

CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING via ZOOM

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 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
Phil Deschaine
Derek Melot
Doug Lecato
Jack Schmitt

CALL TO ORDER:

Nathan Triplett, Chair called meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

ABSENT: Jennie Gies

ROLL CALL: All present, Jennie Gies was absent.

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 four (4) emails sent to the Board with one (1) email held back for personnel matters.

Public Comments

Deb Parrish thanked the Board for letting her speak and inquired about the amount of money being saved with having split shifts for full time employees. She also inquired about the incentive money being spent on new drivers.

CHAIR’S COMMENTS:

Chair Triplett informed the Board that Governor Whitmer intends to lift COVID-19 restrictions on or before July 1, 2021, therefore; CATA will no longer have the authority to hold virtual meetings. Most likely, the June 2021 Board meeting will be the last meeting held virtually.

Doug Lecato inquired about Zoom being allowed at any level.

Chair Triplett stated that they are still working on the logistics with staff. He stated that without being under a state of emergency order, there are limited options for individual Board members to meet virtually.

Mark Grebner inquired about the possibility of live streaming or recording Board meetings to accommodate the public and staff members which may want to watch rather than attend in person.

Chair Triplett stated that live streaming and recording Board meetings are part of their discussion.

Mark Grebner recognized that the pandemic forced us to make changes that perhaps should have been changed long ago. He suggested that CATA at least record the Board meetings for those that may want to be informed yet cannot be present in person. Mr. Grebner expressed his opinion that implementing the Zoom meetings were inexpensive and worked well.

Chair Triplett agreed with Mr. Grebner's remarks.

MOTION:

Doug Lecato motioned to excuse Jennie Gies and Dion'trae Hayes supported the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Update

Bradley Funkhouser informed the Board that Los Angeles and New York opened yesterday, Tuesday, June 15, 2021, which is a good sign that the end of the pandemic is near.

Juneteenth

Bradley Funkhouser reported that this Saturday is June 19th which is also known as Juneteenth National Independence Day. This is a national holiday that recognizes June 19, 1865, when many enslaved people in Texas learned they were free. Texas was the last state to free their slaves in the United States. Mr. Funkhouser stated that this is a milestone that we should all recognize.

COVID-19/Vaccinations

Bradley Funkhouser stated that were no COVID-19 related leaves reported last week. He also referenced a video clip of himself alongside Ingham County Health Department Director, Linda Vail in the unveiling of two (2) wrapped vaccine buses. The buses are to promote the effectiveness and safety of the vaccine. Mr. Funkhouser reported that regionally, there have been over 2,300 free rides given to those that required transportation to be vaccinated. He also recognized and commended those that helped with the public getting vaccinated.

Ridership

Bradley Funkhouser reported that there have been 8,800 adjusted rides. This is the highest adjustment since November 2, 2020. He then stated that the consensus

among other transit agencies is about three (3) years before getting back to pre-pandemic status. Lansing routes are running at about 45%, 1-16 off campus. Currently, CATA is at about 1.7 million rides for the year. Last year's total ridership was at 7.3 million. Mr. Funkhouser stated that the hope is to make ridership more flexible and he expects the numbers will increase now that we have regional collaboration.

FMLA

Bradley Funkhouser stated that FMLA has decreased since implementation on April 16, 2021 and there have only been 130 occurrences compared to last year. Overtime has also significantly declined with 7,300 overtime hours pulled back and converted to straight time.

Job Fair-New Operators

Bradley Funkhouser stated that CATA received multiple applicants prior to the job fair. A class of eight (8) started training this past week. CATA has another job fair scheduled at the end of this month. Mr. Funkhouser referenced the tentative agreement made between CATA and the ATU during negotiations that stated any operators willing to train new hires would receive an additional \$1.50 on top of their regular pay. He was excited to report that a good number of senior to mid-range drivers have agreed to shadow new drivers. He expects a larger training class will begin in the next few weeks.

Budget

Bradley Funkhouser updated the Board that there will be a draft budget of approximately \$55 million in Operating submitted by end of the month.

PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA

- A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2021, BOARD MEETING
- B. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT FOR APRIL 2021
 - 1. Interim Income Statement
 - 2. Cash Summary
 - 3. Investments
 - 4. Fifth Third Investment Account Reconciliation
- C. APPROVAL OF THE SEVENTH AMENDMENT TO MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY CONTRACTED TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGREEMENT

PROPOSED MOTION: That the CATA Board of Directors authorizes Board Chair, Nathan Triplett, and Chief Executive Officer, Bradley T. Funkhouser, to execute the Seventh Amendment to the MSU Contracted Transportation Services Agreement, on such other terms and conditions as the Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer deem necessary.

Mark Grebner requested that Action Item C be moved to discussion.

MOTION:

Doug Lecato motioned to approve the Consent Agenda with Action Item C, APPROVAL OF THE SEVENTH AMENDMENT TO MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY CONTRACTED TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGREEMENT moved for discussion and Robin Lewis supported the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEM - DISCUSSION AGENDA

- A. APPROVAL OF THE SEVENTH AMENDMENT TO MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY CONTRACTED TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGREEMENT

PROPOSED MOTION: That the CATA Board of Directors authorizes Board Chair, Nathan Triplett, and Chief Executive Officer, Bradley T. Funkhouser, to execute the Seventh Amendment to the MSU Contracted Transportation Services Agreement, on such other terms and conditions as the Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer deem necessary.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Mark Grebner to approve Discussion Item A, APPROVAL OF THE SEVENTH AMENDMENT TO MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY CONTRACTED TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGREEMENT and Robin Lewis supported the motion.

DISCUSSION:

Mark Grebner requested a summary of the contract with MSU.

Bradley Funkhouser explained that Andrew Brieschke, Deputy CEO and John Prush, Deputy Director at MSU and CATA Board member, have put together a one-year extension to the agreement made pre-pandemic which continues to operate under a free fare system to MSU students. Mr. Funkhouser referred to John Prush to confirm the details.

John Prush confirmed Mr. Funkhouser's remarks.

ROLL CALL VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Deb Parrish stated that Zoom has made these meetings more assessable for the physically challenged. She also inquired about paying a fare to attend the in-person

meetings.

Chair Triplett stated that this is part of the logistics being discussed right now.

**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:

Phil Deschaine motioned to go into closed session and Robin Lewis supported the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business Chair Triplett adjourned meeting at 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shanna Draheim
Secretary/Treasurer

Tina Orlando
Recording Secretary