

## **MINUTES**

### **WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

**October 10, 2019**

**12:08 p.m.**

#### **Board Members Present**

Robert L. Ashe III  
Jim Durrett  
William 'Bill' Floyd  
Roderick A. Frierson  
Ryan C. Glover  
Freda B. Hardage  
Alicia M. Ivey  
John 'Al' Pond  
Rita A. Scott  
Christopher S. Tomlinson\*  
W. Thomas Worthy

#### **Staff Members Present**

Elizabeth O'Neill (Acting)  
Luz Borrero  
Wanda Dunham  
Collie Greenwood  
Jonathan Hunt (Acting)  
Kevin Hurley (Interim)  
Melissa Mullinax  
Franklin Rucker  
David Springstead  
Heather Alhadeff  
Marsha Anderson-Bomar  
Torrey Kirby (Acting)  
James Sibert (Interim)  
Emil Tzanov  
Tom Young (Interim)

Also in attendance Chief Information Security Officer Dean Mallis; Executive Director Paula Nash; Sr. Directors Colleen Kiernan, Jacob Vallo and George Wright; Directors David Emory, Thomas Gaskin (Acting), Douglas Miller and Remy Saintil; Manager Stephany Fisher; Manager MARTA Board of Directors Rebbie Ellisor-Taylor; Manager Executive Office Administration Tyrene Huff and Sr. Executive Administrator Keri Lee. Also in attendance Adrien Carter, Ralph Clinton, Amar Gannarapu, Courtne Middlebrooks, LaTonya Pope, Terry Ponder, Wantina Reid and Rod Spencer.

Others in attendance were Robert Highsmith, Jr. and Koko K Lewis of Holland & Knight, LLP; Pam Alexander of LTK Engineering; John Baylais of ARC; Shane Blatt of Arcadis; Amanda Chatman; Quang Binh Dam; Karl Dix of Smith, Currie & Handcock, LLP; Scott Haggard of ATL; Paul Jones; Marilyn Karwoski; Maggie Lee of Saporta Report; Keith Parker of Clayton County Citizens Advisory Group; Matthew Porter of Smith, Currie & Handcock, LLP; Jade Rung of FIGG; William Saddler of WABTEC; Jim Schmidt of HNTB; Robert Smith of EDACC; Sydney Stroud; Judith Sullivan; Sherri B. Williams of Georgia Standup; David Wickert of *The AJC* and Dan Young.

\* Christopher Tomlinson is Executive Director of Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) and is therefore a non-voting member of the MARTA Board of Directors.

**Approval of the September 12, 2019 Work Session Minutes**

On motion by Mr. Ashe seconded by Mr. Durrett, the minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 6 to 0, with 7\* members present.

**Chair's Report**

**Upcoming Meetings**

**Thursday, October 31, 2019**

- Planning & External Relations Committee – 9:30am
- Operations & Safety Committee – (immediately following Planning)
- Business Management Committee – (immediately following Operations)

**Thursday, November 14, 2019**

- Work Session – 12:00noon
- Board – 1:30pm

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This year, as the MARTA Board prepare for the Legislative Session several Board members have asked to provided input and to hear the discussions. When the meetings are scheduled, the full Board will be included for anyone that interested in attending. One member from each jurisdiction will be asked to be on the committee.

**General Manager/CEO Report**

On behalf of Mr. Parker, Ms. O'Neill discussed changes to the latest version of the Fifteenth Amendment.

The Fifteenth Amendment has slightly changed since the last Committee meeting. In response to meetings held with Clayton and DeKalb Counties, there was a request regarding Transit Oriented Development, which is referenced on page 7 of the revised Fifteenth Amendment.

The request was made that there would be a TOD Council appointed by the jurisdictions. A concern was raised, perhaps that one or more of the jurisdictions might prefer their governing body compose the membership of the Council. With that being said, MARTA added language that provided that the Commissioners

or the governing body could designate the composition of the TOD Council as well as be a member of the Council.

Additionally, Exhibit D has been included in the Fifteenth Amendment. Pursuant to the request of Clayton County, a revised system implementation plan has been added. This plan discusses the various items set out in the Fourteenth Amendment Extension Report. There were numerous questions from both jurisdictions during these meetings regarding additional funding for the ten year period of 2048-2057.

### **Fifteenth Amendment Budgetary Impact**

Mr. Rucker discussed developing the projections for the Authority's Capital Program for State of Good Repair.

The Capital Program is primarily State of Good Repair. Expansion dollars are not associated with the State of Good Repair. This program is strictly relating to the Capital Program as it pertains to the State of Good Repair. Over the course of the next decade, the program is estimated to be a \$5B program. Without passage of the Fifteenth Amendment, there will be significant impact on maintaining the system (approximately \$80M per year).

#### *10-Year Projected Capital – (FY2019 – FY2020)*

- Anticipated grand total will peak between FY2020-FY2023

Mr. Ashe asked were projects on the graph funded by the City of Atlanta's additional half penny.

Mr. Rucker said projects for the City of Atlanta are funded from the full penny.

Mr. Durrett asked for the meaning of sustainability.

Mr. Rucker said sustainability was added to represent funding as the Authority becomes green, incorporating sustainability assets.

Mr. Pond asked what is causing revenue to decrease in FY2022.

Mr. Rucker said the purchase of the new rail car procurement is the cause of the decrease in revenues.

Ms. Ivey said it is important for Board members to understand the importance of MARTA's foundation while making budgetary decisions. Looking at the things that happened across Atlanta has a lot to do with the Authority having a robust transportation system. If good decisions are not made now, it could have significant impact on the Authority which would not continue the legacy of MARTA.

Ms. O'Neill said the Fifteenth Amendment Budgetary Impact discussion highlights detailed work from Mr. Rucker, Mr. Hurley and the Authority's External Relations staff. The Authority is very close to being able to receive support from local jurisdictions. Being that there are some questions, with the Board's consent, it is recommended to move this item forward to next months Committee Agenda. This will allow the Authority to address concerns from all jurisdictions.

Mrs. Hardage thanked staff for a job well done on the Fifteenth Amendment Budgetary Impact.

### **HR Assessment & Employee Statistics**

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Mrs. Mullinax provided a report on Human Resources and employee statistics.

#### *Employment Statistics Base on EEOC 2019*

- Total full-time employees FY2019 – 40, 2059
  - 85% (African American)
  - 8.5% (White)
  - 3.5% (Hispanic)
  - 3% (Asian/ Pacific Islander/ North American)

#### *Top Level Management*

- Official and Professionals – 471 employees
  - 63% (African American)
  - 26% (White)
  - 3% (Hispanic)
  - 8% (Asian/ Pacific Islander/ North American)
  
- C-Team (GM & Direct Reports to GM) – 8 employees
  - 4 (People of Color)
  - 4 (White)

The North Highland Company was awarded the contract to assist the Authority with the HR Assessment. The assessment consists of a three-month project. Currently, the Authority is three weeks into the contract.

### **Bus Operations Update**

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Mr. Greenwood presented an update on bus operations.

- Picture – Professional delivery of a safe, clean, reliable effective bus service
- Multiple Lenses – A service that includes 18 aspirations
- Snapshots to Date
  - Bus Maintenance (August 29, 2019)
  - Mobility (September 26, 2019)
  - Bus Transportation (December 2019)
- Bus transportation
- Talent Management
- Recruitment
- Training & Development
- New Initiatives

Mr. Ashe said a few years ago, a contract was awarded to a vendor that would assist the Authority to look at eligibility for Mobility. He asked what is the status of the process.

Mr. Young said MTM has been conducting functional assessments for all applicants for approximately three years. They have completely gone through recertification of current customers:

- 37% - received full eligibility
- 60% - conditional eligibility
- 7% - determined not eligible
- Approximately 200 new applications are received on a monthly basis

#### ***Bus Transportation***

- On Time Performance – remained with 5% of the Authority's target
- Missed Trips – FY19 values returned to 0

#### ***Customer Complaints***

- Target – 8 complaints per 100,000 rides
- Actual - 18 complaints per 100,000 rides

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Mr. Pond asked was the focus of concern aimed towards retaining good staff members or was the focus aimed at the difficulty in recruiting new staff members.

Mr. Greenwood said the focus of concern is aimed at maintaining good employees.

### **Upcoming Events**

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- Gay Pride Parade
  - Over 70 MARTA employees signed up to march with the mini bus and police vehicle
  - T-shirts will be provided for participating staff members
- Mayor's Ball & Senior Ball
  - Due to the timing of the event, MARTA transit services will not be provided

Mr. Durrett acknowledged staff for representing MARTA well during the Parking Day Buckhead and Atlanta Streets Alive events.

On motion by Mr. Ashe seconded by Mr. Durrett the Board unanimously agreed by a vote of 10 to 0, with 11\* members present to go into Executive Session at 1:18 p.m. to discuss litigation.

On motion by Mr. Worthy seconded by Mr. Ashe the Board unanimously agreed by a vote of 10 to 0, with 11\* members present to adjourn the Executive Session at 2:08 p.m.

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### **Adjournment**

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The Work Session of the MARTA Board of Directors adjourned at 2:08 p.m.