



Minutes

NASHVILLE METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

November 17, 2016

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority Board of Directors was held in the Music City Central (MCC) Meeting Room, 400 Charlotte Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee on November 17, 2016. Present were: Lewis Lavine, Vice Chair; Colleen Hoy, Member; Janet Miller, Member; Secretary Margaret Behm, and CEO Stephen G. Bland. A quorum was established and Vice-Chair Lavine called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m.
- II. RECOGNITION OF EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE BY MTA STAFF:** Vice-Chair Lavine stated he would like to take this time to recognize the Nashville MTA participants in this year's state rodeo competition and then recognized CEO Steve Bland to continue. Mr. Bland stated that Nashville MTA almost had a clean sweep at the Tennessee Public Transportation Association's State Rodeo recently and like any sport, this team effort was a culmination of a lot of individual excellence. Mr. Bland noted that the qualifications for participation in our local rodeo are very stringent including safety, attendance, customer service, and performance. All of our participants, whether they win, lose, or draw, are already an amazing professional and are already a winner. These participants were recognized in the maintenance division: James Kerce, Troy Willis, Kyle Kruk and Ryan Risner. These operators were recognized: Joyce Banks, Jerome Horton, Eric Liggett, Adrell Stringer, Michael Featherston, and Varick Hyde. Additionally, Safety Manager Earl Rhodes, who heads up our rodeos annually and is a great support and leader to the teams, was recognized.
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Proper motion was made to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2016 Board of Directors meeting. There were no additions or corrections, and the vote of approval was unanimous.
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Chair Williams opened the floor for public comments. The public was reminded that comments are limited to three minutes. The following members of the public had these comments:
- Peter O'Connor of Nashville:
- Extended hours for Customer Service are greatly needed
 - Drivers creeping along near a stop create motion sickness for some passengers
 - Requests extended service hours on Friday and Saturday nights
 - Bus stop at the Nolensville Walmart has people there drinking and doing drugs

- Asked for MTA’s support to get Public Works to put a traffic light and crosswalk at the intersection of Tanglewood Court and Harding Place

James Thomas of Nashville:

- Reported on-time performance issues on various routes
- Neighbor complained to him about a discourteous driver

Kutonia Smith of Music City Riders United:

- Wants NES stop reinstated
- Believes that a kiosk at MCC will not be a solution unless NES has a representative on sight to handle special circumstances

Michelle Estes, Music City Riders United:

- States the women’s restroom is still not up to standards

There were no other public comments and the time for public comments closed.

V. PERFORMANCE & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT: Committee member Colleen Hoy reported on the following items:

- a. FISCAL YEAR 2016 ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT (A-16-031):** The Committee reviewed the annual audit report and it is the committee’s recommendation to accept the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 2016.

CFO Ed Oliphant highlighted the performance of the audit and there were no problems. They issued a clean unmodified opinion which is the best opinion we can receive. They presented a brief summary of the balance sheet and the P&L. They discussed the upcoming Governmental Accounting Standard Board (GASB) rule that will be put in place for GASB 74, additional footnote disclosure for our Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) in fiscal year 17 and in fiscal year 18 we will have to record what they put in the footnote based on actuarial assumptions based on what our OPEB will be. This is to give the readers and MTA a picture of what it looks like for our retirees and what we will have to pay out over the life of their retirement. We are going to be procuring some consultants to assist us in that.

Motion from the committee was made to accept the report, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

Chair Lavine congratulated the team for the clean audit noting that this is no small deal. A clean audit is a big deal with a huge agency like this.

- b. ADOPTION OF ADA REASONABLE ACCOMODATION POLICY (A-16-032):** The committee heard the report from staff on the reasonable accommodation policy, and it is the committee’s recommendation that we adopt the ADA Reasonable Modification/Accommodation Policy as presented. There was no discussion and the motion of the committee passed unanimously.

VI. PLANNING COMMITTEE: Chair Lavine reported that the committee had two items. One of which is looking at the budget for next year, and we have decided to postpone that for

next month. We had a look at the fleet and the knowledge that we should be replacing buses every year, a few at a time, and we haven't been lately. There is a recommendation that we look at 35 or so for this next year and then get on a replacement schedule. We had good discussion about what kind of buses they should be, what the advantages are of the various kinds of operating systems, etc. There is no action on that, but we are prepared to take that into the budget discussions for December.

VII. STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS COMMITTEE: Chair Miller reported that the committee did not have any action items. We have had some discussions about how Stakeholders Relations may not belong in a box, but goes through every single thing of what we are doing. So, we are going to take a look at the committee structure because it doesn't make sense to force the agenda. It is not that stakeholder relations is not critical, it is one of our most critical issues. We need to be covering it throughout the organization and not necessarily in a silo.

VIII. CHAIR'S REPORT: Vice Chair Lavine once again congratulated our rodeo team. It is no small deal. It shows competence, and it shows excitement, interest, and teamwork and as a Board we all appreciate that effort.

IX. CEO'S REPORT: CEO Steve Bland reported the following:

- nMotion – One of the most notable things going on is that we did get partial funding in this past year's Metro capital budget for our new fare collection system. The designer for that is on board and we are working on that. Probably in December or January, we will actually have them come in and give you an update on what the state of the practice is and the technology so that practice moves forward.
- nMotion Other activities – There have been a series of conversations with Metro Planning Commission, Mayor's Office, Finance staff on setting us up for the conversation we will be having with the Board in the next month of two on budget asks. We have our baseline budget, what do we have to do to keep doing what we are doing; and then recognizing what came out of nMotion and then the Mayor's priorities – what will our asks be in the upcoming budget – new initiatives, be that capital or operating. That conversation will pick up considerably over the next few months.
- Facilities Assessment – Towards that end, Julie's (Julie Navarrete, Chief Development Officer) group is working with Gresham Smith on a full assessment of all three of our major facilities, MCC, Myatt, and Nestor to do full condition assessments that will lead into further capital upgrades. We expect to have some pretty significant updates on the state of our facilities and the work that needs to be done.
- Murfreesboro Road Signal Priority Project – Work is continuing on this project for about 95 percent of the design level and we expect the construction bids to go out very early next year. That is a product with a MOU between ourselves and Metro Public Works. That is a multi-faceted project to beef up the corridor in general and specifically to improve transit service reliability in that corridor.
- High Capacity Corridor Study – Julie's team has been working on this. There is a lot of background work going on right now, so we will be in a position to go to the general public in those five particular corridors right after the first of the year.

- Smart Cities Initiative – The Mayor’s group has been very active and a number of our staff have been very active in that engagement. There are some very interesting things coming out of that.
- NES – We did get a good response from NES wanting to sit down and talk about how we might want to have more convenient options for folks right here at MCC.

X. **Other Business:** There was no other business to come before the Board today.

XI. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:19 p.m.