

## MINUTES

### WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY

February 8, 2018

12:30 p.m.

#### Board Members Present

Roberta Abdul-Salaam  
Robert L. Ashe III  
Robert F. Dallas  
Frederick L. Daniels, Jr.  
William "Bill" Floyd  
Jerry Griffin  
Freda B. Hardage  
Alicia M. Ivey  
Al Pond  
W. Thomas Worthy

#### Staff Members Present

Elizabeth O'Neill (Interim)  
Robert Troup  
Richard Krisak  
Gordon Hutchinson  
Goldie Taylor  
Jonathan Hunt  
Paula Nash  
Davis Allen  
Rhonda Allen  
LaShanda Dawkins  
Wanda Dunham  
Stephany Fisher  
Abebe Girmay  
Shelton Goode  
Benjamin Limmer  
Dean Mallis  
Ryland McClendon  
Amanda Rhein  
David Springstead  
George Wright  
Emil Tzanov

Also in attendance were Robert Highsmith and LaToya Brisbane of Holland & Knight; Dave Wickert of *The AJC*.

#### Chairman's Report

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#### *Upcoming Meetings*

#### **Wednesday, February 28, 2018**

- Operations & Safety Committee – 10:00 a.m.
- Business Management Committee – (immediately following)

**Thursday, March 8, 2018**

- Planning & External Relations Committee – 10:30am
- Board – 1:30pm

**Approval of the January 4, 2018 Work Session Minutes**

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On motion by Mr. Griffin seconded by Mr. Worthy, the minutes were approved by a vote of 10 to 0, with 10 members present.

**Chairman's Report**

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Chairman Ashe congratulated Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Hunt and staff for a job well done on paratransit.

Chairman Ashe reported there have been inquiries from the City of Atlanta on the renaming of stations since the last Board meeting when the Board voted to rename the West End Station, West End/Abernathy. He announced the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee for this purpose. The Committee will be charged with looking at what needs to be done in renaming stations, along with branding conventions. Chairman announced the following members:

**Ad Hoc Committee for the Renaming of Stations**

Alicia Ivey, Chair  
Roberta Abdul-Salaam  
Robert Dallas  
Jim Durrett  
W. Thomas Worthy

Regarding governance and potential state funding, a senate bill has been introduced. Everyone seems to have the thought of no harm to MARTA. A secondary goal is hope that the legislation process is a benefit to MARTA.

Mrs. Hardage reported the House and Senate are working together to see if we can get one bill.

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**General Manager/CEO Report**

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**Atlanta Streetcar: Transition Program Update – Richard Krisak**

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*Important Dates*

- 2010 submittal TIGER II Grant
- 2011 Award TIGER II Grant
- January 2013 COA received FTA Grantee status
- December 2014 Streetcar operated COA
- November 2016 COA Referendum (Half Penny)
- June 2017 Transfer Agreement (City to MARTA)
- October 2017 Transfer Agreement (City to MARTA)
- December 2017 (former Mayor) Executed IGA

*Governance*

- Three IGAs in Lifecycle: Construction, O&M, Transition
- MARTA Managed Build for City
  - Under Budget
  - On Schedule
- Director Streetcar Services Active Management
- Since 7/1/2017 Funding via MORE MARTA Program

*Transition Program Objectives*

- Enhance and fortify safety and security
- Implement ridership growth program
- Reduce Streetcar operating costs
- Incorporate as part of MARTA's Inter-Modal service

**Streetcar O&M Approach**

*MARTA Embedded Model*

- Consistent original grant requirements
- Embraced by FTA and GDOT
- Absorb within MARTA O&M organization
  - Leverage Federal interest assets
  - Leverage portion existing FTEs
  - Managed by current leadership structure
  - Realize economies of scale

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More MARTA

- Fully funded via More MARTA
- Future expansion-Beltline
- Knowledge development Streetcar/light rail

Transition Program Status

Early Transition

- COA and MARTA engaged consultants
- Delayed executive IGA
- Focus safe and reliable streetcar
- Waiting on FTA and GDOT requirements
- Risk management prior July 1, 2018
- COA employees to ATU 732
- Some tasks still pending July 1 2018

Ongoing Inter-Departmental Collaboration

- Weekly coordination meetings with PMT Team
- 60+ cross-functional employees directly involved in ASC meetings
- Departments/Offices directly engaged:
  - Human Resources
  - Service Planning
  - Research & Analytics
  - Finance
  - Information Technology
  - Customer Service
  - Communications
  - Police
  - Facilities Maintenance
  - Vehicle Maintenance
  - Maintenance of Way
  - Rail Operations
  - Risk Management
  - Safety
  - Engineering/Dev
  - Audit

Ten (10) ASC tours are planned for MARTA staff.

Policy Decisions Underway

- Working Groups
- Branding and Marketing Program
- Finalization of Responsibility Matrix
- Risk Management Program
- Staffing Plan

Mr. Pond asked about frequency of service.

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Mr. Krisak said service runs every fifteen (15) minutes.

Mrs. Hardage said twenty-five cents may make the difference on who gets on and who get off.

Ms. Abdul-Salaam said it was difficult figuring out where to pay

Mr. Krisak said payment is made from the platform, on the honor system.

Mr. Daniels made comments regarding the naming of the streetcar. Back in 2010 there were problems with the concept. As staff is looking at the entire intermodal, some thought should go along the lines that this is a transit vehicle. There needs to be another mindset on how we speak about it.

Mr. Krisak said Ms. Taylor is working on it.

Mr. Wright reported the City of Atlanta and MARTA have engaged consultants. MARTA will be ready to take over July 1. The Authority is waiting on guidance and requirements from the FTA and GDOT. Additionally, MARTA is mitigating risk exposure and have mechanisms in place for risk management.

Mr. Daniels asked what is needed from the Board.

Mr. Krisak said policy decision around fare and budget.

Mr. Daniels said from a Board perspective he would like to see what embedded costs are.

Mr. Floyd asked what does it take to run the streetcar.

Mr. Krisak said \$7M for this fiscal year.

Mr. Floyd asked about additional needs.

Mr. Krisak said there needs to be a capital program for replacement of track, overhead wire, etc.

**Update – Night at the Championship Game – R. Troup/R. Krisak/G. Taylor**

On the night of the game, Five Points became overwhelmed. MARTA lost connection into the Dome when Mercedes Benz was built. Vine City is taking the lion's share of passengers and it is the second smallest station. MARTA ran thirty (30) events before January 8<sup>th</sup> and we did OTP for the 30 events. The game projections was 15,000 but we actually carried 22,000. There were weather conditions and President Trump coming to town.

Mr. Daniels mentioned the bridge being built over Northside Drive.

Mr. Krisak acknowledged the bridge will help. MARTA will be able to meter the crowd.

Chairman Ashe asked about communication.

Mr. Krisak agreed that MARTA must do a better job on social media.

Mr. Worthy said he was at Five Points until 2:00 am and would have felt more comfortable if someone would have given a status report as to what was going on and when passengers would be able to move on.

Mrs. O'Neill said the Authority's automatic announcements will be adjusted.

Mr. Troop reported there was an issue with communication. He said he was asked to set up a task force to look into this matter. One of the things on the agenda will be to evaluate EOC, processes and procedures.

**Procurement of Rail Cars – Elizabeth O'Neill**

Mrs. O'Neill informed Board member four responses were received on rail car procurement. Staff will come back to the Board to request permission to issue RFP.

**Resolution Authorizing the Solicitation of Proposals for the Procurement of Food & Beverage and Specialty Retail Concessions in Rail Stations, RFP P40649 – Amanda Rhein**

Mrs. Rhein distributed a proposed resolution to Board members. She asked the Board's consideration in voting on the resolution at today's Board meeting.

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The resolution would authorize the Interim General Manager/CEO or her delegate to solicit two proposals for food and beverage and specialty retail concessions in rail station by means other than competitive bidding, in accordance with section 14(m) of the MARTA Act, through the use of Request for Proposals.

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On motion by Mrs. Hardage seconded by Mr. Floyd the Board unanimously agreed by a vote of 11 to 0, with 11 members present to go into Executive Session at 1:31 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter.

On motion by Ms. Abdul-Salaam seconded by Mr. Dallas, the Board unanimously agreed by a vote of 11 to 0, with 11 members present to adjourn the Executive Session at 1:48 p.m.

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**Adjournment**

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The meeting of the MARTA Board of Directors adjourned at 1:48 p.m.