



Minutes

NASHVILLE METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

February 23, 2017

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority Board of Directors was held in the Music City Central Meeting Room, 400 Charlotte Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee on February 23, 2017. Present were: Gail Carr Williams, Chair; Lewis Lavine, Vice Chair; Colleen Hoy, Member; Janet Miller, Member; Walter Searcy, Member; Secretary Margaret Behm, and CEO Stephen G. Bland. A quorum was established and Chair Williams called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Chair Williams acknowledged Patricia Harris-Morehead, previous Director of Communications and Marketing, for her years of service and commitment to the Nashville MTA. She then read the Board resolution honoring Ms. Harris-Morehead's service (included at the end of these minutes) and presented a gift bag with a token of appreciation.

- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Proper motion was made to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2017 Board of Directors meeting. There were no additions or corrections, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

- III. 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:

John Bull of Nashville:

- He would like to have an update on the short-term proposals for 2018, especially the AccessRide enhancements.
- He has been riding the bus daily for 26 months, four to six times a day, and wanted to state for the record that the bus is a safe place.
- He suggested that we talk with some of the legislators about the 5307 funding timing issues.

James Thomas of Nashville:

- Reported on issues with a discourteous driver.
- Looking forward to the changes with the Thompson Lane connector.

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

- IV. OPERATIONS & FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:** Committee Chair Searcy presented the following action items:

- a. **SHORT-TERM BORROWING (A-17-002):** It has been recommended by staff that we engage in this bridge regarding our Section 5307 funding. Based upon the explanation and recommendation that Nashville MTA borrow up to, but not more than, \$11.2 million to be received as needed and to be repaid in full once federal funding is available. This will allow Nashville MTA to continue operating and allow time for the grant monies to be received. The committee recommends this to the Board for action.

There was no further discussion. The vote of approval was unanimous, and the motion carried.

- b. **ARTICULATED HYBRID DIESEL-ELECTRIC BUS PURCHASE (A-17-003):** Staff requested the committee's consideration regarding the purchase of four articulated diesel-electric hybrid vehicles that would replace four 40-foot buses which have reached their useful life of 12 years. The cost per vehicle is \$1,157,732.63 with total price not to exceed \$4,634,930.50. The funding source will be FY 2017 Metro Capital and Federal CMAQ Grant funding. Finding that this is a necessary obligation to engage, particularly since we are going to save a little money because this is an early purchase, our committee recommends this for Board action.

There was no further discussion. The vote of approval was unanimous, and the motion carried.

- V. **NEW INITIATIVES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE:** Committee Member Lavine reported that the committee looked at high capacity corridors in more detail and what it takes to make these corridors work. We are learning a lot in terms of deciding what we do next, which corridors will be pursued, and are hopeful there will be budget dollars allowed to take these next steps. He then presented the following action item:

- a. **Spring 2017 Major Service Changes & Title VI Analysis (A-17-004):** The Committee recommends the Board accept this Title VI equity analysis per FTA Title VI regulations prior to adoption of proposed service changes to be effective on Sunday, April 2, 2017. Further, with the acceptance of the Title VI equity analysis, the Committee recommends implementing the proposed Major Service Changes as outlined above to be effective on Sunday, April 2, 2017. These service changes include new service between the 100 Oaks area and Murfreesboro Pike for the 77 Thompson Connector and the addition of service on Sundays for the 56 Gallatin BRT lite.

There was no further discussion. The vote of approval was unanimous, and the motion carried.

- VI. **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Chair Williams thanked everyone for the work that has been done. She appreciated the discussion regarding the national trend in ridership and thanked staff for the research done to keep the Board better informed as they look to expand and enhance the service. The Board did submit a letter to Nashville Mayor Megan Barry along with the budget submission. It was well done and she appreciates the Board's leadership in bringing that forth.

In conclusion, Chair Williams thanked Board Member Colleen Hoy for her term of service to the Nashville MTA Board. Ms. Hoy is leaving due to new employment and the scheduling conflicts it will present.

VII. CEO'S REPORT: CEO Bland reported the following:

- Governor Haslam's "Improve Act" – The State Assembly has begun deliberations on this and yesterday, the House Transportation Subcommittee adjourned without taking action on the bill.
On Tuesday, the Governor's bill was amended to add surcharges on property taxes, business taxes, motor vehicle taxes, and rental car taxes to the sales tax surcharge that would be allowed under local option referenda to support mass transit funding.
- nMotion – On Tuesday, the nMotion Advisory Committee met and reviewed the tiered short-term service improvement proposals developed by the Board, and the High Capacity Corridor information Julie (Navarrete, Chief Development Officer) reviewed with the Planning Committee.
- Metro Budget – A good bit of effort was spent this month completing our Metro Budget submissions. As part of the City's Public Investment Plan (PIP) process, we are considering partnerships with Metro Planning on a study of how best to integrate high capacity transit into neighborhoods while preserving neighborhood character, and one with the Homeless Commission and Social Services on support services for homeless populations.
- I-24 Smart Corridor – We participated in a kickoff meeting hosted by the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) to advance an I-24 Smart Corridor initiative that would combine various intelligent transportation systems and transit advances in the Murfreesboro to Nashville corridor.
- MCC Security – We completed work with Metro Nashville Police (MNP) on a secondary employment agreement enhancing the MNP presence at Music City Central.
- Metro School Buses – We entered into a short-term agreement with the Metro Nashville School District to store a number of their school buses at the Myatt facility, as they had to leave space they occupied at the Fairgrounds as that site sees development.
- nMotion Program Management – We are currently soliciting proposals for program management of the major capital investment program in collaboration with Public Works, and for a Comprehensive Operations Analysis to focus on bus network design around nMotion recommendations and building ridership.
- Nashville Electric Service (NES) Utility Payments at MCC – Thanks to collaboration with NES, we are completing negotiations with a 3rd party payment provider that will allow us to collect NES utility payments, as well as for a number of other providers, at MCC through both our customer care windows and via a kiosk. We expect this system to be operational in March.
- Murfreesboro Road Project – We expect that to be out to bid in late April or early May. We expect an early summer construction contract award on that.

In closing, CEO Bland extended his appreciation to Patricia Harris-Morehead for all of her years of service, dedication, and all of the fine work that she has done on a number of projects for both Nashville MTA and RTA. He also thanked Colleen Hoy for her advice, counsel, and participation process as Board Member.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS: There was no other business to come before the Board.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, Patricia Harris-Morehead was a dedicated employee of Davidson Transit Organization (DTO) since November 4, 2002, serving both the Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority and the Regional Transportation Authority; and

Whereas, Patricia Harris-Morehead began her career as Director of Communications and ended her career at Davidson Transit Organization as Director of Communications, Marketing and Customer Care; and

Whereas, the Nashville MTA Board of Directors wishes to recognize Patricia Harris-Morehead for her exceptional dedication and achievements during her 14 years of service; and

Whereas, the Board commends Patricia Harris-Morehead for her dedicated contributions, including:


- Appointed Vice Chair of the American Public Transportation Association's Marketing Committee;
- Served on the Davidson Transit Organization Board as Vice President;
- Coordinated a successful media event/Mayor on Board bus ride for Mayor Megan Barry to kick off the Music City Transit Tracker campaign;
- Coordinated a successful media campaign with former Mayor Karl Dean to showcase the new electric buses;
- Obtained a national sponsor to underwrite Game-Day Express train service for the NFL season;
- Provided instrumental oversight and the successful promotions of the Music City Star's special event train services including the 4th of July, Wilson County Fair, St. Jude Rock 'n' Roll Nashville Marathon, and New Year's Eve; and
- Successfully organized a myriad of public events promoting ridership services in Metro Nashville and the Middle Tennessee region during her 14 years of service which contributed to ridership growth.

Now, therefore be it resolved by Nashville MTA Board that appreciation and gratitude are offered to Patricia Harris-Morehead for her outstanding contributions and her dedication to the Davidson Transit Organization, Nashville MTA, and the Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee over the last 14 years; and

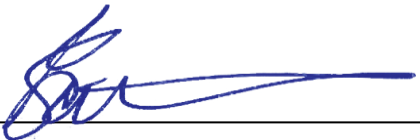
Further resolved, that Patricia's abilities and knowledge were an asset to Nashville MTA and RTA and will be greatly missed; and

Finally resolved, that Patricia's talent and skills will serve her well in her future endeavors.

This resolution is made the 23rd day of February, 2017.



Margaret L. Behm
Nashville MTA Secretary



Gail Carr-Williams
Nashville MTA Board Chair