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BOARD MEETING MINUTES JULY 25, 2018

Past Chairperson Darden Rice called the July 25, 2018 Board meeting to order at 9:07 AM. Members present: Janet Long, Chairperson; Joe Barkley, Vice-Chairperson; David Banther, Richard Bennett, Doreen Caudell, Dave Eggers, Patricia Johnson, Charlie Justice, Darden Rice, Brian Scott, Josh Shulman, John Tornga, and Lisa Wheeler-Bowman. Members absent: Pat Gerard and Samantha Fenger. Also present: Brad Miller, CEO; Alan Zimmet, PSTA General Counsel; PSTA staff members, and members of the public.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ray Bates, New Orleans resident, spoke on issues with bus schedules and connections. He believes that Board members should be required to ride the bus at least once for a seven-day period so that they may experience public transportation for themselves. Mr. Bates also mentioned the New Orleans public transportation system.

[Chairperson Long and Mr. Barkley entered the meeting at 9:08 AM. Ms. Rice passed the gavel to Chairperson Long.]

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Transit Riders Advisory Committee (TRAC) Superior Transit Access Recognition (STAR) Award – Committee Chair Gloria Lepik-Corrigan explained the TRAC STAR award program which honors municipalities, contractors, and private sector businesses that design and build pedestrian and rider-safe access to transit stops. She indicated that the City of Oldsmar, as well as Ram Real Estate, received the first TRAC STAR award. The entities each received a certificate and were recognized for their efforts in helping improve transit accessibility to businesses at the Woodlands Square in Oldsmar.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Transit Riders Advisory Committee (TRAC) Update – Committee Chair Lepik-Corrigan provided an update from the July 17th TRAC meeting.

Forward Pinellas – Chairperson Long reported on the Forward Pinellas Board meeting that took place on July 11th.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Scott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barkley, to approve the Consent Agenda. The Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda which included the approval of the June 27, 2018 Board meeting minutes, the remanufactured radiators contract, the cleaning DOC and DPF filters contract, the commercial bus batteries contract, as well as the bus accident repairs one-time award.

ACTION ITEMS

FY 2019 Millage Rate – Debbie Leous, Chief Financial Officer, said staff is asking for approval of the proposed millage rate of 0.7500 to be transmitted to the Property Appraiser. Ms. Leous indicated that it is estimated that maintaining the property tax rate at the current rate of 0.7500 will result in a \$3,792,930 increase in property tax revenues. Mr. Barkley noted that the Planning Committee unanimously recommended approval of the 0.7500 millage rate. Questions were raised regarding total revenue, the homestead exemption, and the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) program. Whit Blanton, Executive Director of Forward Pinellas, spoke briefly on ways to obtain state and federal funding for transportation in Pinellas County and a Funding Workshop planned in the next six months to discuss this topic. Mr. Scott made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rice, to approve the proposed millage rate of 0.7500 to be transmitted to the Property Appraiser. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

FY 2019 Employee Health Benefits – Ms. Leous outlined the proposed FY 2019 health benefits for PSTA employees as well as the initiatives made during the current year. She reported that the increase to the major medical health insurance cost is 9.7%, which is within the proposed draft budget for FY 2019. Ms. Leous said that the rates for Cigna dental insurance, Advantica vision insurance, and Minnesota Life insurance will remain the same. Mr. Barkley stated that that Finance Committee had a good discussion regarding the health benefits and unanimously recommended the renewals. The Board had questions regarding the rates and incentives programs. After Ms. Leous addressed their questions, Mr. Barkley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Scott, to approve the

renewals of the health benefit contracts. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

State Government Affairs Contract Extension – Mr. Miller stated that the current two-year contract with RSA Consulting Group is expiring this summer. He indicated that staff is recommending an extension of the contract for the first option year and authorize the CEO to exercise the second and third option years. Mr. Miller noted that the fee per month is \$7,500 for the first option year, \$8,000 for the second option year, and \$8,500 for the final option year. Mr. Barkley indicated that the Finance Committee unanimously recommended approval of the contract extension. After a short discussion, Ms. Caudell made a motion to extend the contract, which did not receive a second. Chairperson Long suggested that an amendment to the motion be added to include that the final two years will be subject to the approval of the Legislative Committee. Mr. Justice made a motion, seconded by Ms. Caudell, to approve the extension of the contract with RSA Consulting Group and authorize the CEO to exercise the second and third option years, subject to approval by the Legislative Committee and full Board each year. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Performance Updates – The information was included in the packet. Mr. Miller pointed out a new line on the report entitled “Total Mobility Programs,” which includes rides such as the TD Late Shift and the Direct Connect programs.

PSTA Contracts – Mr. Miller said this is a quarterly report and is included in the packet.

FUTURE MEETING SUBJECTS

The Board was provided with a list of upcoming meeting subjects. Mr. Miller spoke about the 300X route going to Tampa International Airport (TIA). Chairperson Long mentioned that PSTA should develop some Public Service Announcements (PSA) regarding the 300X route.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Miller announced that Ashley Handy, Public Relations Manager, will be leaving PSTA next month. He also mentioned that Patricia Collins, Director of Human Resources, has been selected for the Leadership American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Class of 2019.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Several Board members congratulated Ms. Handy and Ms. Collins.

Mr. Eggers referred to the upcoming Funding Workshop and requested that PSTA's story be included in the workshop discussion with the Agency bringing to the table specific items for funding.

Mr. Scott spoke about the 300X airport service, adding his opinion that this route could be contracted out. He also mentioned the bus accident and risk exposure.

Mr. Barkley discussed the fact that the reason for having Board Committees is to review items in detail before going to the full Board. He believes this helps eliminate the need for in-depth discussions at the Board meetings.

Ms. Rice said she is looking forward to the Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) design and the update on the October changes for the downtown St. Petersburg circulator service.

Ms. Johnson spoke about the importance of getting the news out to the public about the TD program.

Mr. Justice said it was great to see Mayor Bevis at the meeting and welcomed Ms. Johnson back.

Mr. Tornga thanked staff for all they do and is looking forward to next month's Board meeting.

Mr. Banther commented about trash being left at the bus stops in Tarpon Springs and would like to know what other communities have done to mitigate this issue. He also said that a service announcement about the 300X service could be included in cities' water bills.

Ms. Caudell would like an update at the next Board meeting on the BRT study in regards to the Clearwater Beach route to TIA. She also thanked TBARTA for the Transit Summit, which was well attended.

Chairperson Long said she looks forward to the next Transit Summit.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairperson Long adjourned the meeting at 10:26 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for August 22nd at 9:00 AM.

Chairperson