

**METRO RTA  
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
ROBERT K. PFAFF TRANSIT CENTER BOARD ROOM  
TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2022  
9:00 AM**

**Trustees Present:** Robert DeJournett, David Prentice, Donald Christian, Dana LaGarde, Chuck Rector, Vincent Rubino, Renee Greene, Gary Spring, Heather Heslop Licata

**Trustees Absent:** Mark Derrig, John Valle, Bob Konstand

**METRO Team**

**Members Present:** Dawn Distler, Jay Hunter, Shawn Metcalf, Bambi Miller, Angela Neeley, Molly Becker, DeHavilland McCall, Jarrod Hampshire, Valerie Shea

**Guests Present:** Ron Brubaker, Karen Adinolfi

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Robert DeJournett called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

None

**RECOGNITION**

None

**BOARD MINUTES**

Mr. Donald Christian made a motion to approve the Special Board Meeting minutes from February 16, 2022. The minutes were unanimously approved. Mr. Donald Christian made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2022 meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS & RESOLUTIONS**

**GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Chair: Gary Spring

Mr. Spring requested Board members to submit their changes to the bylaws which will be brought to the rest of the committee. The Governance Committee recommended the current president and vice president Mr. Robert DeJournett and Mr. Mark Derrig for another term, but

he opened the floor for nominations for board committee chairs. Being there were no nominations, the Governance Committee recommended the current president and vice president continue another term. Second by Ms. Renee Greene.

## **CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE & SERVICE PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair: Vincent Rubino

The committee met on March 16 and KPIs were reviewed. Electric bus training is underway. There was discussion about the electric buses and supporting charging infrastructure. Eight new operators are currently in training and METRO is recruiting bus operators until further notice.

**Resolution 2022-06:** A resolution authorizing the award of a contract for the purchase of two (2) fully electric-powered 40 ft. buses from Gillig, LLC. Mr. Rubino made a motion for approval. All those present voted 'yes'. Resolution 2022-06 was unanimously approved.

## **ASSET PROTECTION & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair: Chuck Rector

The committee met and reviewed KPIs.

## **PLANNING / MARKETING / RAIL COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair: Donald Christian

The committee met on March 16. Mr. Christian asked Ms. Valerie Shea to briefly discuss the Reimagine METRO presentation included with the board packet. The final plan will come before the board in May or June.

## **FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair: Vincent Rubino

The committee met on March 16. Financials were discussed.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

None

## **OFFICERS' REPORT**

**Board President:** Mr. DeJournett reappointed the current standing committee chairs for another term and congratulated them on continuing their positions through the year. To ensure inclusivity and equitable representation of all appointing authorities, Mr. Bob Konstand was appointed chair of the Governance Committee. Mr. DeJournett noted that committee names may change in response to the organization restructure. This will be discussed further along with Board bylaws.

**Chief Executive Officer:** Ms. Distler congratulated Mr. DeJournett and Mr. Derrig on their reappointments as president and vice president, respectively. The Board is invited to join the team at 10 am to introduce the two new electric buses to the fleet during the public event at RKP. There will be fleet tours to Kenmore to view the charging stations. Ms. Distler was joined by Mr. DeJournett and Ms. Greene at the APTA Legislative Conference. There was discussion about the legislative conference, sessions regarding the new bi-partisan infrastructure law, and how Ms. Distler presented an award to Senator Sherrod Brown. They heard from DOT Secretary Pete Buttigieg and the process for applying for federal money for different projects. The team is looking at transit-oriented development opportunities in the City of Akron; a bus rapid transit (BRT) study is coming, and a network redesign. Ms. Distler commended Ms. Valerie Shea's role in managing the project with hopes to implement the network redesign in spring or summer 2023. Ms. Distler also congratulated Ms. Angela Neeley and the finance team for their work in compiling a report for the FTA ECHO Drawdown. The entire METRO team was recognized for their hard work despite an employee shortage across the organization. Ms. Distler requested a round of applause from the Board.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Christian made a motion to go into Executive Session to consider the employment and compensation of a public employee pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.11G (1). Roll call was conducted. Mr. DeJournett invited Karen Adinolfi from Roetzel and Andress. The Board entered Executive Session at 9:29 am.

The Board exited Executive Session at 9:57 am.

Mr. DeJournett asked for a motion to approve an 8% bonus for the CEO based on wages for 2021. Mr. Rubino made a motion for approval. All those present voted 'yes.'

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to come before the Board, Mr. Prentice made a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was unanimously approved, and the meeting adjourned at 9:57 am.

### **CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

Pursuant to Section III, Article 3.2 of the Rules & Regulations of the METRO Regional Transit Authority, METRO has complied with the Notice and Notification to the public and news media.

**DATE APPROVED:** April 26, 2022

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**ROBERT E. DEJOURNETT,  
PRESIDENT**

**DAWN S. DISTLER,  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/  
SECRETARY-TREASURER**