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LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 10, 2020

Committee Chair Long called the January 10, 2020 Legislative Committee meeting to order at 9:00 am. Members present: Janet Long, Joe Barkley, Heather Gracy, Gina Driscoll, and Dan Saracki. Member absent: Charlie Justice. Also present were: Brad Miller, CEO; Natalie King, RSA Consulting; Harry Glenn Van Scoyoc; and PSTA Staff. The following participated via telephone: Steve Palmer, Van Scoyoc.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Action Items:

Approve October 21, 2019 Minutes – Mr. Barkley made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gracy to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Information Items:

State and Federal Updates – Ms. King provided a recap on the December trip to Tallahassee and meetings with the Legislative delegation regarding the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) funding formula language and the fiscal impact on PSTA. She mentioned that Tuesday, January 14th, kicks off the new session. Mr. Miller thanked Ms. Driscoll and Mr. Saracki for joining him in December for the trip to Tallahassee and each provided their feedback from the trip. The group discussed TD funding and funding for innovative projects. Questions and comments were made regarding environmental issues and the VW settlement process.

Mr. Glenn and Mr. Palmer gave an update on the federal side. Discussion took place regarding Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding for the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project and the issue with purchasing vehicles from Chinese companies. Mr. Miller spoke about the possible autonomous vehicle (AV) pilot projects in St. Petersburg, Dunedin, and Clearwater Beach. Mr. Glenn mentioned the trip to Washington D.C. in March.

Federal Lobbying Services Request-for-Proposal (RFP) Schedule – Mr. Miller said that the current contract with Van Scoyoc is a five-year contract which expires on June 23, 2020. He indicated that an RFP will be issued in February and proposals are due the end of March. Mr. Miller said it is expected that the Board will award the new contract at their May meeting.

Other Business:

Mr. Miller mentioned Medicaid cuts and whether it will affect transportation funding and Ms. King replied that the cuts have to do with hospital funds.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 am. The next Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for February 5th at 9:00 am.