

CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2022  
4:00 P.M. – 3131 E. MICHIGAN AVE., LANSING, MI 48912  
(FORMER SEARS BUILDING)

**PRESENT:** Nathan Triplett, Chair  
Dusty Fancher, Vice Chair  
Shanna Draheim, Secretary/Treasurer  
Phil Deschaine  
Jack Schmitt  
Derek Melot  
Doug Lecato  
Mark Grebner  
Jennie Gies

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**ABSENT:** Robin Lewis and Maggie Sanders

**LATE:** John Prush

**ROLL CALL:** Phil Deschaine, Shanna Draheim, Dusty Fancher, Jennie Gies, Mark Grebner, Doug Lecato, Derek Melot, Jack Schmitt and Nathan Triplett were all present.

Robin Lewis and Maggie Sanders were absent.

Chair Triplett welcomed everyone to the Board meeting. He also mentioned that the meeting is being offered on Zoom for those who wish to view the Board meeting virtually.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None

**CHAIR'S COMMENTS:**

**MOTION:**

Shanna Draheim motioned to excuse Robin Lewis and Doug Lecato supported the motion.

**VOTE:** The motion carried unanimously.

John Prush arrived at 4:03 p.m.

Chair Triplett informed everyone that the vacancy on the CATA Board has been filled with new Board member Maggie Sanders, Supervisor at Charter Township of Lansing.

Chair Triplett also stated that he and fellow Board members Dusty Fancher and Shanna Draheim had a very productive meeting this past week with representatives from EATRAN. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss regional transit coordination.

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

#### **Meeting with David Ellis**

Bradley Funkhouser recognized MSU student and CATA supporter, David Ellis who came to visit CATA this past week. Mr. Ellis is a lifetime resident and very interested in the transit industry.

#### **CATA's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Bradley Funkhouser reported that CATA celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary press release on Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. The event was a great success and highlights from the event can be seen on CATA's website.

#### **All Operating Training (AOT)**

Bradley Funkhouser noted that AOT training has returned after a four (4) year hiatus primarily due to COVID-19. The training has been very positive. Mr. Funkhouser also shared his appreciation for the Local Advisory Committee (LAC) and their workshops that were presented during the training. He then acknowledged Doug Lecato, CATA's Board liaison to the LAC.

Chair Triplett welcomed Mr. Ellis.

Doug Lecato stated that the LAC has been very instrumental in bringing items to his attention.

Bradley Funkhouser recognized and thanked LAC Chair, Deb Wiese for her partnership and work with the LAC.

### **ACTION ITEMS – PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 20, 2022, BOARD MEETING
- B. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT FOR MARCH 2022
  - 1. Interim Income Statement
  - 2. Cash Summary
  - 3. Investments
  - 4. Fifth Third Investment Account Reconciliation

C. ANNUAL FINANCIAL AUDIT 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 Plante Moran, PLLC for Annual Financial Audit Services at a cost not to exceed \$372,405 based on the quoted rates, for a one-year period and an option for four (4) additional, one (1) year extensions on such other terms and conditions as the Board Chair and the Chief Executive Officer deem necessary.

**MOTION:**

Jack Schmitt motioned to approve the Consent Agenda and Phil Deschaine supported the motion.

**VOTE:** The motion carried unanimously.

**ACTION ITEMS – PROPOSED DISCUSSION AGENDA**

A. VOICE AND DATA SERVICE AGREEMENT

**PROPOSED MOTION:** That the CATA Board of Directors authorizes Board Chair Nathan Triplett, and Chief Executive Officer, Bradley T. Funkhouser, to execute an extension to the existing agreement with ACD.net, Inc. to provide voice and data services in the amount of \$65,000 for the period of May 2022 through May 2023 on such other terms and conditions as the Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer deem necessary.

**MOTION:**

Jennie Gies motioned to approve Discussion Item A, VOICE AND DATA SERVICE AGREEMENT and Doug Lecato supported the motion.

**DISCUSSION:**

Bradley Funkhouser stated that CATA through legal counsel has not been able to reach a mutual agreement with MetroNet; therefore, a new RFP will need to be released.

Derek Melot inquired about the issues with the contract.

Bradley Funkhouser stated that there were issues with the indemnification terms in the contract.

Dan Goodmoot confirmed that there were various issues with the terms in the contract.

Bradley Funkhouser noted that CATA will be very careful listing the terms and conditions in the new RFP.

Phil Deschaine stated that from his experience with MetroNet, he is not surprised that CATA is having issues with the vendor.

Mark Grebner inquired about the number of server locations.

Dan Goodemoot replied that there are three (3) locations plus a few co-location sites.

**VOTE:** The motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Deb Wiese, LAC Chair, thanked Chair Triplett, Mr. Funkhouser and the Board. Ms. Wiese reported that the LAC puts out many reports including their meeting minutes, the Service Quality Subcommittee (SQS) meeting notes and the Board liaison report from Doug Lecato. Ms. Wiese stated that she has been part of the LAC for 10-15 years and Chair for six (6) years. She also stated that the amount of communication between CATA and the LAC has increased tremendously since Mr. Funkhouser has been the CEO at CATA and she wanted to highlight some of the projects that the LAC has been working on.

Ms. Wiese informed everyone of the improvements the LAC has made over the past few years compared to past practices. The LAC and CATA now work together as partners and receive monthly reports from Mr. Funkhouser, CEO; Andrew Brieschke, Interim Director of Operations; and Craig Frazier, Paratransit Manager. The LAC had to be more forward thinking in its process and in 2019, the LAC established the SQS to meet in the off months. They have worked with Dan Goodemoot, Director of IT to establish a wait-trip process which should be implemented soon and we send our marketing strategies to Lolo Robison, Director of Marketing and Customer Experience. Currently, the LAC is now looking at creating LAC members as ambassadors to enhance the transit community and is seeking ways to recruit new members. Mr. Funkhouser has been very helpful in assisting the LAC with a strategic planning process. On behalf of the LAC and herself, Ms. Wiese applauded CATA for their services and looks forward to working with CATA on future endeavors.

Janeile Cannon, LAC member, stated that she and her husband Pat Cannon have been long-time riders of CATA and is proud of CATA. Ms. Cannon expressed the importance of protecting the Authority. She also commented on a pattern that she has noticed where it seems people are forming their opinions on emotion without having all the facts. Ms. Cannon wants to keep promoting the good news about CATA and would like others to follow. By 2035, there will be more people over 65 than children in the US and public transit will be at the front and center. Ms. Cannon thanked CATA for their work and service to the community. She welcomed any calls to the LAC and/or to Craig Frazier, Paratransit Manager who she praised as being the

best manager that the LAC has ever had.

Daniel Black shared CATA's Mission Statement at the Board meeting.

Deb Parrish thanked Ms. Cannon for calming her down after she arrived late to the Board meeting. She also commented on CATA's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary press conference and recognizing Ned Rudolph's 44 years of service at CATA. Ms. Parrish praised Dan Goodemoot, Director of IT on the success of CATA's MyRideCATA app which she loves and has been promoting to others.

### **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 Doug Lecato 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:** Phil Deschaine, Shanna Draheim, Dusty Fancher, Jennie Gies, Mark Grebner, Doug Lecato, Derek Melot, John Prush, Jack Schmitt and Nathan Triplett were all present.

Robin Lewis and Maggie Sanders were absent.

The Executive Session began at 4:37 p.m. and adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

There was no further business Chair Triplett adjourned meeting at 5:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shanna Draheim  
Secretary/Treasurer

Tina Orlando  
Recording Secretary