



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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BOARD MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 5, 2018

Chairperson Janet Long called the December 5, 2018 Board meeting to order at 9:02 AM. Members present: Janet Long, Chairperson; Pat Gerard, Secretary/Treasurer; David Allbritton, Richard Bennett, Vince Cocks, Dave Eggers, Patricia Johnson, Charlie Justice, Darden Rice, and Josh Shulman. Members absent: David Banther, Joe Barkley, Samantha Fenger, and Lisa Wheeler-Bowman. Also present: Brad Miller, CEO; Alan Zimmet, PSTA General Counsel; PSTA staff members, and members of the public.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Carl Heissenbuttel, Clearwater resident, indicated that he has been riding the bus for 13 years and has completed two rider surveys about improving the bus service. He stated his belief that the bus service has not improved. He said that he has had problems with the Real Time program and would like the buses to better connect. He also offered his opinion that Dunedin does not have enough bus shelters and mentioned safety concerns at the Largo Transit Center as well as the Park Street terminal.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Recognize Outgoing Board Member, John Tornga – Mr. Miller recognized Mr. Tornga for his years of service on the PSTA Board. He was presented with a plaque and a lifetime bus pass. Mr. Tornga said a few words of thanks.

Recognize Gloria Lepik-Corrigan – Mr. Miller recognized and thanked Ms. Lepik-Corrigan for her years of service as the Transit Riders Advisory Committee's (TRAC) Chairperson. Ms. Lepik-Corrigan thanked PSTA and the Board for listening to the riders and their continued support of improving transit for Pinellas County residents. She said a special thanks to Mr. Miller, Cassandra Borchers, Chief Development Officer, and Maryanne Sobocinski, TRAC Coordinator, for their support of TRAC.

Healthy HOP Event – Ms. Borchers spoke briefly about the newly launched Healthy HOP program in Tarpon Springs and the kick-off event on December 4th. She also showed a short video about the program.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

TRAC Update – Committee Chair Lepik-Corrigan provided an update from the November 13th TRAC meeting.

Forward Pinellas Local Coordinating Board (LCB) Update – Ms. Johnson reported on the LCB meeting that took place on November 27th.

Forward Pinellas – Chairperson Long provided highlights from the Forward Pinellas Board meeting on November 14th and spoke about a recent trip to Indianapolis.

Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA) Update – Chairperson Long reported on the November 16th Board meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Rice made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gerard, to approve the Consent Agenda. The Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda which included the approval of the October 24, 2018 Board meeting minutes, the option year delegation authority, the wheelchair ramp replacement project, and the Forward Pinellas funding agreement.

ACTION ITEMS

Board Officers/Committee Appointments – Mr. Miller indicated that the Nominating Committee recommended re-appointing the Board officers in their current positions: Ms. Long – Chairperson, Mr. Barkley – Vice-Chairperson, and Ms. Gerard – Secretary/Treasurer. He said the Committee also recommended Mr. Cocks as a full member on the Finance Committee and Mr. Allbritton as an Alternate on the Planning Committee. Mr. Miller noted that there is a vacancy for a full member on the Planning Committee and recommended that Mr. Allbritton become a full member. Ms. Gerard made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rice, to re-appoint the officers to their current positions. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Gerard made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rice, to appoint Mr. Allbritton as a full member on the Planning Committee and Mr. Cocks as a full member on the Finance Committee. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

PSTA-Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority (HART) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Debbie Leous, Chief Financial Officer, explained that PSTA and HART entered into an MOU two years ago to identify and commit to coordination between the Agencies to eliminate redundancies by integrating certain operational areas. Ms. Leous reported that PSTA shared HART’s Procurement Director over the course of a year with the contract concluding at the end of June 2018. HART has been sharing PSTA’s Risk Manager since July 2017 and that agreement was renewed in October 2018 with a change to a retainer basis for 2019. Ms. Leous added that HART requested that PSTA host the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) International Roadeo which was extremely well received. She also mentioned that PSTA and HART have collaborated on several procurements during FY 2018 as well. Mr. Miller said he recommends approval of the MOU but is uncertain if HART will approve the MOU in January.

Questions were raised regarding the savings from this collaboration which Ms. Leous answered. Chairperson Long suggested that Ms. Leous speak at HART’s January Board meeting outlining the expenditures that the Agencies are saving. Mr. Justice made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shulman, to approve the MOU with HART. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

Mobility on Demand Provider Contracts and Amendments – Bonnie Epstein, Senior Planner, provided a presentation on PSTA’s mobility provider programs and amendments. She said these programs include the Direct Connect program, the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Late Shift program, the Mobility on Demand Sandbox project, and the new Healthy HOP program in Tarpon Springs. Ms. Epstein said that staff is recommending approval of contract amendments with Lyft, Uber, United Taxi, Care Ride, Wheelchair Transport, and Liberty Wheelchair. Mr. Eggers added that the Finance Committee recommended approval of the contracts and amendments. After Ms. Epstein answered a question about the amounts of the contracts, Mr. Bennett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Allbritton, to approve the contracts and amendments. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

2018 Performance Scorecard Update – Trish Collins, Director of Human Resources, recapped the FY 2018 Organizational Performance Scorecard. She indicated that PSTA received 99 points out of 100. She also spoke about the launch of the Performance Innovation Teams that are being formed to lead improvements on the Performance Scorecard’s five key strategic areas. Ms. Rice commented that the Environmental Sustainability metrics seemed a little low and asked how that score could increase.

Ms. Collins explained how the metrics are being changed for FY 2019 with that score being tied to APTA's environmental standards to provide improved focus and direction in those areas. She said that in FY 2018, the focus was on energy usage at the facilities, as well as reduced water consumption. She noted that moving forward, there will be continued investments in hybrid and electric buses which will help in improving the environmental standards area as well as air pollutant emissions.

Mr. Miller spoke about Ms. Collins' participation in the Leadership APTA class and a trip to Washington D.C. where he had an opportunity to speak to her class. He also talked about visits to Capitol Hill and key legislative discussions regarding updates on the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Performance Updates –The reports were included in the packet.

Advantage Pinellas Transit Plan Scenarios – The presentation was provided in the packet.

FUTURE MEETING SUBJECTS

The Board was provided with a list of upcoming meeting subjects. Mr. Miller said that the January Board agenda will include a letter of support for the State Road 60/Memorial Interchange project in Hillsborough County and adopting a regional compact along with 25 regional governments regarding climate change resiliency. Mr. Miller announced that there will be a climate resiliency strategic planning discussion taking place at PSTA this afternoon and he would like PSTA to become involved in this effort. Mr. Miller indicated that Forward Pinellas will lead a discussion on future funding alternatives on January 18th. He also mentioned that Clearwater and downtown St. Petersburg will have extended bus service on New Year's Eve.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Shulman said thank you to Chairperson Long for presenting to the St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce Public Policy Committee on regional transit. He also thanked Chairperson Long for sharing her thoughts about the Indianapolis trip.

Mr. Allbritton said he is excited about the Healthy HOP program in Tarpon Springs and would like to see something similar in Clearwater.

Chairperson Long said Merry Christmas to everyone, especially PSTA's hard-working staff.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairperson Long adjourned the meeting at 10:16 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for January 23rd at 9:00 AM.

Chairperson