



Minutes

Greater Dayton RTA Board of Trustees Public Board Meeting

March 7, 2017

- Trustees: Adrienne L. Heard, President
Sharon Hairston, Vice President
Franz Hoge
Sharon D. Howard
John Lumpkin
Thomas Weckesser
David P. Williamson
- Excused: Vince Corrado
- Staff: Mark Donaghy, Chief Executive Officer
Chris Cole, Chief Maintenance Officer
Cathy Garner, Sr. Executive Administrative Assistant
Deborah Howard, Manager, Procurement
Allison Ledford, Director, Human Resources
Nikol Miller, Manager, Community Relation Manager
Jim Napier, Chief Operations Officer
Brandon Policicchio, Chief Customer & Business Development Officer
Gene Rhodes, Chief Performance Officer
Bob Ruzinsky, Chief Capital Officer
Mary K. Stanforth, Chief Financial Officer
John Hollingsworth, Hollingsworth & Washington, LLC
- Others: Interested citizens (see attached sheet)

Call Meeting to Order

Ms. Heard 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

As requested by Ms. Heard, Ms. (Mama) Nozipo Glenn led attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Mama Glenn is a frequent customer of the Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority (RTA) and was recently sworn in as a citizen of the United States!

Mr. Donaghy commented that Mama Glenn has done a great deal of work for the RTA such as serving on volunteer committees, assisting with the demonstration and testing of RTA’s Smart Card, and just about anything that RTA has asked of Mama, she has always said yes! Mr. Donaghy continued that RTA was thrilled to learn that Mama recently became a United States Citizen! Mr. Donaghy stated that in honor of all of Mama’s contributions to RTA, the Board of Trustees is proud to present her with a Lifetime Bus Pass!

Mama Glenn graciously thanked the Trustees, Mr. Donaghy and RTA!

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken:

Mr. Corrado	Excused	Ms. Howard	Yes
Ms. Hairston	Yes	Mr. Lumpkin	Yes
Ms. Heard	Yes	Mr. Weckesser	Yes
Mr. Hoge	Yes	Mr. Williamson	Yes

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Heard stated the Greater Dayton RTA By-Laws require Board Trustees to approve the Board Meeting Agenda. Ms. Heard stated that the Board Agenda was mailed in advance, however, since that time two items will need to be added to the agenda immediately after the approval of the Board Minutes and before the Employee Recognition. Ms. Heard stated that the first item to be added to the agenda is Recognition of long-time Board Trustee, Ms. Janet Jones and the second item is RTA’s contribution to The Dayton Food Bank.

MOTION MADE by Ms. Hairston and SECONDED by Mr. Hoge to APPROVE today’s Board Meeting Agenda as amended.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven

Nays: None

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 3, 2017 BOARD MEETING MINUTES AND JANUARY 17, 2017 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Heard asked if anyone desired a reading of the minutes or if there were any corrections to the minutes? Upon hearing no requests or corrections, Ms. Heard declared ACCEPTANCE of the January 3, 2017 Board Meeting

Minutes and the January 17, 2017 Special Board Meeting Minutes.

PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Ms. Heard then turned the microphone over to Mr. Donaghy who asked Ms. Janet Jones to please stand. Mr. Donaghy stated that Ms. Jones recently resigned her position on the RTA Board due to her increased work schedule at Sinclair Community College. Mr. Donaghy and various Board Members thanked Ms. Jones for her leadership while serving on the Board and for being a key player with regards to several major projects! Mr. Donaghy then presented Ms. Jones with a token of appreciation from RTA.

Ms. Jones thanked the RTA Board, Mr. Donaghy and the RTA leadership team. Ms. Jones further stated that serving on the Board has been a rewarding experience for her!

Ms. Heard asked Mr. Donaghy to proceed with the next presentation regarding The Dayton Food Bank. Mr. Donaghy invited Ms. Michelle Riley, CEO, The Dayton Food Bank of Miami Valley, to the podium. Mr. Donaghy communicated that Staff had talked about ways to thank the public for their patience and support during the ATU Strike that occurred this past January. The best idea was suggested by Mr. Bob Ruzinsky, Chief Capital Officer, for a “Pay What You Want” campaign during the latter part of January, 2017. All monies collected from this endeavor would be donated to The Food Bank of Dayton, as a gesture of thanks from the community and RTA!

A final tally of the money collected was more than \$15,000! Reports of donations show more than \$14,000 of the donations were from customers. Remaining donations were given by RTA employees and the RTA Management Connect Group.

As a result of the donation, The Foodbank Dayton will turn every dollar into four meals for a person in need, meaning the donations from the RTA fund drive will provide 60,000 meals to people across Dayton and the Miami Valley.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Ms. Heard asked all of those in the audience who could stand to please stand because this next individual deserves a standing ovation. Mr. Donaghy asked Mr. Jim Napier to introduce Mr. Damone Hudson. Mr. Napier then asked his leadership team from the Operations Department and Dayton Police Officer Olson to join him at the podium. Mr. Napier stated that Mr. Hudson is a 24-year veteran at RTA. Mr. Hudson, has appeared on several local and national talk shows and his story has been shared on news sites around the world.

On February 16, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., Mr. Hudson was driving his Route #12 bus across the Main Street bridge in Downtown Dayton. At that time he saw a woman standing on the side of the railing, appearing as if she might jump into the river.

“I just knew I needed to talk to her,” Mr. Hudson said. He immediately stopped his bus on the bridge and got out to talk to the distressed woman. “I went up to her and just started talking, I asked her if she wanted a hug,” Hudson said. Mr. Hudson stated that he wasn’t trying to be a hero, he was just trying to do the right thing. Within minutes a Dayton Police officer was on the scene and Hudson let police take over. The woman was eventually helped back over the railing to safety.

Dayton Police Officer Olson thanked Mr. Hudson for his quick thinking and actions taken that day which may have saved that person’s life!

Mr. Napier communicated that he had one more award recipient today and he invited Mr. Brian Whisman, Bus Operator, to join him at the podium. Mr. Napier stated that Mr. Whisman has just celebrated 30 years of service at RTA! Mr. Whisman has been an exemplary operator, co-worker and friend. Mr. Napier asked that everyone join him in giving Mr. Whisman a round of applause for his excellent service at RTA!

FINANCE/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT (JOHN LUMPKIN)

Mr. Lumpkin stated that the Finance/Personnel and Planning Committees met on February 21st and as a result the Finance/Personnel Committee is recommending three (3) Action Items for approval by the Board of Trustees.

ACTION ITEM #2 – RESOLUTION NO. 2017-3-1, FISCAL YEAR 2017 CAPITAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Mr. Lumpkin stated that 49 United States Code 5307 authorizes grants to public transit systems in urbanized areas for capital, operating, and planning assistance based on formulas used in the statute.

49 United States Code 5337 and 5339 authorizes grants to public transit systems in urbanized areas for capital assistance to support and maintain fixed guideway assets (5337) and other capital assets in a state of good repair (5339). The Greater Dayton RTA can use this funding for the purchase of electric trolleybuses, modernization of trolley infrastructure, the capitalization of maintenance costs, and other supporting facilities & equipment projects as well as to maintain capital assets in a state of good repair.

Resolution No. 2017-3-1 provides authorization to file these capital assistance applications. The 2017 Program of Projects is consistent with RTA's Capital Plan. The total federal funding required for these projects is \$26 Million dollars.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Lumpkin and SECONDED by Ms. Howard to APPROVE Resolution No. 2017-3-1 authorizing the filing of Capital Grant Applications for RTA's Fiscal Year 2017 Program of Projects with the Federal Transit Administration. Furthermore, the Chief Executive Officer is authorized to provide all necessary documents, execute a grant contract, amend the grant contract if deemed necessary and fulfill all other requirements of the application.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven

Nays: None

ACTION ITEM #3 – ELECTRIC TROLLEY BUS SYSTEM MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Mr. Lumpkin stated the purpose of this procurement is to contract with a vendor to provide electrical services to include all disciplines of electrical trolley network repair and installation of the overhead and underground trolley network of the Greater Dayton RTA including the inspection and assessment of RTA's underground feeder network to verify the condition of the underground feeds from the 4th Street substation.

This is a multiyear contract. The contractor will be doing maintenance, installations and repairs to the overhead and underground electric trolley bus system on an as needed basis over and above what the line shop can do.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Lumpkin and SECONDED by Ms. Howard to RECOMMEND a five (5) year plus two (2) option year contract AWARD to Capital Electric Line Builders, Inc. for the Electric Trolley Bus System Maintenance and Repair for a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,100,000. Any usage will be based on need and will not exceed the annual budgeted amount.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven

Nays: None

ACTION ITEM #4 – EVALUATION OF A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE

Mr. Lumpkin stated the 2016 performance evaluation of Mr. Mark Donaghy, Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Dayton RTA, has been reviewed by the Board of Trustees. On items completely within his control he has been rated as Exceeds Expectations. On strategic goals and objectives that are achieved through his leadership of others, the progress towards these goals is on track in most areas and plans are in place to continue forward movement. Consequently, the RTA Board of Trustees RECOMMENDS an AWARD of 2% effective January 1, 2017.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Lumpkin and SECONDED by Mr. Hoge to AWARD a 2% Salary Increase to Mr. Mark Donaghy, CEO, effective January 1, 2017, resulting in a new salary in the amount of \$211,962.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven

Nays: None

Mr. Hoge commented that the Greater Dayton RTA Board and the Citizens of Montgomery County are very fortunate to have a person, such as Mr. Donaghy, of such high caliber as CEO of Dayton's Transit Authority.

Mr. Donaghy thanked each of the Trustees for their support and confidence in him and stated that he felt privileged and honored in holding such a position.

DISCUSSION ITEMS TO MENTION

November Sales Tax Update

Mr. Lumpkin stated at the Committee meeting Ms. Stanforth reported November 2016 receipts are \$288,000 higher than November 2015. This equates to an 8.9% increase. Year-to-Date November 2016 receipts are \$2.31 Million higher than November 2015. This equates to a 6.5% increase.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT (SHARON HOWARD)

Ms. Howard reported that the Finance/Personnel and Planning Committees met for a jointly held meeting on February 21st and the Planning Committee has no Action Items to present today, however, there are important informational items to share.

Ms. Howard stated that at the Committee meeting Mr. Brandon Policicchio provided a summary document of recent activities in the Customer and Business Development Department. A summary of positive local and national news highlighting our Agency was also provided.

One major highlight was the recent partnership with the Foodbank of Dayton and the "Pay What You Want" fundraising drive.

As Mr. Donaghy previously explained, a final tally of the money collected was more than \$15,000! Reports of the donations show more than \$14,000 of the donations were from customers. Remaining donations were given by RTA employees and the RTA Management Connect Group.

In closing, Ms. Howard stated that Mr. Policicchio and Ms. Sally Brown discussed the newly created department Alternative Transit Solutions. As Manager, Ms. Brown discussed the purpose and goal of the department which focuses on supporting alternative transit options such as, Link Bike Share and Project Mobility. Ms. Brown explained that all existing and new services offered by RTA with the exception of fixed route will be provided under a new service program called “RTA Connect”.

Other potential business and service development opportunities were introduced for general discussion. These opportunities will be brought forth for recommendation and action at the March 2017 Finance, Personnel and Planning Committees Meeting.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S (CEO) REPORT

Mr. Donaghy stated that he had three informational items to share today. The first being that the checks and payouts have been sent to the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) employees. Mr. Donaghy stated that while there are still a few interpretation items to address, which is typical with any contract renewal, Mr. Donaghy feels as though things are slowly but surely getting back to normal. Mr. Donaghy stated ATU President Salyer has sent a request to RTA to resume discussions regarding RTA’s Health Insurance issue, which was anticipated. Mr. Donaghy stated that talks will more than likely occur over the next sixty (60) days.

Mr. Donaghy continued that a significant infrastructure project started this week on Apple Street, re-routing service on route #7 at Miami Valley Hospital. Mr. Donaghy commented that this project has been in the planning stages for about six (6) years and it’s a project that is fully funded by Premier Health due to their long-term plans for their health care campus on the south side. Mr. Donaghy stated this change actually streamlines the route. The majority of this work was conducted by RTA’s line crew and yesterday electric trolley buses were placed back on the route with no issues. Mr. Donaghy thanked Premier Health for their support and financial contributions, Mr. Ruzinsky, Chief Capital Officer, Mr. Cole, Chief Maintenance Officer, Mr. Brown, Deputy Chief Maintenance Officer, Mr. Pat Murphy, Maintenance Supervisor, RTA’s Line Crew and the entire Maintenance Department for their unmatched and

valued contributions with the successful implementation of this major task!

Mr. Donaghy communicated about the documentary film concerning RTA's battle to extend service in Beavercreek. The film won the top prize at the 2017 DC Independent Film Festival!

The film, produced by the Ohio State University's Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, follows the Leadership for Equality and Action in Dayton's four-year struggle to gain access to jobs and education through public transportation routes.

Mr. Donaghy was invited to speak after the Film Festival Premier as part of a panel discussing the importance of public transportation.

The film premieres in Columbus, Ohio on April 12th at the Gateway Center and RTA staff is working to bring the film to Dayton so our employees and the public can learn more about this important message.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Heard commented that while still in "test mode" the RTA Trustees are receiving the Board and Committee materials electronically. Ms. Heard asked each of the Trustees to respond to Mr. Donaghy with their comments of this newly "tested method" of receiving the Board Packet and RTA Committee communications.

Ms. Heard stated that she loved it!

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Heard reminded attendees that according to RTA's guidelines speakers must read, sign, and date a form and provide it to the Secretary/Treasurer of the Greater Dayton RTA before the start of the RTA Board of Trustees Public meeting.

Ms. Heard 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. Ms. Heard 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.

Mr. Donnell Peeke – 3619 Delphos Avenue, Dayton, Ohio. – Mr. Peeke congratulated the RTA Bus Drivers on their recognition and service to the community that was shared earlier today. Mr. Peeke then stated that he has been watching RTA's Board Meeting videos over the past six months and has concerns that Mr. Donaghy is not doing enough for the public. Mr. Peeke stated that before Mr. Donaghy came to RTA there were 60 to 80 bus routes and now a lot of the important routes are gone. Additionally, Mr. Peeke questioned why the drivers are still waiting on finalizing their contract?

Mr. Hoge stated that “We as a Board believe that we have the best CEO for a transit Authority in the Nation.” Mr. Donaghy accepted the job offer at RTA when it was in a state of dire trouble and as of today RTA has been completely revamped with new buses, new infrastructure and so much more. Mr. Hoge further stated that RTA is limited with the funds that it currently has on hand and Mr. Donaghy has done all of this and more with less funding that RTA has had in previous years. Mr. Hoge commented that there is some real concern that the sales tax the RTA depends upon so heavily, will be cut in June 2017. There is also real concern that our Federal and State governments may not continue to support transportation at the present level. Mr. Donaghy and his leadership and his management team have been effective and successful. Mr. Hoge commented that he and the Board take exception to what Mr. Peeke asked about earlier of “what has Mr. Donaghy done for the RTA”? The Board of Trustees believes Mr. Donaghy has done an outstanding job in this community and in running this organization, and the community is deeply indebted to Mr. Donaghy for his many years of service.

Ms. Florence O'Brien – 4032 N. Main Street – Dayton, Ohio. Ms. O'Brien is concerned about hearing rumors regarding another possible strike at RTA. Ms. O'Brien asked if RTA took bids in regards to the healthcare contract, as she believes this is why the strike may occur again.

Finally, Ms. O'Brien would like to see Board representation from ADA citizens and students from high school or college.

Mr. Williamson explained that Trustees and/or management at RTA do not appoint members to the Board. Montgomery County, the City of Dayton and the City of Kettering appoints RTA Board Trustees.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Lumpkin communicated that in a time of shrinking budgets and dwindling funding, it's commendable to say that RTA has been able to pull off many beneficial projects for a transit system this size. Mr. Lumpkin being a financial professional, stated that he can appreciate how staff has been able to maneuver around different obstacles and still meet their goals. Mr. Lumpkin challenged the Trustees to help continue to advocate and do better at spreading the word and great work that RTA is doing for the community.

Mr. Hoge wanted to follow-up on Ms. O'Brien's question of did RTA receive bids from other companies regarding RTA's health care contract? Mr. Hoge stated that RTA did receive bids on its healthcare contract and as a matter of fact RTA even reached out to the Amalgamated Transit Union to invite them to provide any companies that they knew of to participate, however, nothing was ever brought forth. More importantly, Mr. Hoge stated for the guests in the audience, when you see the Trustees approving Action Items sometimes rather quickly without questions please know that all of these items have been dissected in detail, discussed and questioned at RTA's monthly Committees meeting. Therefore, when Trustees come to the Board meetings, please understand that they have heard all of the arguments, made changes and questioned everything. Mr. Hoge stated that he doesn't want anyone to think that the Trustees are just seeing such items for the first time because that is not the case.

Finally, Mr. Hoge wanted to again compliment Mr. Donaghy and his entire staff for their excellent work.

Ms. Hairston reminded attendees that RTA's Board is a non-paid Board. Committees meetings are held once a

month and last approximately 2½ hours. Trustees volunteer their own time and are not compensated.

Ms. Heard commented to the gentleman who wanted to speak but did not complete a public request form earlier that if the comment was a service related question and/or concern to please see Mr. Donaghy after today's meeting.

Ms. Jones wanted to take a moment to emphasize the community outreach that RTA does such as the Food Bank, free rides for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday and more. Ms. Jones stated that with regards to RTA's finances, there are still federal guidelines that need to be followed, and all action requires that RTA follow those rules and guidelines. Ms. Jones stated that the community outreach is just as important to our citizens as is providing bus service, in her opinion.

Ms. Howard stated that sometimes when you're in the public there can be a time where things are challenged and "we as a Board understand that and have no problem with citizens coming before the Board for that reason". Ms. Howard stated that she feels that we can disagree without being disagreeable, so Ms. Howard stated that she would just ask that in your time that you have here to speak to this Board that even if you have great problems with our operations, we ask that you still be respectful. Ms. Howard stated that there is no reason for our President and CEO to be referred to as "you people", as this is greatly offensive. We can have a serious disagreement and still be respectful.

Ms. Howard also stated that in piggy backing off of Ms. Jones that there is not one major event that occurs in the Miami Valley where the RTA is not showing up and showing out, not one! So when someone asks what have we done? Ms. Howard stated that there has not been one time that she has called Mr. Donaghy or a member of his team to ask for assistance with a community initiative that she has been involved with and told "no", again not one! That doesn't mean that the RTA is perfect, far from it, but RTA works every day to bring great service to this community!

Mr. Donaghy stated that he just had one comment to make to Mr. Policicchio, and that is this is clearly an opportunity for us to educate our customers. Clearly those comments

