

**Stark Area Regional Transit Authority  
Board Of Trustee Meeting  
March 25, 2009  
Gateway Board Room**

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

**Attendance**

**Board** (Quorum Present)

Chuck DeGraff (President), Nancy Johnson (Vice-President), Phyllis Beyers, Amanda Fletcher, Ron Macala, and James Reinhard

**Excused**

Jerry Bixler, Chet Warren

**Staff**

Thomas Bernabei (Executive Director/CEO, Interim), Teresa Thompson (Director, Transportation), Tom Williams (Transportation Manager), Carole Kuczynski (Director, Finance & Administration), James Warner (Planning & Community Outreach Manager), Bobbie Barnett (Customer Service Representative), Kelly Zachary (HR/Safety Manager), Kelly Huston (Transit Supervisor), Mark Finnicum (Director, Maintenance), Deborah Hill (Finance Manager), Don Bowling (IT Manager), and Tammy Marie Chavers (Executive Assistant)

**Legal Counsel**

Robert Murphy (Black McCuskey)

**Other**

Karl Lucas (SCATS)

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Mr. Dahnaad Ahshaad was acknowledged as March's Employee of the Month.

**Approval of Minutes**

*February 25, 2009 ~ Board Meeting*

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

*March 11, 2009 ~ Board Meeting/Work Session*

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

Ms. Beyers, Mr. Macala, Ms. Fletcher and Ms. Johnson will review resumes as they come in for the Executive Director/CEO position.

**Departmental Reports**

- **Transportation** ~ Teresa Thompson (As submitted)

- **Maintenance** ~ Mark Finnicum (As submitted)
- **Finance** ~ Carole Kuczynski (As submitted)  
Sales Tax revenue has declined by 6%. Mr. Bernabei informed the board that the current budget reflected a projected amount of \$12.3 million in sales tax revenue, however the reality is that we may receive approximately \$11.2 – 11.7 million. The budget team has been meeting to revise the budget as needed.

Ms. Kuczynski also informed the board that Don Bowling (Information Systems Manager) will be retiring next month.

- **HR/Safety** ~ Kelly Zachary (As submitted)
- **Planning & Community Outreach** ~ James Warner (As submitted)  
Ten (10) informational meetings with the public and social services throughout the community were conducted to discuss the changes made with the Proline procedures. Mr. Warner commended Mr. Williams and Ms. Thompson on their assistance with this project.

Mr. Warner made the board aware that Linda Stutler (Customer Service Manager) is retiring on May 29, 2009

### **Communication from the Executive Director/CEO, Interim *Purchase of Buses***

The Board adopted Resolution No. 14/2009 on March 11, 2009 authorizing the purchase of nine busses from Gillig, Inc. with ARRA grant funds. The Resolution was subject to review by legal counsel. Mr. Bernabei reported that he has received a legal opinion from Mr. Callas approving the Resolution and proposed purchase.

### ***CS Corporate***

Mr. Bernabei notified the Board that the contract with CS Corporate has expired. The board decided not to renew the contract.

### ***FTA***

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) inspection for the Triennial review is in April. One area of review is FTA's rules regulating special events transportation/charter bus services. These services are being reviewed by Staff and more information on this subject will be provided at the next meeting.

### ***Belden Village Transfer Center/Site Assessments***

The Board approved Resolution No. 6/2009 on February 11, 2009 authorizing an RFP for site assessments for a Belden Village transfer center. Staff was prepared to recommend a contract with M.S. Consultants, Inc. After discussion, however, it appears that this project has not received thorough review either by Staff or the Board and was originally pushed forward somewhat prematurely to meet requirements for ARRA funding applications. SARTA representatives have met with Jackson Township officials and a mall representative to look at a temporary transfer site. Staff will provide a more detailed briefing on the need for a Belden Village transfer center at the next work session.

### **Resolutions**

#### **Resolution No. 15**

#### ***A Resolution Authorizing The Executive Director/CEO To Offer Free Rides For The Harvest For Hunger Campaign On Regular Fixed Routes, Friday April 3, 2009***

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

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

7:02 – 7:40PM

*To discuss pending litigation*

Ms. Johnson motioned to enter executive Session. Mr. Reinhard seconded the motion. Roll call. All answered “yes.”

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned @ 7:40PM.