

MINUTES OF THE
CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING via ZOOM

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2020; 4:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Nathan Triplett, Chair
Douglas Lecato, Vice Chair
Dusty Fancher, Secretary/Treasurer
Derek Melot
Mark Grebner
Dion'trae Hayes
Jennie Gies
Donna Rose
Shanna Draheim
John Prush
Dan Opsommer

ABSENT: None

CALL TO ORDER:

Nathan Triplett, Chair called meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL: All present

CHAIR'S COMMENTS:

Chair Triplett instructed all participants on the meeting format and appreciated CATA's services during COVID-19.

Chair Triplett stated under CATA's policy, in July 2020 they are required to appoint a Nominating Committee for the purpose of nominating members who wish to serve as Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer of the Board. Nathan recommended Dan Opsommer, Jennie Gies, and Derek Melot to serve as the upcoming Nominating Committee. These three (3) board members have graciously agreed to serve in this capacity with Dan Opsommer chairing the committee.

MOTION:

A motion to approve the appointment of Dan Opsommer, Jennie Gies, and Derek Melot board members to serve as the Nominating Committee in the upcoming year with Dan Opsommer chairing the committee was moved by Dion'trae Hayes and supported by Doug Lecato.

ROLL CALL VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Correspondence to the Board

Chair Triplett noted the email that was sent to the Board.

Public Comments

Deb Parrish thanked everyone for allowing her to speak at the CATA Board Meeting. She would like for someone to explain how the buses are being sanitized to prevent

the spread of COVID-19. As an essential worker with compromised symptoms, Ms. Parrish would like to know how safe it is to travel on Spec-Tran. She also commented on job sharing with unemployment benefits in order to reduce staff and services downtown. Ms. Parrish recognized CATA and the Union not having a contract. She implored each side of the bargaining teams to work together as they have done during the pandemic and get a contract signed.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

Alleged Incident

Mr. Funkhouser informed the Board about an alleged incident that took place in downtown Lansing at the Capital where protesters claimed a bus driver hit a protestor. The incident is being investigated and the driver is now on leave till further notice. Lolo Robison, Director of Marketing and Customer Experience released CATA’s response to the press.

COVID-19

Mr. Funkhouser commented on a recent COVID-19 exposure. Last week, CATA was notified by the Ingham County Health Department that a positive rider had been on several CATA bus trips from late June to beginning of July. CATA immediately notified other riders of their potential exposure and put out a press release. In keeping communication with the Ingham County Health Department, CATA has learned that the exposure has been linked to two (2) positive cases.

Kiosk Check-In

CATA will soon have self-check-in kiosks located in all CATA facilities. The self-check-ins will contain screening forms and temperature scans to screen all employees before they begin their shift.

CARES Act Grant

Mr. Funkhouser spoke on the WILS, *Morning Wake-Up* with Dave Akerly about CATA being awarded \$18.3 million from the CARES Act. The pending electronic paperwork has received some press release from members of Congress. Mr. Funkhouser explained to Mr. Akerly how well CATA has done collectively battling COVID-19 without any lay-offs.

Ridership

Ridership has leveled off at approximately 6,500 rides per day with non-Spartan Service. Typically, ridership would be at about 16,000 rides per day with non-Spartan Service. CATA will work with MSU to put out a fall schedule. In a safety meeting last week, the Union agreed that CATA will need to scale down service in order to provide flexibility to all drivers and riders.

COVID-19 Testing

CATA has been in contact with Ingham County Health Department to provide testing services for those in need of transportation to testing sites. CATA is working on a plan and hopes to have a solution soon.

CATA Transportation Center (CTC)

Mr. Funkhouser met with Jan Bidwell, a social worker from the Lansing Police Department, at the CTC to discuss options for expanding the CTC. The two (2) discussed ways to train new social workers including having more interns and finding a new location.

PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 17, 2020, BOARD MEETING

B. APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT FOR MAY 2020

1. Interim Income Statement
2. Cash Summary
3. Investments
4. Fifth Third Investment Account Reconciliation
5. PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES

C. PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES

PROPOSED MOTION: That the CATA Board of Directors authorizes Board Chair, Nathan Triplett, and Chief Executive Officer, Bradley T. Funkhouser, to execute a contract with Martin Waymire for Public Relations Services, for a five-year term with an option to renew for an additional five-year period, for an amount not to exceed the approved annual Operating Budget for such services as the Board Chair and the Chief Executive Officer deem necessary.

D. CONTRACT EXTENSIONS

PROPOSED MOTION: That the CATA Board of Directors authorizes Board Chair, Nathan Triplett, and Chief Executive Officer, Bradley T. Funkhouser, to approve the contract extensions for Brinks Incorporated, Van Wyke Risk Solutions and Gravity Works, on such terms and conditions as the Board Chair and the Chief Executive Officer deem necessary.

E. RENEWAL OF APPOINTMENTS TO LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PROPOSED MOTION: The CATA Board of Directors approves the recommendation of the Local Advisory Committee to reappoint Lillie Mae Flannery to a three-year term through June 2023.

F. FAREBOX UPGRADE

PROPOSED MOTION: That the CATA Board of Directors authorizes Board Chair, Nathan Triplett, and Chief Executive Director, Bradley T. Funkhouser to enter into a contract with SPX’s division Genfare to

replace the remaining 87 Odyssey fareboxes with FastFare fareboxes. To include an increase number of spare parts, have five (5) immediate replacement FastFare fareboxes on-hand, upgrade one probe for FastFare compatibility, provide three (3) units for our training room and provide supporting equipment at an anticipated cost of approximately \$1,800,000.

Shanna Draheim requested to have Action Item C to be removed for discussion.

Donna Rose requested to have Action Item E to be removed to discussion.

MOTION:

Dusty Fancher motioned to have Consent Agenda with Action Item C, PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES and ACTION ITEM E, RENEWAL OF APPOINTMENTS TO LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE, removed for discussion and Doug Lecato supported the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: The Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda with Action Item C and E removed for discussion.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

A. PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES

PROPOSED MOTION: That the CATA Board of Directors authorizes Board Chair, Nathan Triplett, and Chief Executive Officer, Bradley T. Funkhouser, to execute a contract with Martin Waymire for Public Relations Services, for a five-year term with an option to renew for an additional five-year period, for an amount not to exceed the approved annual Operating Budget for such services as the Board Chair and the Chief Executive Officer deem necessary.

MOTION:

Dusty Fancher motioned to approve Discussion Agenda Item A, PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES and Doug Lecato supported the motion.

DISCUSSION:

Shanna Draheim inquired about the five (5) year term.

Mr. Funkhouser stated that the five (5) year term is standard.

Lolo Robison concurred with Mr. Funkhouser and added that CATA has the ability for an additional five (5) years. The contract timeframe allows for continuity and consistency within an agency. Ms. Robison also stated that CATA has developed a good relationship with Martin Waymire and they have done an excellent job.

Doug Lecato inquired about Martin Waymire's rate being dependent on the term.

Mr. Funkhouser replied no, the rate is not affected by the term.

Mark Grebner noted to the Board that he has worked with Martin Waymire but in no way related to CATA.

ROLL CALL VOTE: The motion carried unanimously except for Derek Melot who abstained.

B. RENEWAL OF APPOINTMENTS TO LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PROPOSED MOTION: The CATA Board of Directors approves the recommendation of the Local Advisory Committee to reappoint Lillie Mae Flannery to a three-year term through June 2023.

MOTION:

Doug Lecato motioned to approve Discussion Agenda Item B, RENEWAL OF APPOINTMENTS TO LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE and Shanna Draheim supported the motion.

DISCUSSION:

Donna Rose inquired about the Local Advisory Committee's terms and stated the importance of having continued diversity among the members.

Mr. Funkhouser appreciated Donna's remarks and stated for anyone interested in being part of the LAC to reach out to Craig Frazier and fill out an application.

ROLL CALL VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Deb Parrish inquired that the next meeting start five (5) minutes early so that she has more time to type her comments. Last month, she was unable to complete her second comment. Ms. Parrish stated that Michigan still has 30% of its census forms still uncompleted. She expressed that every dollar is needed to go towards critical services and everyone needs to voice their opinions and vote. Ms. Parrish also requested that a CATA representative get a hold of her and explain how the busses are being sanitized.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING UNION LABOR AGREEMENT

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:

A motion was made by Shanna Draheim and supported by Jennie Gies to approve going 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.

ROLL CALL VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

The Executive Session began at 4:39 p.m. and adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business, Chair Triplett adjourned meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dusty Fancher
Secretary/Treasurer

Tina Orlando
Recording Secretary