



**PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY**  
**3201 SCHERER DRIVE, ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33716**  
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**FINANCE/PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**NOVEMBER 17, 2021**

Finance Committee Chairperson Cocks called the November 17, 2021 Finance/ Planning Committee meeting to order at 9:00 am. Members present: Vince Cocks, Richard Bennett, Josh Shulman, Dan Saracki, and Jeff Gow. Member absent: Keith Sabiel. Also present: Planning Committee Members David Allbritton and Deborah Figgs-Sanders; Brad Miller, CEO, and PSTA staff members.

**Public Comments:**

There were no public comments.

**Action Items:**

**Approve October 20, 2021 Finance Committee Minutes** – Mr. Saracki made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gow, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Fiber Optic Joint Project Agreement** – Abhishek Dayal, Director of Project Management, and Kessia Harris, Project Manager, gave a presentation on the project agreement with Pinellas County for fiber optic connections to the SunRunner stations. Questions were asked about Spectrum, project costs and budget, maintenance, possibility for expansion, cellular connection, and real-time information for riders. Mr. Bennett made a motion, seconded by Ms. Figgs-Sanders, to recommend approval of the Joint Project Agreement (JPA) between PSTA and Pinellas County. The motion passed (6:1), with Mr. Shulman dissenting.

**Bus Purchase** – Debbie Leous, Chief Financial Officer, provided information on the bus purchase plan. She noted that there are 60 buses that need to be replaced. Henry Lukasik, Director of Maintenance, talked about the type of vehicle PSTA will be purchasing. Questions were asked about the warranty and cost for batteries, maintenance savings, number of buses, and the range of an electric bus. After discussion, Mr. Bennett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shulman, to recommend approval of the Bus Purchase. The motion passed unanimously.

**Union Contract** – James Bradford, Chief Operating Officer, outlined the wage increases for years two and three of the current labor agreement for PSTA's Florida Public Services Union (SEIU) for Supervisor employees. After a few questions about wage increases, negotiations, and retention of employees, Mr. Saracki made a motion,

seconded by Mr. Gow, to recommend approval of wage increases for years two and three. Motion passed unanimously.

**Claim Settlement** –Diane Randall, Director of Risk Management, briefly outlined the settlement claim of \$60,000 for Mr. Cruz. Mr. Bennett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Saracki, to recommend approval of the claim settlement. The motion passed unanimously.

**Pinellas County School Pilot and UPASS** – Heather Sobush, Director of Planning, talked about the UPASS Pilot Program with the Pinellas County Schools. A few comments were made about the pilot, student badges, marketing and training for students and parents, and the measurement of success after the pilot, which staff answered. After discussion, Mr. Shulman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bennett, to recommend approval of the Pinellas County School Pilot. Motion passed unanimously.

**Reports:**

**Monthly Financial Statement** – The financial statements were included in the packet. Ms. Leous reviewed the report for the month ending September 30, 2021.

**Quarterly Reports** – The reports were included in the packet, which Ms. Leous and Michael Hanson, Director of Finance, briefly reviewed.

**Ridership/Performance** – The report was included in the packet.

**Other Business:**

Mr. Saracki mentioned an event in Oldsmar this weekend.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am. The next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2022 at 9:00 am.