

AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING via ZOOM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2021; 4:00 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Nathan Triplett, Chair  
Dusty Fancher, Vice Chair  
Shanna Draheim, Secretary/Treasurer  
Dion'trae Hayes  
Mark Grebner  
Robin Lewis  
John Prush  
Jennie Gies  
Derek Melot  
Doug Lecato  
Phil Deschaine  
Jack Schmitt

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Nathan Triplett, Chair called meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

**ABSENT:** None

**LATE:** Shanna Draheim and Jennie Gies

**ROLL CALL:** All present, Shanna Draheim and Jennie Gies arrived late.

Chair Triplett instructed all participants on the Zoom meeting format in accordance with the authority of Public Act 254, 2020.

**CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD AND PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Correspondence to the Board**

Chair Triplett stated that there were five (5) emails sent to the Board.

**Public Comments**

Deb Parrish thanked the Board for letting her speak and shared her view that the Board only focusses on the financial side of CATA. She also inquired about the amount of money that CATA is saving by giving all the senior drivers split shifts in order to have the weekends off. Ms. Parrish stated that most management rewards their long serving employees.

Katie Kelley, former President, ATU Local 1039, expressed her frustration with negotiations between CATA and the ATU. She also shared her view on how the changes will affect CATA operators.

Jane Kelley, wife of a 29 year veteran operator, expressed her frustration with negotiations and the lack of respect she believes that the drivers have received.

ATU Local 1039 representative expressed their frustration with CATA's management and the changes taking place at CATA.

Amanda expressed her frustration with CATA's management and her support for the ATU.

### **CHAIR'S COMMENTS:**

Chair Triplett reminded Board members to send in their Annual Disclosure Form-Policy 209 Code of Conduct if they have not done so already.

He also acknowledged the emails he has personally received and thanked those for reaching out to him.

Chair Triplett stated that there will be another negotiation meeting between CATA and the ATU on Thursday, April 22, 2021 and is hopeful that both parties may come to an agreement soon.

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

#### **Cross Boundary Agreements**

Bradley Funkhouser introduced MaLissa Schutt from Clinton Transit and Donna Webb from EATRAN.

MaLissa Schutt thanked Bradley and expressed her enthusiasm for the Cross Boundary Agreement and improving access to receive vaccinations. She looks forward to working with Bradley and Donna on the opportunities presented to better serve our communities.

Donna Webb thanked Bradley and expressed her excitement to be working with CATA and MaLissa not only for vaccine distributions but with future endeavors as well.

Bradley Funkhouser stated that there have been over 1,000 vaccines provided to the region through the Cross Boundary Agreement.

Other organizations, including Dean Transportation were welcomed to receive their vaccines at CATA. Administering COVID-19 vaccines will more than likely be an annual need and CATA will continue to do their part in assisting the public in any way possible.

#### **Hiring New Operators**

Bradley Funkhouser stated that CATA will be hiring new operators very soon and that we look forward to a great summer.

**PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2021, BOARD MEETING
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2021, BOARD RETREAT MEETING
- C. APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2021
  - 1. Interim Income Statement
  - 2. Cash Summary
  - 3. Investments
  - 4. Fifth Third Investment Account Reconciliation
- D. ANNUAL REPORT TO GOVERNING BODIES OF PARTICIPATING MEMBERS OF CATA

**PROPOSED MOTION:** That the CATA Board of Directors approves the Fiscal 2020 Annual Report and directs staff to distribute it to the governing bodies of all participating members of CATA.

- E. TRANSIT MASTER SOFTWARE UPDATE PROJECT

**PROPOSED MOTION:** That the CATA Board of Directors authorizes Board Chair, Nathan Triplett, and Chief Executive Officer, Bradley T. Funkhouser, to enter into a contract with Trapeze Software Group, Incorporated to provide software, support and necessary ancillaries to migrate CATA from Novus to Transit Master software with a cost not to exceed \$250,000 on such terms and conditions as the Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer deem necessary.

- F. ADDENDUM TO THE CROSS BOUNDARY AGREEMENT BETWEEN CLINTON TRANSIT AND CATA

**PROPOSED MOTION:** That the CATA Board of Directors authorizes Board Chair, Nathan Triplett, and Chief Executive Officer, Bradley T. Funkhouser, to execute the Addendum to the Cross Boundary Agreement between Clinton Transit and CATA to remain into effect until both parties deem otherwise.

- G. ADDENDUM TO THE CROSS BOUNDARY AGREEMENT BETWEEN EATRAN AND CATA

**PROPOSED MOTION:** That the CATA Board of Directors authorizes Board Chair, Nathan Triplett, and Chief Executive Officer, Bradley T. Funkhouser, to execute the Addendum to the Cross Boundary Agreement between EATRAN and CATA to remain into effect until both parties deem otherwise.

**MOTION:**

Phil Deschaine motioned to approve the Consent Agenda and Dion’trae Hayes supported the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** The motion carried unanimously.

**ACTION ITEM - DISCUSSION AGENDA**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jennifer Clem, wife of Steve Clem, CATA operator, expressed her frustration with CATA over negotiations and CATA’s management.

Jessica Montry expressed her frustration with CATA’s management and the proposed changes.

Deb Parrish expressed her concern over CATA’s future and her need for transportation.

Harry Joned expressed his frustration with CATA’s management and the proposed changes.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING UNION LABOR AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS**

**PROPOSED MOTION:** That this Board meeting go into closed session, pursuant to MCL 15.268(c), for a strategy session in connection with negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement with the Union, ATU, Division 1039, and that following such closed session, this Board meeting return to open session for completion of the Agenda.

**MOTION:**

Chair Triplett motioned to go into closed session and Board supported the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** The motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There was no further business Chair Triplett adjourned meeting at 5:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shanna Draheim  
Secretary/Treasurer

Tina Orlando  
Recording Secretary