

**Stark Area Regional Transit Authority
Board of Trustees Meeting
February 27, 2008 @ 6:00pm
Gateway – Board Room**

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

**Attendance
Board**

Charles DeGraff (President), Nancy Johnson (Vice-President), Amanda Fletcher, Ronald Macala, Fred Moore, William Rudner, Chet Warren

Excused

Phyllis Beyers, Gerald Bixler

Staff

Charles Odingbe (Executive Director/CEO), Kelly Zachary (HR/Safety Manager), Tom Williams (Transportation Administrator), Mark Finnicum (Director, Maintenance), Carole Kuczynski (Director, Finance & Administration), Teresa Thompson (Planning & Community Outreach Manager), Tammy Marie Chavers (Executive Assistant)

Legal Counsel

Gust Callas (Black McCuskey)

Other

Karl Lucas (SCATS)

Robert Wang (Canton Repository)

Mr. DeGraff swore in Ronald Macala as our newest Board member. Mr. Macala is appointed by the Stark County Commissioners, replacing Randy Bond.

Mr. Macala has been an attorney for 34 years and a partner at Macala, Gore & Piatt, LLC. The Board welcomed Mr. Macala.

Approval/Correction of Minutes

(January 2, 2008)

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

(January 16, 2008)

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

(January 30, 2008)

Mr. Warren moved for the adoption of the minutes. Ms. Johnson moved for the adoption of the minutes; motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session
 Negotiation Discussion
 Mr. Warren motioned to enter into Executive Session. Mr. Rudner seconded the motion. Roll call was unanimous. The Executive Team was asked to remain present. The session began @ 6:15PM.

The meeting reconvened @ 7:00PM.

Departmental Reports

- Transportation – Tom Williams (As submitted)
- Maintenance – Mark Finnicum (As submitted)
- Finance – Carole Kuczynski (As submitted)
The new auditors have been on site and began their preliminary work.
- HR/Safety – Kelly Zachary (As submitted)
- Planning & Community Outreach – Teresa Thompson (As submitted)

Communications from the Executive Director/CEO...

Ridership

For the month of January, ridership increased by 6.9%. Fixed Route services largely contributed to this increase.

Alliance Project

Construction at the Alliance Transit Center has almost come to a halt due to delays in drawing down FTA funding for the project. FTA staff is reviewing all submittals from SARTA regarding the project and will contact us with any additional needs this week. As indicated to the Board we have provided FTA with all information they requested of us to date and will be awaiting their call.

Trapeze

Trapeze is moving forward successfully. All installed systems have been running with stability. Everyday a new system is installed in another bus.

Budget 2008

It is staff expectation that the Board will vote to authorize adjustments to the budget in order to secure a contract for diesel fuel. If the Board votes in the favor of adjusting the budget, SARTA will enter into a contract for fuel if prices drop to \$2.82 per gallon.

APTA Legislative Conference

Mr. Odimgbe will be traveling to Washington, DC for the APTA Legislative Conference. To discuss the Mahoning Road Grant Application, Kathy Strong and Julia Sparks (JR Coleman), John Grossman (EG&G, Inc.), and David Dougherty (Canton City Council) will be meeting with several legislators.

Discussion Paper

The purpose of the discussion paper was to introduce proposals for meeting a revenue budget. Items outlined were:

- Service Reduction & Service Adjustments
- Salary Adjustment/Freeze
- Fare Increase/Adjustment
- Long Range-Subcontracting Paratransit
- Subcontracting the entire Paratransit Services
- Subcontracting portion of Paratransit
- Sales Tax Increase

Resolutions

A Resolution Approving Amendments To The Bylaws Of Ohio Transit Risk Pool

Mr. Warren moved for the adoption of this resolution. Ms. Fletcher seconded the adoption; resolution passed unanimously.

A Resolution To Authorize The Executive Director/CEO To Offer Free Rides For The Harvest For Hunger Campaign On Regular Fixed Routes, March 23 – 29, 2008

Mr. Warren moved for the adoption of this resolution. Mr. Moore seconded the adoption; resolution passed unanimously.

A Resolution For 2008 Budget Amendment Approval

Ms. Fletcher moved for the adoption of this resolution. Ms. Johnson seconded the adoption; resolution passed unanimously.

A Resolution Authorizing The Executive Director To Advertise For Bids For The Purchase Of 29', 35', And 40' Low Floor Diesel Buses With A Hybrid Diesel-Electric Option

Mr. Warren moved for the adoption of this resolution. Mr. Moore seconded the adoption; resolution passed unanimously.

A Resolution For Contract Purchase Of Diesel Fuel

Ms. Fletcher moved for the adoption of this resolution. Mr. Warren seconded the adoption; resolution passed unanimously.

A Resolution To Authorize The Executive Director/CEO To Implement The Proposed Fixed Route Service Changes To Go Into Effect On March 2, 2008

Mr. Rudner moved for the adoption of this resolution. Ms. Fletcher seconded the adoption; resolution passed unanimously.

A Resolution For A Vote Of Confidence In Our Executive Director And Negotiating Team

Mr. Warren moved for the adoption of this resolution. Ms. Johnson seconded the adoption; resolution passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Mr. Warren moved to adjourn the meeting @ 7:32PM. Mr. Moore seconded the adjournment.

The next Board Meeting
will be on April 2, 2008 @
6pm in the Gateway
Board Room.