



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MAY 26, 2021

Chairperson Gerard called the May 26, 2021 Board meeting to order at 9:00 am. Members present: Pat Gerard, Chairperson, Gina Driscoll, Vice-Chairperson, Dan Saracki, Secretary/Treasurer; Dave Allbritton, Vince Cocks, Deborah Figgs-Sanders, Rene Flowers, Michael Fridovich, Jeff Gow, Kathleen Peters, Jamie Robinson, and Josh Shulman. Members absent: Richard Bennett, Janet Long, and Keith Sabiel. Also present: Brad Miller, CEO and PSTA staff members. Attending via Zoom: Alan Zimmet, PSTA General Counsel, and members of the public.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Presentation:

Tampa Bay Partnership Job Access Study – Mr. Miller mentioned an article in the Tampa Bay Business Journal regarding which transit mode is Tampa Bay's job creation champion.

[Ms. Flowers entered the meeting at 9:03 am.]

Committee Updates:

Forward Pinellas Local Coordinating Board (LCB) – Ross Silvers, outlined the May LCB meeting.

[Ms. Peters entered the meeting at 9:06 am.]

Transit Riders Advisory Committee (TRAC) Update – Committee Chairperson, Duncan Kovar, provided an update on the May TRAC meeting.

Forward Pinellas – Chairperson Gerard outlined the May Forward Pinellas meeting.

Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA) Update – Ms. Flowers talked about the May TBARTA meeting.

Consent Agenda:

Mr. Zimmet read Resolutions #21-02 and #21-03 by title. Ms. Flowers made a motion, seconded by Mr. Allbritton, to approve the Consent Agenda. The Board unanimously

approved the Consent Agenda which included approval of the April 28, 2021 minutes, the FY21 Federal Grant Program of Projects (POP), the Transportation uniforms contract, the State Grant approvals, the trolley operator safety barriers contract, and the Pinellas Park bus stop easement agreement.

Action Items:

Microsoft License Upgrade – Mr. Miller informed the Board of recent ransomware attacks that now require an upgrade to the Microsoft system to help prevent this from continuing. He said this will increase the current contract by \$25,000. Ms. Driscoll made a motion, seconded by Mr. Saracki, to approve an increase of \$25,000 for the SHI International, Inc. contract. There were no public comments. The motion passed unanimously.

PSTA Access Paratransit Software – Bonnie Epstein, Director of Mobility, talked about the software that will be used to manage the entire mobility program. Al Burns, Director of Procurement, outlined the procurement process. He said that staff is recommending approval of a contract with Spare Labs, Inc. Questions and comments were made about the customers who use this service and the app that will be available to riders. After discussion, Mr. Cocks made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shulman, to approve the contract with Spare Labs, Inc. There were no public comments. The motion passed unanimously.

Information Items:

Fare Equity Proposal – Cassandra Borchers, Chief Development Officer, Nicole Dufva, Project Planner, and Heather Sobush, Director of Planning, gave a presentation on the fare equity proposal. Several public transportation agencies, including PSTA, have explored the concept of a fare-less system. They explained that although a fare-less system may not be a viable solution for PSTA due to funding, staff would like to launch a new fare system that will reward frequent usage with lower rates. Questions and comments were made about the Flamingo Fares program, linking this program to other services available to residents, monthly survival budget, balance between cost and value, the application process, and Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) funding.

Reports and Correspondence:

Performance Updates – The report was included in the packet. Mr. Miller talked about ridership rising and Customer Service incidents increasing due to riders being asked to continue to wear masks. He also mentioned the AVA demonstration in Dunedin and the Bus on Shoulder project launch event on June 4th. Finally, he noted that PSTA's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program participation is at 13%.

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. Cocks inquired about the April operating statistics.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Chairperson Gerard adjourned the meeting at 10:10 am. The next meeting is June 23, 2021 at 9:00 am.

Chairperson