



Minutes

Greater Dayton RTA Board of Trustees Public Board Meeting

December 7, 2021

- Trustees: David P. Williamson, President
John A. Lumpkin, Jr., Vice President
Vince Corrado
Al Fullenkamp
Sharon E. Hairston
Adrienne L. Heard
Thomas Weckesser (departed at 3:57 p.m.)
- Excused: Sharon D. Howard
Belinda Matthews-Stenson
- Staff: Bob Ruzinsky, Chief Executive Officer
Roland Caldwell, Director, Transportation
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	Yes
Mr. Fullenkamp	Yes	Ms. Matthews-Stenson	Excused
Ms. Hairston	Yes	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 stated the Board Agenda was mailed in advance. Mr. Williamson stated there are two revisions as Mr. Lumpkin will present the Finance, Personnel and Planning report in Ms. Matthews-Stenson's absence and Mr. Williamson will present the Planning Committee report in Ms. Howard's absence. Mr. Williamson then asked Board members if there were any additional changes to the Agenda?

Upon hearing no corrections or changes Mr. Williamson DECLARED APPROVAL of today's Revised Board Meeting Agenda.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 4, 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 corrections to the minutes Mr. Williamson DECLARED APPROVAL of the November 4, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes.

FINANCE/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT (JOHN A. LUMPKIN)

Mr. Lumpkin stated the Finance/Personnel and Planning Committees held a meeting on November 16th and as a result the Finance/Personnel Committee is recommending four (4) Action Items for the Board's consideration.

ACTION ITEM #2 – ADOPTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2022 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS

Mr. Lumpkin stated RTA’s total Operating Revenues for 2022 are projected at \$76.7 million while total Operating Expenses are projected at \$73.5 million. The budget reflects a gain of \$3.1 million before local capital charges and a gain of \$58 thousand after local capital charges. The positive result is tied to Federal Transit Administration (FTA) CARES Act funding that continues to support RTA during the national health crisis. Staff continues to hold some positions open and will monitor costs while working through the national health crisis and economic challenges.

Regarding the Capital Budget, expenditures for 2022 are projected at \$42.9 million with \$7.8 million or 18% funded by RTA. Capital projects include the categories of: Electric System Infrastructure, Revenue Vehicles & Equipment, Transit Hubs & Facility Improvements and Equipment, Technology, Amenities & Other. All projects must follow FTA procurement rules and be approved by the Board of Trustees (for individual project over \$100 thousand) or the Chief Executive Officer (for projects under \$100 thousand). This ensures the Board has a second level of approval, in addition to approving the overall Capital Budget each year.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Lumpkin and SECONDED by Ms. Heard to APPROVE the 2022 Operating and Capital Budgets. This APPROVAL allows the Secretary-Treasurer to file the appropriate documents with the Montgomery County Auditor and to receive a certificate authorizing 2022 expenditures.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

ACTION ITEM #3 – RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-1, FISCAL YEAR 2022 ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Lumpkin stated Board Trustees' adoption of the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating and Capital Budgets establishes budget limits for the upcoming year. Trustees' approval of Resolution No. 2021-12-1 will appropriate the needed funds to carry out the activities approved in the Budget documents.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Lumpkin and SECONDED by Ms. Hairston to APPROVE Resolution No. 2021-12-1, Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Appropriations.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

ACTION ITEM #4 – 2022 BOARD AND COMMITTEES MEETING DATES

Mr. Lumpkin stated as set forth in the RTA Bylaws, the Board of Trustees Meeting Dates occur on the first Tuesday of each month. The Finance/Personnel and Planning Committees meeting dates typically occur on the third Tuesday of each month. The Investment Advisory Committee meets quarterly on the third Thursday during the months of January, April, July and October.

On an infrequent basis it is necessary to change a regularly scheduled meeting date.

After a comprehensive review of planned Agency activities, the attached 2022 Board and Committees meeting dates are recommended for approval by the Board of Trustees.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Lumpkin and SECONDED by Mr. Fullenkamp to APPROVE the proposed 2022 Board and Committees meeting dates.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

ACTION ITEM #5 – REVISED HUMAN RESOURCES POLICY #3 – ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF EMPLOYEES’ LEAVE

Mr. Lumpkin stated this Policy provides requirements related to Administrative Staff Employees’ Leave including Earned Time Off, Extended Personal Illness, Military Leave, Jury Duty and Bereavement.

The Policy has been updated to reflect changes within the categories of Earned Time Off and Extended and Personal Illness.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Lumpkin and SECONDED by Mr. Fullenkamp to APPROVE revised Human Resources Policy #3, Administrative Staff Employees' Leave.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Seven Nays: None

Additional items to mention:

Mr. Lumpkin stated at the Committees meeting, Ms. Stanforth reported year to date September 2021 indicates a gain of \$2.7 million after capital and Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) charges. The positive result will allow a smoother economic recovery post-Covid. It is also helping to restore RTA's unrestricted net position shortfall which was caused by the state pension system funding liability.

Passenger fares are 12% lower than last year and 17% lower than current year budget as a result of COVID. Federal assistance includes CARES Act funding which allows RTA to provide comprehensive service and provides a set aside of sales tax for future operations. Total Revenues are \$4.4 million below budget due to higher than expected sales tax offset by lower passenger revenues and assistance from both state and federal governments. Total Expenses are \$6.8 million lower than budget. Employee wages & fringe benefits, contract services, diesel fuel and materials & supplies are the major contributors. On a monthly basis we are consistently spending less than budget in these categories.

After seven (7) months of Sales Tax Receipts for 2021, we are up \$3.83 million over 2020.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT (DAVID P. WILLIAMSON)

Mr. Williamson stated the Finance/Personnel and Planning Committees met for a jointly held meeting on November 16th and while we do not have any Action Items to bring forth, we do have important updates to share.

Planning Update:

Mr. Williamson stated at the Committees meeting Mr. Policicchio provided a summary document of recent

activities in the Customer & Business Development Department.

Updates to the Tapp Pay project were shared, as November 1st marked the start of RTA buses only accepting Tapp Pay. RTA has been preparing and communicating for over a year to exclusively use Tapp Pay for fares. To prepare riders for the transition, this past summer signage was installed on every fare box, alerting riders that the fare box will be retired soon. As of the end of October, only 7% of riders were using cash and 93% were using Tapp Pay.

Mr. Policicchio also shared that this month, customers are able to enjoy a trip with Santa aboard RTA's holiday bus. The holiday bus debuted in the Dayton Children's Parade in downtown Dayton the day after Thanksgiving. This year's bus includes Santa, his elves, sleigh, gifts, and the text "Santa's sleigh is at RTA. Join our jolly team". The bus will rotate along routes throughout the system through January 1st of next year. During their ride, customers can visit Santa, at Santa's Bus Stop and receive a special holiday mask. In addition, customers will be greeted with holiday music and Christmas décor when entering the bus, giving them a special RTA holiday experience.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Williamson stated there is a request to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Collective Bargaining Agreement and Possible Pending Litigation. Action may be taken today.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Williamson and SECONDED by Ms. Heard to RECESS into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Collective Bargaining Agreement and Possible Pending Litigation.

Roll call was taken:

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

The meeting recessed at 3:15 p.m.

Mr. Weckesser left Executive Session and the meeting at 3:57 p.m.

MOTION MADE by Ms. Hairston and SECONDED by Mr. Lumpkin to RECONVENE into regular session.

Roll call was taken:

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

The meeting reconvened at 4:10 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #1 - APPROVAL OF DAYTON POLICE CONTRACT

Mr. Ruzinsky asked Mr. Roland Caldwell, Director, Operations to explain the purpose of this Action Item.

Mr. Caldwell stated the current contract for Dayton Police services at Wright Stop Plaza expires on December 31, 2021. A proposed contract with the Dayton Police will allow the RTA to continue promoting the safety of operations in and around the Wright Stop Plaza.

Mr. Caldwell explained Dayton Police Officers will continue to provide general police services and respond to altercations, fare disputes, assaults, and other breaches of the peace that may occur on or around Wright Stop Plaza, and the immediate area up to Jefferson/2nd Streets.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Williamson and SECONDED by Mr. Lumpkin to APPROVE a CONTRACT with the City of Dayton, Dayton Police for security services for the base calendar year 2022 in an amount not to exceed a maximum aggregate of \$324,435. Then Option Year One for \$330,924 and Option Year Two for \$337,542, plus an aggregate 10% contingency for the three-year period in the amount of \$99,290 for a grand total AWARD of \$1,092,191.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Six Nays: None

**NEW BUSINESS ITEM #2 - AFSCME LOCAL 101 COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING AGREEMENT REVISION**

Mr. Williamson stated in late October of 2020, the RTA reached a Tentative Agreement with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Ohio Council 8, Local 101, which represents approximately 60 RTA team members, for a three (3) year renewal labor agreement. The membership ratified the agreement at its November 4, 2020 meeting. The RTA Board of Trustees voted at the November 10, 2020 meeting to accept the three year agreement.

The new agreement made significant progress in moving towards a “living wage”. At the time, the 5 current pay grades were reduced to 3 (with each grade containing a “lead” option paying fifty cents an hour more). Starting pay for each grade was increased and ranged from \$13.00 to \$15.00. Steps in the pay grades were reduced to 7.

With the rapidly changing employment landscape Executive Staff felt that moving up the timeline to reach the \$15 starting rate “living wage” was in order. In addition Staff wanted to have AFSCME adopt the pending changes to the Administrative Staff Employee Leave Policy, as well as some other minor changes. The overall goal was to reward those who come to work, and reduce options for those who do not come to work. Under the proposed changes the starting rates of pay range from \$15.00 to \$16.50 for the 3 pay grades.

Executive Staff truly appreciates the leadership of RTA’s internal AFSCME officer as well as those at Ohio Council 8, Local 101, who worked with RTA to come to an agreement on the proposed changes in a short period of time.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Williamson and SECONDED by Mr. Corrado to ACCEPT changes to the negotiated agreement as presented and that the Chief Executive Officer be AUTHORIZED to do all things necessary to finalize, execute, implement and administer this agreement.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Six Nays: None

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Ruzinsky stated he had a couple of informational items to share. One of RTA's requirements from the Federal Government was to have a COVID mandate plan in place, so that when the mandate is implemented and it impacts RTA that RTA would be ready. Staff has posted a Driver's Pick that would move to an all Saturday schedule, six days a week while maintaining Sunday service. This would be implemented if and when a Federal mandate becomes effective. Mr. Ruzinsky stated currently the date is set for January 4, 2022, however this could change. In addition there is also a Maintenance Pick which would allow vaccinated Maintenance Staff at such time to pick work as required. Mr. Ruzinsky stated that he believes RTA has met all Federal COVID Mandates. In closing, Mr. Ruzinsky wanted to give kudos to the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Leadership Team who has worked diligently to get employees vaccinated. Mr. Ruzinsky stated the current vaccination numbers as an agency are: 86% overall, 91% Administrative, 89% Bus Drivers, and 68% Maintenance. Mr. Ruzinsky stated there is not a Transit System in Ohio that he is aware of that is even close to these numbers. Mr. Ruzinsky stated through RTA's incentives and continuous education it's all working. Mr. Ruzinsky commented that we are not done and that while our goal is 100%, we hope to break 90% soon. Mr. Ruzinsky will keep the Board apprised of new developments.

Mr. Williamson stated kudos to Staff on their efforts in doing their part in getting vaccinated and helping to keep everyone safe. Good job!

OLD BUSINESS

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. Carol Anderson** – 1461 Cornell Drive, Dayton, Ohio 45416 – Ms. Anderson stated it's starting to get cold outside and soon there will be icy streets. Ms. Anderson urged Board members to remember Seniors and to restore bus routes #64, 65 and 66.
- **Ms. Lanetta Day** - 1465 West Third Street, Apartment #118, Dayton, Ohio. Ms. Day stated she is concerned about the bus tickets that she purchased prior to Tapp pay being implemented. Ms. Day asked what is she supposed to do with those tickets?

Mr. Williamson replied to Ms. Day that public comments on day-to-day operational issues should be directed and asked to staff not to the Board. Mr. Williamson asked Ms. Day to please speak with Mr. Policicchio after today's meeting.

- **Ms. Mary Miller** - 229 Colgate Avenue, Dayton, Ohio, 45417. Ms. Miller stated each time the Seniors come here, you tell us you hear us, however, you never respond. You go into executive session, and we wait until you come back and you still do not respond to the old business regarding restoring the Easy Ride bus. The citizens of Dayton are looking at the Board and we are not going away. As others have stated winter is coming, it will be icy and there are Seniors that are traveling to and from and need the Easy Ride bus. You stated you are short on CDL drivers why not pay them more and offer them a livable wage? Also, Tapp pay is not usable on the 5310 rides in order to receive a \$25 stipend given from government subsidy.

Mr. Williamson thanked Ms. Miller for her comments and reiterated to Ms. Miller that any Tapp pay questions should be directed to Mr. Policicchio.

- **Saundra Mae Smothers** - 215 McDaniels Street - #207, Dayton, Ohio, 45405. Ms. Smothers stated Staff took service from the Seniors and this was a big mistake. She asked the Board to restore the Easy Ride bus and various routes that went along with it. There are Seniors in our building who can't walk out the door, they're in wheelchairs, and they want to ride the Easy Ride so they can go to the grocery store, however this is no longer possible.
- **Ms. Althea Assadulah** – 6006 Channingway Court – Huber Heights, Ohio 45424. Ms. Assadulah stated I'd like to thank all RTA fixed route and project mobility drivers that are concerned about her safety. They get me to A and B in the appropriate time, however, in consideration of those who aren't and do not get me to my door or at my bus stop, leaving me on the grass instead of on the cement, should be retrained. Ms. Assadulah communicated that these drivers should be required to be retrained for customer service skills so that they don't intimidate customers. Ms. Assadulah stated she is tired of getting forgotten about. She has been forgotten about in the cold and left sitting 20 to 40 minutes at one time or another. Some buses do not make announcements and that is also a problem. Some drivers stop on different bus bays when entering and exiting Wright Stop Plaza (WSP) and that too is a problem. In closing Ms. Assadulah stated that she just needs the buses to work properly.

Mr. Williamson thanked all of the customers who made public comments today.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Fullenkamp and Ms. Hairston wished everyone Happy Holidays!

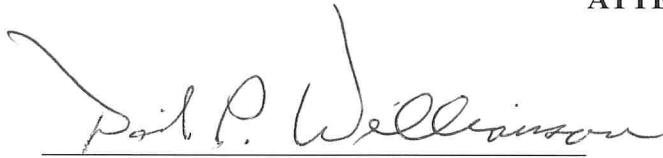
Mr. Williamson mentioned upcoming RTA meetings:

- Board Meeting – January 4, 2022 – 3:00 p.m.
- Jointly Held Finance/Personnel & Planning – December 21, 2021 – 8:30 a.m.

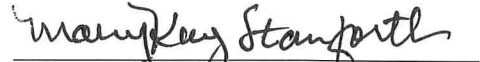
ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objections Mr. Williamson ADJOURNED the meeting at 4:32 p.m.

ATTEST



David P. Williamson
President
RTA Board of Trustees



Mary Kay Stanford
Secretary/Treasurer
RTA Board of Trustees

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