



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 28, 2017

Secretary/Treasurer Joseph Barkley called the June 28, 2017 Board meeting to order at 9:05 AM. Members present: Darden Rice, Chairperson; Joseph Barkley, Secretary/Treasurer; Doug Bevis, Dave Eggers, Samantha Fenger, Patricia Johnson, Bill Jonson, Brian Scott, Josh Shulman, and John Tornga. Members absent: Janet Long, Vice-Chairperson; Richard Bennett, Pat Gerard, Charlie Justice, and Lisa Wheeler-Bowman. Also present: Brad Miller, CEO; Alan Zimmet, PSTA General Counsel; PSTA staff members, and members of the public.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mitchel McNeally, Pinellas County resident, spoke about Routes 11 and 444. He also stated his opinion that there needs to be better connecting times.

PRESENTATIONS

State Legislative Update – Ron Pierce, RSA Consulting, spoke about PSTA’s successes in Tallahassee this year in the Legislative session and special session. He indicated that the Authority received \$1 million for a Project Development & Environment (PD&E) study for the Memorial Causeway bridge expansion. He thanked Senator Latvala and the Pinellas County delegation for their support of this project. Mr. Pierce reported that the Clearwater Beach to Tampa International Airport (TIA) Express bus project was not funded this year. It is his belief that this was because of questions pertaining to ridership. He spoke about PSTA’s third priority, funding for Transportation Disadvantaged (TD). Mr. Pierce said that the new change that was put into the budget has very little impact on PSTA. He explained that the funding formula will continue to be discussed in the upcoming year. Mr. Pierce also provided a brief update on the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA) and Uber regulations.

Recognize Retiring Employee – Walt Lenz – Debbie Woodward, Director of Information Technology (IT), recognized Mr. Lenz for his 27 years of service, accomplishments, and dedication to PSTA.

Mr. Miller said in addition to Mr. Lenz retiring from the IT department, Ms. Woodward also recently announced her retirement after 14 years with the Authority. He thanked her for her many contributions over the years and said she will be sorely missed.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Transit Riders Advisory Committee (TRAC) Update – Gloria Lepik-Corrigan, Committee Chair, provided an update from the June 20, 2017 TRAC meeting.

Forward Pinellas – Mr. Jonson reported on the Forward Pinellas Board meeting that took place on June 14, 2017.

CONSENT AGENDA

After Mr. Zimmet read Resolution #17-05 by title, Mr. Bevis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to approve the Consent Agenda. The Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda which included the approval of the May 24, 2017 Board meeting minutes, the trash removal and recycling services contract, the lease agreement with the St. Petersburg Police Department, the appointment to the Forward Pinellas Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), the liability claim settlement, the Board's Rules & Regulations, and the adoption of Resolution #17-05.

ACTION ITEMS

TD Agreements – Debbie Leous, Chief Financial Officer, explained that these are the routine annual agreements. She said that PSTA is now completing its fifth year as the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) for Pinellas County. She briefly outlined each agreement; the annual Trip & Equipment Grant from the Florida Commission for the TD (CTD), the non-profit trips agreements with four non-profit agencies, and the CTD Late Shift provider contracts. Ms. Leous indicated that the higher number of TD bus pass trips is the primary reason why PSTA's grant allocation increased by over \$500,000 this year.

After Mr. Zimmet read Resolution #17-04 by title, Ms. Johnson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jonson, to approve the TD Agreements and adopt Resolution #17-04. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

FY 2018 Draft Budget - Ms. Leous gave a presentation on the draft FY 2018 budget. She highlighted the FY 2017 forecast, the FY 2018 draft budget, long-term projections, future challenges, and suggested solutions. She also spoke at length about the expected health insurance costs. The Board had a few questions about the homestead exemption. Mr. Miller noted that the Truth in Millage (TRIM) Notice will be presented at the next Board meeting and in August, there will be an action item to approve the capital plan with additional discussions about bus purchases. He said that there will be two public hearings held in September.

[Chairperson Rice entered the meeting at 10:08 AM.]

Performance Scorecard – Ryan Gallivan, TransPro Consulting, provided a PSTA performance measurement update. He outlined the three steps to advance the Authority on the path to organizational success: establishing organizational outcomes, constructing a performance scorecard, and connecting employee performance evaluations. Mr. Gallivan provided information on PSTA’s progress on this initiative, highlighting the Agency’s proposed Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and values. He noted that in July, he will present to the Board the Organizational Outcomes and the Performance Counts Scorecard, and in September, he will present the Employee Performance Evaluation. He informed the Board that in mid-2018, they will begin receiving monthly updates on the Performance Scorecard progress, and in October 2018, the new performance evaluations will be in effect.

A brief discussion took place relating to the development of the scorecard, how PSTA’s values were established, and how the average employee would be able to affect some areas on the performance scorecard.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Performance/Updates – The information was included in the packet.

Regional Express Bus Proposal – Mr. Miller indicated that this presentation is in the packet and was given by Whit Blanton, Executive Director of Forward Pinellas, to the PSTA Planning Committee and the Transportation Management Area (TMA) group. He indicated that the TMA is sponsoring the development of a network of regional express routes across the whole Tampa Bay area through Pinellas, Hillsborough, and Pasco Counties. He said the next step is for PSTA and the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit

Authority (HART) to jointly develop some ideas on how an express bus service may be operated and implemented.

Transit Feasibility Plan – Mr. Miller said this update was included in the packet. He indicated that the plan had been presented to the PSTA Planning Committee, the TMA, and Forward Pinellas. Currently, the plan has identified the top five performing connections: Westshore to Brandon; downtown Tampa to the University of South Florida (USF); Wesley Chapel, USF, Tampa, St. Petersburg; Clearwater, Gateway, St. Petersburg; and South Tampa to downtown Tampa.

FUTURE MEETING SUBJECTS

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

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Tornga said that he appreciated the FY 2018 draft budget presentation and the ad valorem discussion. He reiterated his comments about the simplicity of employee evaluations so they understand completely what they are being evaluated on.

Ms. Fenger commended PSTA for the great representation at the Pride Parade.

Mr. Bevis commended staff for the great work on the capital and operating budget.

Ms. Johnson thanked the Board and PSTA staff for being supportive.

Mr. Jonson complimented TRAC for focusing on safety and accessibility for mobility devices. He spoke about his recent experiences riding the bus.

Mr. Barkley congratulated Mr. Lenz and Ms. Woodward for the service to PSTA and the community. He also congratulated Mr. Miller for riding the bus for the month of June.

Mr. Scott said that he is encouraged by the discussion about PSTA plans going forward. He cautioned that PSTA should watch very closely the public response to the Tampa Bay Next project and communicate PSTA's plans to the public as well. He mentioned the bus purchase and requested a comparison of other types of buses besides hybrid.

Mr. Eggers stated that he appreciated the budget discussion and would like more discussions relating to the bus purchase. He said thank you to TRAC for the great work they are doing. He also congratulated the retirees and requested a discussion on pull-outs for buses.

Mr. Shulman thanked the Board for their insight and information and asked staff for more information on the health care costs.

Chairperson Rice thanked Mr. Lenz and Ms. Woodward for the service to PSTA and said they will be missed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairperson Rice adjourned the meeting at 10:53 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for July 26th at 9:00 AM.

Chairperson