

**METRO RTA
BOARD MINUTES
ROBERT K. PFAFF TRANSIT CENTER BOARD ROOM
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA GOTOMEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2020
9:00 A.M.**

Trustees Present: (all via teleconference) Robert DeJournett, Don Christian, Vincent Rubino, Renee Greene, Chuck Rector, Heather Heslop Licata, Gary Spring, David Prentice, Louise Gissendaner

Trustees Absent: Nick Fernandez, Mark Derrig

Staff Present: Dawn Distler, Jay Hunter, Angela Neeley, Bambi Miller, Molly Becker, Valerie Shea, Jarrod Hampshire, DeHavilland McCall, Jamie Saylor and METRO team members

Guests Present: Crystallynne Justers, Representative from TWU Local #1

CALL TO ORDER

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

Ms. McCall and Mr. Saylor recognized the following operators via PowerPoint presentation for their Safe Driving achievements:

- John Anderson, 20 years Safe Driving
- Sylvester Brown, 30 years Safe Driving
- Tara Brooks, 20 years Safe Driving
- Crystal Kelker, 20 years Safe Driving
- NeShaun Lockett, 20 years Safe Driving
- Stan McCartney, 25 years Safe Driving
- Eugene Mitchell, 25 years Safe Driving
- Charles Preer, 25 years Safe Driving
- Tonya Ripplinger, 20 years Safe Driving
- Romale Shelton, 20 years Safe Driving
- Carlisa Shepherd, 20 years Safe Driving

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. DeJournett asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2020 meeting. Mr. Christian made a motion for approval, second by Ms. Greene. The minutes were unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & RESOLUTIONS

ASSET PROTECTION & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Chuck Rector

Mr. Rector reported the committee met and gave an overview of the KPIs. United Way Benefits Fair is scheduled for October 15, 2020 and planning is in progress.

CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE & SERVICE PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Mark Derrig

Mr. Rubino gave the report on behalf of Mr. Derrig. Mr. Rubino reported the committee met on August 19, 2020.

Resolution 2020-14: A resolution authorizing the purchase of Hybrid Electric Bus Replacement Battery Packs. Mr. Rubino gave a motion for approval, second by Ms. Gissendaner. All those present voted 'yes.' Resolution 2020-14 was approved by the Board.

Resolution 2020-15: A resolution authorizing the purchase of up to four (4) replacement 40ft. CNG buses. Mr. Rubino gave a motion for approval, second by Mr. Christian. All those present voted 'yes.' Resolution 2020-15 was approved by the Board.

Resolution 2020-16: A resolution authorizing the purchase of paratransit buses from American Bus & Accessories, Inc. (Cincinnati, OH). Mr. Rubino gave a motion for approval, second by Ms. Heslop Licata. All those present voted 'yes.' Resolution 2020-16 was approved by the Board.

PLANNING / MARKETING / RAIL COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Donald Christian

Mr. Christian reported the committee met and a full presentation was given on Strategic Plan draft recommendations. Mr. DeJournett commended the committee and the METRO team for their work on the Strategic Plan. Mr. Christian confirmed the committee gave the METRO team approval to take the Strategic Plan draft recommendations to the public.

Resolution 2020-17: A resolution authorizing the award of a task order-based contract for rail architecture and engineering services. Mr. Christian gave a motion for approval, second by Ms. Greene. All those present voted 'yes.' Resolution 2020-17 was approved by the Board.

FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Nicholas Fernandez

Ms. Angela Neeley gave the committee report on behalf of Mr. Fernandez. Ms. Neeley reviewed financials and KPIs.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Gary Spring

Mr. Spring reported the committee met on August 10, 2020. Mr. Spring recommended the Board have a more detailed conversation in 2021 regarding the CEO's contract and potential negotiations.

Resolution 2020-18: A resolution in support of retaining Dawn Distler in the position of Chief Executive Officer for another year pursuant to the contractual option. Mr. Spring gave a motion for approval, second by Mr. Christian. All those present voted 'yes.' Resolution 2020-18 was approved by the Board.

Resolution 2020-19: A resolution adopting a Civility Statement as part of the Governing Principles of the METRO RTA Board of Trustees. Mr. Spring gave a motion for approval, second by Ms. Greene. All those present voted 'yes.' Resolution 2020-19 was approved by the Board.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

OFFICERS' REPORT

President: Mr. DeJournett thanked the Planning, Marketing, and Rail Committee for their work on the Strategic Plan.

Chief Executive Officer: Ms. Distler commended the operators who were recognized for Safe Driving earlier in the meeting. The latest contingency schedule started on August 23, 2020 with Sunday service. METRO worked with the University of Akron to briefly implement DASH service on a contingent basis. Ms. Distler and the METRO team is excited to take draft plan for public comment and get their feedback. Ms. Distler met with the Health Department and they are supportive of METRO's safety efforts and mask enforcement for team members and passengers. Operator barriers are currently being installed, 25 completed, and the goal is to have the rest installed by end of the month. The upgraded camera system installation is about halfway done.

Mr. Christian asked Ms. Distler to offer condolences on behalf of the Board to METRO Operator Eugene Mitchell for the loss of his mother.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, Ms. Gissendaner made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Christian. The motion to adjourn was unanimously approved, and the meeting adjourned at 9:34 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: August 25, 2020

**ROBERT E. DEJOURNETT,
PRESIDENT**

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