



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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**FINANCE & PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES – OCTOBER 21, 2015**

The Finance & Performance Management Committee of the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) Board of Directors held a meeting in the Auditorium at PSTA Headquarters at 9:00 AM on this date. The purpose of the meeting was to approve the September 16, 2015 meeting minutes and the 2016 meeting schedule, and to recommend approval of the bus and facility maintenance supplies contract and the Gillig replacement bus purchase. The following members were present:

Joe Barkley, Committee Chair
Brian Scott, Committee Vice-Chair
Mark Deighton
Dave Eggers
Bill Jonson

Also Present:

Brad Miller, CEO
PSTA Staff Members
Members of the Public

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Barkley opened the meeting at 9:02 AM.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Minutes – Mr. Scott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jonson to approve the September 16, 2015 minutes. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

2016 Meeting Schedule – The Committee approved the schedule and agreed that changes would be made later as needed.

PSTA Bus and Facility Maintenance Supplies – Henry Lukasik, Director of Maintenance, delivered a presentation on automated shop supply vending machines. The Committee asked a few questions relating to who purchases and maintains the vending machines as well as the billing procedure. After Mr. Lukasik answered the Committee’s questions, Mr. Jonson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Scott to recommend approval of a contract with the Fastenal Company for various bus and PSTA facility maintenance, repair, and operating supplies based off consortium-negotiated prices in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 or 18 months, whichever comes first. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Phil Compton, Sierra Club, (also speaking for Jon-Paul Rosa, Jasmina Forcan, and Bruce Nissen), spoke about the upcoming replacement bus purchase and presented the Committee with an analysis from the Proterra Company regarding electric buses.

ACTION ITEM

Gillig Replacement Bus Purchase – Mr. Miller provided an updated presentation on the replacement bus purchase which included some revised assumptions. He indicated that staff is recommending the purchase of seven diesel hybrid or diesel buses and the submission of a Federal grant application for a Lo-No grant to purchase electric buses.

The Committee had a lengthy discussion and many questions relating to the costs, emissions, and operational costs of electric buses versus other bus types. There also were questions relating to the level of PSTA reserves to cover the cost of the replacement buses, and the Committee deliberated at length about the merits of purchasing seven or nine buses.

Mr. Scott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Eggers to recommend the purchase of nine Gillig diesel buses at a cost not to exceed \$4.5 million, and to authorize PSTA to submit a Federal No-Lo Grant application, and to continue to develop a long-term bus replacement strategy. Mr. Eggers inquired about the reserves and requested an analysis. Mr. Barkley stated his belief that PSTA has a social responsibility to at least purchase the hybrids with the BAE Series transmission. There was discussion about purchasing as many buses as possible in order to remove the old 2001 diesel buses from the streets. There were no public comments. Motion passed (4:1) with Mr. Barkley dissenting.

REPORTS

Monthly Financial Statement - Debbie Leous, Chief Financial Officer, reported on the year-to-date financial performance indicating that there is a \$1.3 million positive variance to the budget. She indicated that expenses were contained in all areas except in supplies due to bus overhauls.

Ridership/Performance – Mr. Miller remarked that September was a very strong month in terms of ridership, ending the fiscal year with record ridership for the fourth year in a row.

PSTA Contracts – The Committee was provided with the quarterly PSTA contracts report. Mr. Miller explained that this report is also reviewed quarterly by the Finance Committee.

FUTURE MEETING SUBJECTS

The Committee was provided with a list of upcoming meeting subjects.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Jonson suggested that staff obtain a comparative cost analysis from Tallahassee on their electric busses.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 AM. The next meeting will be held on November 18, 2015 at 9:00 AM.