

CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 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
Mark Grebner
Derek Melot
Jennie Gies
Jack Schmitt
Robin Lewis

CALL TO ORDER:

Nathan Triplett, Chair called meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Shanna Draheim, Dusty Fancher, Jennie Gies, Mark Grebner, Robin Lewis, Derek Melot, Jack Schmitt and Nathan Triplett were all present.

ABSENT: Phil Deschaine, Doug Lecato, and Maggie Sanders

LATE: John Prush

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. Chair Triplett noted that each Board member has their own microphone and to please use it when speaking.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Daniel Black thanked CATA for fulfilling his reasonable accommodation request and for providing the additional microphones. Mr. Black stated that the CATA bus he rode on today had a broken fare box. He also inquired about when the contract between CATA and the Union will be completed.

Katie Kelley, former Union President, Local 1039, and current operator, commented on EATRAN and CATA's proposed renewal of the Interlocal Agreement with Clinton Transit. She also commented on Mr. Funkhouser's contract with EATRAN and the support he received from Board members. She inquired about the compassion for the CATA operators and believes that CATA will never be able to provide service to Eaton and Clinton Counties without more operators at CATA.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS:

MOTION:

Jennie Gies motioned to excuse Phil Deschaine, Maggie Sanders and Doug Lecato and Robin Lewis supported the motion.

VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Triplett acknowledged special guests Terrence Augustine, Eaton County Commissioner and EATRAN Board member; MaLissa Schutt, Executive Director of Clinton Area Transit System and Gail Watkins, Board Chairperson of Clinton Area Transit System.

Chair Triplett noted that he will be sending out an email to CATA Board members to fill the CATA Board of Directors 2022-2023 committee positions.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Bradley Funkhouser welcomed and thanked Mr. Augustine, Ms. Schutt and Mr. Watkins for being at today's Board meeting.

CATA's 2022 Community Report

Bradley Funkhouser presented the 2022 CATA Community Report that was distributed to each Board member. Mr. Funkhouser explained that CATA is required to send out this report each year and this year, in honor of CATA's 50th Anniversary, the report was upgraded from a newspaper to a booklet design. Postcards have been mailed for those that wish to request a copy of the report.

EATRAN Contract

Bradley Funkhouser reported that the EATRAN Board has approved his contract and it has been fully signed and executed. Mr. Funkhouser will start overseeing EATRAN starting on October 1, 2022.

John Prush arrived at 4:16 p.m.

Lansing School District (LSD)

Bradley Funkhouser expressed his appreciation for everyone who assisted CATA and the LSD with making sure that high school students were transported to their destination safely. Mr. Funkhouser stated that CATA operators are getting used to the new routes and things are going smoothly. He also reported that there will be a parent meeting on Wednesday, September 28th at 6 p.m. at Everett High School and CATA will have a representative present to answer any questions and/or concerns.

Job Fair

Bradley Funkhouser reported that CATA had a job fair on September 15th and received 70 applicants. Representatives from Transdev were also in attendance. He also stated that a new operator class began on September 12th.

Implementation Review

For review, Bradley Funkhouser stated that Implementation began in April 2021. As part of the Implementation Plan, all CATA operators received a 3% raise. Currently, 79%-80% of operators were hired before implementation.

Frاندor Bus Stop

Bradley Funkhouser stated that CATA's use agreement with Frاندor will not be renewed and the owner has given CATA a 60-day notice to remove the shelter and bus stop. CATA has asked the owner to reconsider but was not successful. CATA will continue to try and work with the owner of Frاندor in hopes that he will agree to keep the bus stops.

Shanna Draheim inquired about the bus stops on Clippert and their running time.

Bradley Funkhouser confirmed that CATA will be reviewing bus stops on Clippert and their running times.

Bradley Funkhouser acknowledged Steve Clem, Union Vice President, Local 1039, who was present. Mr. Funkhouser also thanked Steve Soliz, Union President, Local 1039, for working with the Planning and Operations Department.

Mark Grebner inquired about the number of students that CATA has added to their ridership.

Bradley Funkhouser stated that CATA planned for about 1,000 rides, but he believes that the number is in the hundreds.

Mark Grebner shared that CATA's current agreement with Frاندor dates back to 1998; however, CATA has run bus service through Frاندor since about 1974.

ACTION ITEMS – PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA

- A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 17, 2022, BOARD MEETING
- B. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT FOR JULY 2022
 - 1. Interim Income Statement
 - 2. Cash Summary
 - 3. Investments
 - 4. Fifth Third Investment Account Reconciliation
- C. CATA BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE FOR FY 2023

PROPOSED MOTION: That the proposed CATA Board Meeting Schedule for FY 2023 be adopted as presented.

D. LEGAL COUNSEL RECOMMENDATION

PROPOSED MOTION: That the CATA Board of Directors approve the following law firms to represent CATA during FY 2023: Bleakley, Cypher, Parent, Warren & Quinn, P.C.; George Brookover, P.C.; Murphy & Spagnuolo, P.C.; Barnes & Thornburg, L.L.P.; and Butzel Long, P.C.

E. ON-CALL SCHEDULING AND PLANNING SUPPORT 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 Transportation Management and Design, Inc., for On-Call Scheduling and Planning Support Services at a cost not to exceed \$178,287.72 based on the quoted rates, for a three-year period and an option for two (2) additional, one (1) year extensions on such other terms and conditions as the Board Chair and the Chief Executive Officer deem necessary.

F. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AGENCY SAFETY PLAN (PTASP) 2023 TARGETS

PROPOSED MOTION: That the CATA Board of Directors approves the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan 2023 Safety Performance Targets to meet compliance with the FTA.

G. ACCEPTANCE OF PRICE INCREASE FOR PURCHASE OF UP TO TWELVE (12) SMALL BUSES

PROPOSED MOTION: That the CATA Board of Directors authorizes Board Chair, Nathan Triplett, and Chief Executive Officer, Bradley T. Funkhouser, to approve increased pricing for a purchase from the State of Michigan (MDOT) Small Bus Contract for up to twelve (12) small buses in an amount not to exceed an updated total price of \$1,750,000 using available federal and state grant funds and pending successful completion of necessary Buy America audits on such other terms and conditions as the Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer deem necessary.

H. LEASE, LICENSE, AND TICKETING AGREEMENTS FOR INDIAN TRAILS

PROPOSED MOTION: That the CATA Board of Directors authorizes Board Chair, Nathan Triplett, and Chief Executive Officer, Bradley T. Funkhouser, to execute lease, license and ticketing agreements between CATA and Indian Trails, as outlined above, on such other terms and conditions as the Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer deem necessary.

Chair Triplett requested that the minutes from the August 2022 Board meeting be corrected to reflect that Robin Lewis was not able to vote, but she was present via Zoom.

Shanna Draheim inquired about the original price of Action Item G, ACCEPTANCE OF PRICE INCREASE FOR PURCHASE OF UP TO TWELVE (12) SMALL BUSES.

Andrew Brieschke, Deputy CEO, stated that the original price was a not to exceed price of \$1.2 million.

MOTION:

Shanna Draheim motioned to approve the Consent Agenda and Robin Lewis supported the motion.

VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEM - DISCUSSION AGENDA

- A. 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 Addendum C to the September 2002 Cross Boundary Agreement between Clinton Transit and CATA to remain into effect for one (1) year term expiring September 30, 2023.

Bradley Funkhouser recalled that during the pandemic CATA worked with the adjacent counties to provide regional coordination. CATA and Clinton Transit have agreed to continue to provide service across county lines and have expanded the original agreement to a one (1) year pilot. CATA and Clinton Transit will meet monthly where Clinton Transit will report over the types of rides they are providing.

Dusty Fancher inquired about the monthly data that Clinton Transit will provide.

Bradley Funkhouser explained that Clinton Transit will provide monthly standard transit planning data such as origin, destination, trip type and duration. The data will be compiled and presented to the Board.

MOTION:

Shanna Draheim motioned to approve Discussion Agenda A, ADDENDUM TO THE CROSS BOUNDARY AGREEMENT BETWEEN CLINTON TRANSIT AND CATA and Derek Melot supported the motion.

DISCUSSION:

Dusty Fancher expressed her approval for a one (1) year agreement with Clinton Transit and she looks forward to seeing the data to make sure that it is equitable and serves both Ingham and Clinton County taxpayers responsibly.

Chair Triplett expressed his appreciation for CATA's partnership with Clinton Transit and EATRAN and the progress that has been achieved.

VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- ELECTION OF OFFICERS

PROPOSED MOTION: That the CATA Board of Directors approves the recommendation of the Nominating Committee and elects the following Board members to the offices set opposite their names, effective October 1, 2022, for a one (1) year term expiring September 30, 2023, pursuant to Board Policy #400, Section 1.03:

Nathan Triplett - Chairperson
Dusty Fancher - Vice Chairperson
Shanna Draheim - Secretary/Treasurer

Derek Melot stated that the Nominating Committee has agreed to support the recommended Executive Officers.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Jack Schmit and supported by Robin Lewis to approve the recommendation from the Nominating Committee for the election of Executive Officers as follows: Nathan Triplett, Chair; Dusty Fancher, Vice Chair; and Shanna Draheim, Secretary/Treasurer for the Fiscal Year 2023.

DISCUSSION:

Jennie Gies thanked the current leadership for their hard work.

Robin Lewis and the rest of the Board echoed Ms. Gies' remarks.

Chair Triplett thanked Board members for their support and working on items presented to the Board.

Chair Triplett thanked the Nominating Committee for their service.

VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Henry Austin, a CATA operator, commented on the number of drivers that CATA has hired and lost over the past four (4) years. He expressed his belief that with CATA's current number of drivers, CATA will not be able to meet service demands. Mr. Austin also inquired about the cost related to the job fairs.

Daniel Black inquired about the status on the contract between CATA and the Union. He also thanked CATA for improving the sound system.

Mark Grebner spoke on regionalism. He stated that there should be contracts and agreements between transit agencies and not have different systems. Good coordination is when riders are not aware of where county borders lie. He also shared a past story about Ingham County and MSU.

Dave Ellis stated that as a rider, CATA needs to improve on route frequency. He also expressed his concern after hearing comments made about CATA's operator turnover and is worried about service since he heavily relies on CATA for transportation.

Steve Clem, Union Vice President, Local 1039, expressed his opinion that CATA is failing and needs to get back to providing good service. Mr. Clem stated that CATA has plenty of drivers; however, they are not being called to work due to the Impletation. He also believes that MSU students are not getting the service they deserve.

Chris Taylor, a CATA operator, thanked CATA for the opportunity to do this job. He has worked at CATA for three (3) years and loves his job. Mr. Taylor stated that he is at a crossroad and would like CATA to improve the schedules so that he may have more time to spend with his family. He hopes that CATA and the Union will reach an agreement soon in order to stabilize the system.

Pam Pierce stated she has been with CATA for over four (4) years and she loves her job. Ms. Pierce also supports regional coordination. The chopped runs have caused problems with her being able to see her family and riders blame operators for being late. She would like to be able to provide good service to her riders and hopes that things will get better.

Katie Kelley stated she has never been against regional coordination yet she is concerned that Ingham County riders will be left alone because CATA operators are transporting riders to Amazon. Ms. Kelley has worked at CATA for 30 years and will be retiring next month. She also spoke about CATA's routes and MSU students being stranded.

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 Robin Lewis and supported by Dusty Fancher 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: Shanna Draheim, Dusty Fancher, Jennie Gies, Mark Grebner, Robin Lewis, Derek Melot, John Prush, Jack Schmitt and Nathan Triplett were all present.

ABSENT: Phil Deschaine, Maggie Sanders and Doug Lecato

The Executive Session began at 5:05 p.m. and adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business Chair Triplett adjourned meeting at 5:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shanna Draheim
Secretary/Treasurer

Tina Orlando
Recording Secretary