

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, March 16, 2010, 9:30 a.m.  
The SORTA/Metro Board Room  
602 Main Street, Suite 1100  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

**BOARD MEMBERS**

PRESENT: Minette Cooper; Margaret Gutsell; J. Thomas Hodges; Gregg Hothem;  
William L. Mallory, Sr.; Christine Maticic; Melody Sawyer Richardson; Sean  
Rugless; Doug Sizemore; Jim Tarbell

**BOARD MEMBERS**

ABSENT: Lamont Taylor

STAFF MEMBERS: Marilyn Shazor, Bill Desmond, Barry Frank, Darryl Haley, Sallie Hilvers,  
Mary Moning, Donna Adkins, Colin Groth, Tim Harrington, Mike Restle, Tim  
Reynolds, Deb Drayton, Bill Spraul, Carole Senior, Perri Allen, Jill Dunne,  
Arnold Isham, Brad Buchanan

OTHERS: Troy Miller, ATU-627; Richard Moore, Vorys Sater Seymour & Pease; Chris  
Moran, League of Women Voters; Carolyn Miller, League of Women Voters;  
Tom Hock, Veolia Transportation; Joe Curry, Everybody Rides Metro

**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.  
Mr. Scheffer, a mechanic recently laid off, read a letter to the Board concerning employees working overtime and recent job postings, but no call backs of employees laid off. Mr. Holtman also recently laid off was in support of the letter. Mrs. Richardson thanked them for their comments.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Maticic asked that the minutes be corrected to reflect Mr. Rugless being present at the January meeting. Mr. Tarbell made a motion that the minutes of the January 19, 2010 regular meeting be approved as amended and Ms. Maticic seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

**MEET THE TEAM**

Ms. Moning introduced Brad Buchanan, a coach operator based at Bond Hill. Senator Kearney was riding a bus driven by Mr. Buchanan when he spotted an elderly man with a cane who was having difficulty walking to the bus stop in the rain. At the stop Mr. Buchanan got off the bus and physically helped the man onto the bus. Senator Kearney was very impressed. Ms. Shazor presented Mr. Buchanan with the CEO Coin of Excellence. The Board applauded Mr. Buchanan and thanked him for his kindness.

Ms. Shazor then presented Leadership Coins to Arnold Isham, Darryl Haley, Mary Moning, and Mike Restle for their efforts in attaining 88.9% on-time performance in 2009. She also thanked Bill

**Public Transportation Takes Us There Presentation**

Mr. Haley presented information on the first phase of the campaign focused on the economic advantages of transit, directed at connecting service with employers. A "go\*Green" campaign will kick off April 21 with an outreach to Procter & Gamble employees. A Board Committee of Mr. Tarbell, Chair, and Mrs. Richardson and Mr. Sizemore offered to assist staff with building relationships with local employers.

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

Mr. Tarbell presented the action items from the combined meeting of the Operations and Management and the Planning and Development committees:

**1. Proposed Resolution No. 2010-03: Approval of Agreement with Butler County**

Mr. Tarbell moved for adoption and Ms. Cooper seconded the motion. This resolution approves a three-year contract with Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA) for Metro service to be paid for with BCRTA's Federal 5307 allocation.

By roll call vote the Board approved Resolution No. 2010-03, with Ms. Maticic abstaining.

**2. Proposed Resolution No. 2010-04: Approval to Purchase Transit Communications System**

Ms. Maticic moved for adoption and Mr. Rugless seconded the motion. This resolution approves the purchase of a transit communications systems from Trapeze ITS at a cost not to exceed \$8,228,000, an additional \$200,000 contingency fund, and \$1,105,490 for a five year maintenance agreement.

By roll call vote the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2010-04.

**3. Proposed Motion: Appointment as Director of Everybody Rides Metro**

Mrs. Richardson made a motion that Mr. Hodges be appointed as a Director of Everybody Rides Metro to replace Mr. Humphrey and Mr. Rugless seconded the motion.

By roll call vote the Board approved the motion, with Mr. Hodges abstaining.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Hothem, chair of the committee, stated that the Committee is planning a Chamber of Commerce Tour. Once scheduled, an invitation will be sent to all Board Trustees.

**COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mrs. Richardson, chair of the committee, stated that the Committee had met and reviewed Ms. Shazor's annual performance review and the proposed 2010 business plan.

**BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Mallory, chair of the committee asked staff to provide the Board with an update on the 2009 preliminary results and the 2010 final budget.

The Board was given copies of the final 2010 budget and the 2009 YTD financial report through December. Ms. Shazor reviewed both documents, pointing out that there is a \$192,000 deficit in 2010 that will be closed by staff and that the deficit in 2009 was closed with ARRA funds..

The proposed 2010 Business Plan was presented to the Board. The board discussed the plan and complemented Ms. Shazor and staff on the measurable objectives it contains.

**CEO'S REPORT**

Mr. Groth provided the board with a legislative update. Reauthorization of the nation's surface transportation programs are on hold with discussions expected to begin again later this year. SORTA has submitted the University Transit Center, Northside Transit Center and Hybrid Buses to members of the Southwest Ohio congressional delegation as well as Ohio's Senate offices for consideration in the Fiscal Year 2011 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development appropriations.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Richardson stated that the joint Operations and Planning Committees will now be split into two separate Committees. Mr. Tarbell would continue to chair the Operations and Management Committee at its meetings on Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. Mr. Rugless would chair the Planning and Development committee and it would meet the Monday morning before the Board meetings.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

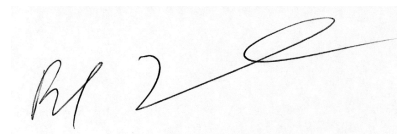
Mrs. Richardson made a motion that the Board go into executive session as provided in Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G)(1) "to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal...or compensation of a public employee or official," and (G)(3) for "conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are subject of pending or imminent court action." Mr. Hothem seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the Board approved the motion and went into executive session at 11:00 a.m.

It was properly moved and seconded that the Board return to regular session. The Board unanimously approved the motion and returned to regular session at 11:45 a.m.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

APPROVED:

William L. Mallory Sr.  
Vice Chair



Barry E. Frank  
Secretary-Treasurer