



## **Minutes**

Greater Dayton RTA Board of Trustees  
Public Board Meeting

September 6, 2022

Trustees: David P. Williamson, President  
John Lumpkin, Vice President  
Vince Corrado  
Al Fullenkamp  
Sharon Hairston  
Sharon D. Howard  
Belinda Matthews-Stenson  
Thomas Weckesser

Excused: Adrienne L. Heard

Staff: Bob Ruzinsky, Chief Executive Officer  
Daron Brown, Chief Maintenance Officer  
Roland Caldwell, Director, Transportation  
Christopher Conard, Coolidge Wall, Co. LPA  
Cathy Garner, Sr. Executive Administrative Assistant  
Brandon Policicchio, Chief Customer & Business Development Officer  
Mary K. Stanforth, Chief Financial Officer

Others: Interested citizens (see attached 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	Yes
Ms. Hairston	Yes	Mr. Weckesser	Yes
Ms. Heard	Excused	Mr. Williamson	Yes
Ms. Howard	Yes		

**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. The Board Agenda was mailed in advance, and Mr. Williamson asked if there are any changes to the Agenda? Upon hearing no requests or changes, Mr. Williamson DECLARED APPROVAL of today’s Board Meeting Agenda.

**APPROVAL OF JUNE 7, 2022 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 APPROVAL of the June 7, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes.

**FINANCE/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT (BELINDA MATTHEWS-STENSON)**

Ms. Matthews-Stenson stated the Finance/Personnel and Planning Committees held a meeting on August 16<sup>th</sup> and as a result, the Finance/Personnel Committee is recommending one (1) Action Item for the Board’s consideration.

**ACTION ITEM #2 – APPROVAL OF PROCUREMENT POLICIES**

Ms. Matthews-Stenson stated in preparation for RTA’s upcoming Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Triennial Review, Staff has reviewed Procurement Policies and changes are recommended. Suggested updates are focused on current rules and regulations as well as ease of administration. The intent is to make our internal and external customer experience convenient and seamless within the confines of applicable rules and regulations.

During Staff's review, it was determined that several Procurement Policies are Procedures.

MOTION MADE by Ms. Matthews-Stenson and SECONDED by Mr. Corrado to RESCIND all previous Procurement Policies and ADOPT new Procurement Policies #1, Affirmative Action Assurance Program Certification, #2, Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program and #3, Procurement Administration.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Eight                      Nays: None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS TO MENTION**

Ms. Matthews-Stenson stated at the Committees meeting, Ms. Stanforth reviewed the July 2022 financial report.

On the revenue side:

- Year-to-Date (YTD) total revenues are \$39.9 million compared to a budget of \$41.9 million. Total revenues are \$2.0 million below budget due to lower passenger revenues and lower assistance from state and federal governments, offset by higher sales tax receipts.

On the expense side:

- YTD total expenses are \$34.3 million compared to a \$42.8 million budget. An \$8.5 million positive variance results. With the exception of purchased transportation, all expense categories are under budget as we continue to operate at reduced service levels.

In summary:

- After deducting YTD federal, state and local depreciation totaling \$10.0 million, and deducting an Investment Mark to Market Adjustment of \$1.9 million, RTA's audit adjusted loss after seven (7) months is \$6.3 million.
- The complete July 2022 financial report is included in today's Board package.

**PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT (SHARON D. HOWARD)**

Ms. Howard reported the Finance, Personnel, and Planning Committees met for a jointly held meeting on August 16, 2022, and as a result, the Planning Committee is recommending three (3) Action Items for the Board's consideration.

**ACTION ITEM #3 - APPROVAL OF EDUCATIONAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM POLICY #9**

Ms. Howard stated the purpose of updating this policy is to create more access to the program and increase the level of employee training and development. The Educational Financial Assistance Program policy enclosed is designed to financially support undergraduate and graduate degree programs for qualified and approved full-time, non-represented employees. The policy provides payment for tuition, fees, and books directly related to an approved degree program.

MOTION MADE by Ms. Howard and SECONDED by Ms. Matthews-Stenson to UPDATE as enclosed and amended, the Educational Financial Assistance Program, Customer and Business Development Policy #9.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Eight                      Nays: None

**ACTION ITEM #4 - UPDATE TO TAPP PAY TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Ms. Howard stated the purpose of updating the adopted Terms and Conditions associated with RTA's fare payment system Tapp Pay, is to account for current and future changes to the system. The updated Terms and Conditions provided governs the access to, and the use of, the Tapp Pay system and is available to the public on RTA's website. Upon approval by the Board, the RTA continues to reserve the right to modify these Terms and Conditions from time to time as needed.

MOTION MADE by Ms. Howard and SECONDED by Mr. Weckesser to ADOPT the updated Tapp Pay Terms and Conditions as provided.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Eight                      Nays: None

**ACTION ITEM #5 - REVISED RULES OF THE ROAD, AND FACILITIES CODE OF CONDUCT**

Ms. Howard stated the purpose of this action item is to revise the existing RTA Rules of the Road and Facilities Code of Conduct due to recent changes in the Ohio Revised Code that are effective September 13, 2022. The Rules of the Road and Facilities Code of Conduct will continue to be used as a tool to maintain a safe and convenient environment within RTA facilities and on-board RTA vehicles.

MOTION MADE by Ms. Howard and SECONDED by Mr. Fullenkamp to APPROVE the Revised Rules of the Road and Facilities Code of Conduct. Furthermore, the Chief Executive Officer is authorized to publish appropriate legal notices and post the Rules of the Road and Facilities Code of Conduct within RTA facilities and on-board RTA vehicles.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Eight                      Nays: None

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Mr. Ruzinsky provided an update on ridership and recent activities. RTA has been offering free rides on weekends. Mr. Ruzinsky stated that it has been very successful and has been copied by other transit systems in Ohio. Staff has decided to extend weekend free service through January 1, 2023. Mr. Ruzinsky shared more good news stating weekday ridership is up about 12% on the days Dayton Public Schools (DPS) is in session. Mr. Ruzinsky stated the great news is that Sunday ridership is growing far quicker than anticipated. For comparison, the average Sunday ridership in May 2022 was 6,676. Current average Sunday ridership with free fares is 8,423 (June 2022 through the first Sunday in August 2022). Average Sunday ridership since the August 14, 2022 service change is 12,276!

Mr. Ruzinsky communicated the DPS school year has begun. DPS Staff decided this year to buy RTA bus passes

for their students. Mr. Ruzinsky stated thus far this has gone pretty well with no major issues.

Mr. Ruzinsky stated once Staff compiles data regarding the first quarter with DPS students and ridership, we will bring forth a comprehensive report to show trends and impacts on student ridership.

Mr. Ruzinsky stated Mr. Policicchio shared with him a chart that compared Ohio transit systems and the national averages for pre and post-Covid. The four largest Ohio transit systems are above the national average on ridership returns, and RTA is third from the top which is very encouraging. Mr. Ruzinsky stated RTA is still down about 35% however, we are slowly returning to where ridership should be.

Mr. Williamson asked if DPS students have to transfer from the Wright Stop Plaza (WSP) Transit Center to their respective school?

Mr. Ruzinsky stated yes, a student's pass is a regular pass and has no restrictions. As far as RTA is concerned students are treated like any "regular paying" customer.

Mr. Williamson asked if there have been any major issues at WSP since school started?

Mr. Ruzinsky stated no, and that he has been on the platform various days and times with no major issues. Mr. Ruzinsky commented that DPS sends their Resource Officers to help keep the peace. RTA also has extra Transit Ambassadors on the platform for this purpose.

Mr. Williamson thanked Mr. Ruzinsky for his comments!

## **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, wishes to nominate Mr. John A. Lumpkin as President and Ms. Sharon D. Howard as Vice President for the 2022-2023 year.

The newly elected officers shall be voted on today and installed at the October 4, 2022 Board meeting.

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

The Committee would like to thank Mr. Williamson for his many years of service to RTA and our community, while the Committee also appreciates Mr. Lumpkin for continuing his service and willingness for agreeing to serve as Board President for the upcoming calendar year. In addition, we want to welcome Ms. Howard as she joins the RTA Leadership Team.

Mr. Williamson asked if there were any additional nominations from what was presented by the Nominating Committee?

Hearing none, Mr. Williamson then closed the nominations for President and Vice President.

MOTION MADE by Mr. Corrado and SECONDED by Ms. Hairston to ACCEPT the following recommendations: Mr. John A. Lumpkin as President and Ms. Sharon D. Howard as Vice President for the 2022-2023 year. Mr. Williamson stated the above nominations will take effect on October 4, 2022.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote.

Ayes: Six                      Nays: None                      Abstain: Two

Mr. Lumpkin and Ms. Howard abstained.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Ms. Annie Johnson – 5324 Mayberry Place, Dayton, Ohio 45415 – As a 25-year employee with RTA, Ms. Johnson expressed her concerns with recent service changes, the elimination of Route 66, and her perception of employee morale.

- Mr. Kevin Frazier – 555 Recess Drive – Dayton, Ohio 45404. Mr. Frazier expressed his concerns with recent service changes, employee work schedules, and his perception of employee morale.

Mr. Williamson thanked Ms. Johnson and Mr. Frazier for their comments and concerns.

Mr. Williamson congratulated Mr. Lumpkin and Ms. Howard on their Board nominations.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS  
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

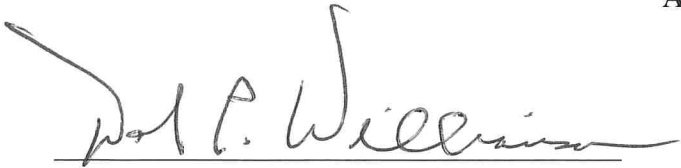
**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

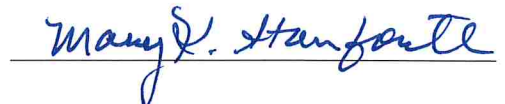
**ADJOURNMENT**

Hearing no objections Mr. Williamson ADJOURNED the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

**ATTEST**



David P. Williamson  
President  
RTA Board of Trustees



Mary K. Stanforth  
Secretary/Treasurer  
RTA Board of Trustees

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