea of SORTA investigating the placing of all financials on the internet just as Hamilton County has done. Mrs. Richardson advised that this subject will be placed on the Issues Committee agenda.

Mrs. Richardson adjourned the board meeting at 10:30 a.m. to enter into an Executive Session as provided in Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G)(4) for discussion of labor negotiations.

Meeting was once again called to order at 11:15 a.m.

Dr. Gutsell moved and Mr. Louis seconded to give counsel authorization to enter in collective bargaining with the union. By roll call the board unanimously agreed with the motion.

Mr. Mallory moved and Mr. Taylor seconded to approve the revised draft to form the new SORTA Board. By roll call the board approved the motion with seven yes votes and one no vote.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

APPROVED:

Melody Sawyer Richardson
Chair

ATTESTED:

H. Theodore Bergh
Secretary-Treasurer