

**METRO RTA
BOARD MINUTES
ROBERT K. PFAFF TRANSIT CENTER BOARD ROOM
VIRTUAL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2021
9:00 A.M.**

Trustees Present: (all via teleconference) Robert DeJournett, Gary Spring, Chuck Rector, Mark Derrig, Renee Greene, Vincent Rubino, Donald Christian, David Prentice

Trustees Absent: Nick Fernandez, Heather Heslop Licata, Rupa Gurung

METRO Team

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

Guests Present: Dr. Daniel Van Epps, Bill Sepe, Ron Brubaker, Jim, Denise, AC Biehl

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. DeJournett called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

In keeping with Governor DeWine's order of social distancing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, audience participation is suspended for this meeting. No comments had been conveyed to the CEO by the Friday prior to this meeting.

RECOGNITION

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. DeJournett asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 30, 2021 meeting. Mr. Derrig made a motion for approval, second by Mr. Rector. The minutes were unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & RESOLUTIONS

CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE & SERVICE PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Mark Derrig

Mr. Derrig reported the Committee met on Wednesday, April 21. Reports were given by Maintenance, Operations, and Customer Care. All KPIs are trending in the right direction. There are no resolutions.

ASSET PROTECTION & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Chuck Rector

Mr. Rector reported the Committee met on Wednesday, April 21. METRO has provided its notice to withdraw from Ohio Transit Risk Pool; however, the door remains open if METRO chooses to return to the Pool. METRO was a contributor in APTA's Workforce Readiness Guide, providing insight in recruiting and retaining employees, its mechanic apprentice program, and operator training.

Mr. Prentice commented that METRO could save as much as \$650,000 in health care costs from withdrawing from the Pool.

PLANNING / MARKETING / RAIL COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Donald Christian

Mr. Spring gave the report on behalf of Mr. Christian. Mr. Spring reported KPIs are in line, marketing is functioning well, and there is no rail report. The Board will be asked to participate in the Comprehensive Operational Analysis and Transit Development Plan (COA/TDP) in the future. Mr. Spring asked Ms. Shea to give an overview of the project. Ms. Shea said the Board will be updated monthly at the Committee meetings. Stakeholder workshops will be held in the fall of 2021/winter 2022 and feedback will be collected throughout the process.

FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Nicholas Fernandez

Mr. Prentice provided the Committee report on behalf of Mr. Fernandez. Mr. Prentice asked Ms. Neeley to provide a snapshot of the financials and present the two resolutions to Board.

Resolution 2021-09: Authorizing the award of a contract for the purchase of a Network Switch Refresh. Mr. Prentice made a motion for approval, second by Mr. Rector. All those present voted 'yes'. Resolution 2021-09 was unanimously approved.

Resolution 2021-10: Authorizing an amendment to the Board of Trustees' Financial Policy. Mr. Prentice made a motion for approval, second by Ms. Greene. All those present voted 'yes'. Resolution 2021-10 was unanimously approved.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Gary Spring

No report.

CHAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Mark Derrig

No report.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

OFFICERS' REPORT

President: Mr. DeJournett said he is excited about moving forward and implementing the Strategic Plan. Mr. DeJournett commended the team for putting in a lot of time and effort into the plan.

Chief Executive Officer: Ms. Distler echoed Mr. DeJournett's excitement in moving forward with the Strategic Plan, starting with the COA/TDP. METRO held a kick-off meeting with Jarrett Walker + Associates to discuss the process and Ms. Distler commented on their well-thought-out plan. Mr. Hunter and the Employee Engagement team have done a great job addressing health care issues and rising health care costs. METRO's withdraw from the [Ohio Transit Risk] Pool gives the organization the opportunity to see what other companies can provide. METRO continues to work with the [Summit County] Health Department to provide free bus service to and from vaccination sites, clinics, and pop-up sites.

Mr. DeJournett asked if METRO had a plan to get employees being vaccinated. Ms. Distler said METRO is strongly encouraging its team members to get vaccinated, but not mandating it. METRO continues to follow mask and social distance mandates in the office and on buses, and will coordinate with the Health Department to return to pre-pandemic levels.

Mr. Spring commended Ms. Distler on the letter that was sent to appointing authorities to update them on the Fact-Finder report regarding Teamsters.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, Mr. Christian made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Derrig. The motion to adjourn was unanimously approved, and the meeting adjourned at 9:23 a.m.

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 27, 2021

**ROBERT E. DEJOURNETT,
PRESIDENT**

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