

**Stark Area Regional Transit Authority  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
February 25, 2009 @ 6:00PM  
Gateway Board Room**

Mr. Chuck DeGraff called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

**Attendance**

**Board** (Quorum Present)

Chuck DeGraff (President), Nancy Johnson (Vice-President), Phyllis Beyers, Amanda Fletcher, Ron Macala, Fred Moore, James Reinhard, Chet Warren

**Excused**

Jerry Bixler

**Staff**

Charles Odingbe (Executive Director/CEO), Mark Finnicum (Director, Maintenance), Kelly Zachary (HR/Safety Manager), Tom Williams (Transportation Manager), Creola Elder (Coach Operator), Linda Stutler (Customer Service Supervisor), Shannon Rine (Transit Supervisor), Carole Kuczynski (Director, Finance & Administration), Michelle Harrison (Transit Supervisor), Deborah Hill (Finance Manager), James Warner (Planning & Community Outreach Manager), Tammy Marie Chavers (Executive Assistant)

**Legal Counsel**

Gust Callas (Black McCuskey)

**Other**

Rick Dunning (First Transit), Hoyel Russell (Visitor), Karl Lucas (SCATS), Robert Wang (Canton Repository), Thomas Bernabei (Visitor)

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**Employee of the Month**

The Board acknowledged and congratulated January's Employee of the Month, Creola Elder (Coach Operator).

**Citizens Communication**

Mr. Rick Dunning (First Transit) expressed First Transit's ability to provide resources to act as interim Executive/Director for SARTA.

**\*\*\*Executive Session\*\*\***

6:05 – 7:02PM

*Discussion of the appointment, employment and/or compensation of  
the Interim or permanent Executive Director of the agency*

Mr. Warren motioned to enter Executive Session. Mr. Macala  
seconded the motion. All answered "yes."

## **Approval of Minutes**

*February 11, 2009 Board Meeting*

Mr. Reinhard moved for the adoption of the minutes. Mr. Macala seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

*February 18, 2009 Board Meeting*

Mr. Macala moved for the adoption of the minutes. Mr. Warren seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

## **Departmental Reports**

- **Transportation** ~ Tom Williams (As submitted)
- **Maintenance** ~ Mark Finnicum (As submitted)
- **Finance** ~ Carole Kuczynski (As submitted)  
Ms. Kuczynski presented a presentation on Security & Emergency Procedures. She outlined a plan on emergencies that staff may be confronted with and what to do if ever in an emergency situation.

Ms. Kuczynski also gave a presentation on Local Match Funding. Currently our local match is at 17% for purchases of replacement buses. Our local funds are derived from sales tax, fare prices, advertising, and other miscellaneous funds. Local funds cannot come out of federal revenues.

- **HR/Safety** ~ Kelly Zachary (As submitted)  
Ms. Zachary gave a presentation comparing our former healthcare provider, Autlcare, to our current provider, Medical Mutual. She also gave a comparison on our ancillary benefits package.
- **Planning & Community Outreach** ~ James Warner (As submitted)

## **Communications from the Executive Director...**

SARTA staff met with MRDD staff in an effort to see if there are any synergies to harness between the two agencies. MRDD staff also expressed an interest for SARTA to act as an advisor for their transportation piece. This action may result in an opportunity to bring revenue to SARTA.

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## **Resolutions**

### **Resolution No. 9**

#### ***A Resolution Authorizing The Executive Director To Revise The Organizational Chart***

Ms. Fletcher moved to adopt the resolution. Mr. Warren seconded the motion; resolution passed unanimously.

***A Resolution To Contract With Mr. Thomas Bernabei As Interim Executive Director/CEO***

The motion was made by Mr. Macala verbally. Mr. Warren seconded the motion. The resolution was amended to finalize the contract at the next meeting following negotiations with Mr. DeGraff, Mr. Callas and Mr. Bernabei. The motion passed unanimously.

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**Adjournment**

Mr. Warren motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Reinhard seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35PM.