

Triangle Transit Authority Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2007

Board Room, 68 T.W. Alexander Drive
Research Triangle Park, NC

Board Members Present:

Bill Bell (arr. 1:44 p.m.)
Anne S. Franklin
Alice Gordon
Bob Hinshaw
Sig Hutchinson

Ellen Reckhow (arr. 1:25 p.m.)
William G. Smith (arr. 1:24 p.m.)
Bill Strom
M. Carter Worthy

Board Members Absent:

Jeff Merritt (excused)
Kenneth Spaulding

Nina Szlosberg (excused)

Staff Present:

Laurie Barrett
Michelle Dawson
Saundra Freeman
Damien Graham
Sylvester Goodwin
Wib Gulley

Joe Huegy
David King
Greg Northcutt
Brad Schulz
Juanita Shearer-Swink
John Tallmadge

Chair Alice Gordon called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

I. Adoption of Agenda

Chair Gordon stated that staff has requested to add a closed session pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11 (a) (5) to establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease.

Action: On motion by Strom and second by Worthy the agenda was adopted with the addition of the closed session as requested. The motion was carried unanimously.

II. Recognition

A. Introduction of New Hires

General Manager David King introduced the new transit manager, Vinson Hines, Jr. He also noted three new bus operators: Ronald Jackson, James Leake and Cheeyri Suero.

C. Announcement of Promotions

David King also announced the promotion of Harold Swann, Margie Chandler and James Sutton to Bus Operator II.

III. Public Hearings

None.

IV. Public Comment

None.

V. Consent Agenda

Action: On motion by Strom and second by Worthy the consent agenda was adopted. The motion was carried unanimously.

The following consent agenda items were approved:

- February 28, 2007 – Regular Session Minutes.

VI. Presentations

None.

VII. General Business Agenda

A. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

None.

B. Appointment of New Vice Chair

Action: On motion by Worthy and second by Strom the Board approved the appointment of Sig Hutchinson as vice chair, replacing Carter Worthy. The motion was carried unanimously.

C. Personnel Committee Report

Committee Chair Worthy noted the minutes in the packet.

D. Planning & Legislative Committee Report

Chair Gordon noted the next meeting would be April 3 and would include an item on strategic communications.

E. Operations & Finance Committee Report

Bill Strom presented several recommendations from the Committee.

1. August Service Change Recommendations Preview

Action: On motion by Hutchinson and second by Worthy the Board set a public hearing on proposed service changes for April 25. The motion was carried unanimously.

2. Fare Structure Change Recommendations

Action: On motion by Hutchinson and second by Hinshaw the Board set a public hearing on proposed fare changes for April 25. The motion was carried unanimously.

3. Board Travel Policy

Strom reported that the Committee recommended the adoption of a Board travel policy that would include the following items:

- an annual budget of \$25,000;
- a conference calendar which Board members would use to sign up for up to two conferences annually (the Chair and Treasurer could make exceptions based on the budget);
- local, same day events would be excluded from the policy; and
- written travel reports are required.

Gordon noted that if adopted, the budget for the current fiscal year would increase from \$13,100 to \$20,000.

Action: On motion by Worthy and second by Hutchinson the Board adopted the Board Travel Policy, which is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. The motion was carried unanimously.

VIII. Other Business

A. General Manager's Report

David King noted his written report, which is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes, and added the following:

- He met with business and political leaders in Johnston County to explain the joint MPO process.
- He recognized John Tallmadge to talk about the re-branding effort.

Tallmadge noted a memorandum, which is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes, that recommends the following:

- Name - Triangle Transit (drop "authority");
- Services - "the T" or "T"
- Seven identity statements that capture the essence of who Triangle Transit is and what it wants to project.

Gordon suggested that this item be referred to the Planning & Legislative Committee.

Smith arrived.

Action: On motion by Strom and second by Hutchinson the Board referred the item on re-branding to the Planning & Legislative Committee. The motion was carried unanimously.

Reckhow arrived.

King's report continued:

- TTA is making progress on its bus procurement. He said the State awarded a contract to Gillig Corporation for 35-40 foot coaches. TTA is working with

NCDOT and FTA on grants to fund the purchase of at least half of the 37 needed buses. He said the manufacturing time is expected to be 12 to 15 months.

B. General Counsel's Report

Wib Gulley noted his written report and notes from the APTA Legislative Conference in the agenda package.

C. Chair's Report

Chair Gordon announced that the April 19 budget work session needs to be rescheduled due to the Raleigh Chamber Inter-City Visit. Strom suggested May 3 before the Operations & Finance Committee meeting. Gordon asked the Clerk to the Board to poll Board members about their availability. Gordon also noted a sign-up sheet at the table for copies of the "tomato," corridor and bus routes maps. She added that the Special Transit Advisory Commission (STAC) is moving forward and the co-chairs and co-vice chairs have scheduled a meeting.

D. Board Member Reports

1. CAMPO TAC Representative

Anne Franklin reported that the CAMPO TAC discussed how to move up the I-40 widening project. She also said that CAMPO reviewed the agreement with ITRE regarding the transit vision plan and voted to cover any overage from the \$100,000 budget. Franklin added that CAMPO adopted a legislative agenda, which would be considered by the DCHC MPO.

King pointed out that a contract to engage ITRE as administrative support for the transit blueprint would come to the TTA Board, at which time the Board could discuss the costs and budget.

Bell arrived.

2. DCHC TAC Representative

Strom noted the written report in the agenda.

3. Regional Transportation Alliance (RTA) Representative

Gordon stated that a summary of the TriMAP meeting and would be distributed to the Board. She added that the group was focused on turnpike gap funding legislation and received an update on the fresh look at transit.

4. APTA Legislative Conference Report

Hutchinson provided a written report, which is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes.

E. Follow-Up on Board Work Session

King presented a draft message card, which is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. Gordon suggested that this item be referred to the Planning & Legislative Committee.

F. New Business

Reckhow distributed an article about mega regions which she had mentioned at a previous meeting. The article is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes.

IX. Closed Session(s)

Action: On motion by Franklin and second by Reckhow the Board adjourned into closed session for the purposes of and pursuant to the General Statutes listed below at 2:05 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously.

A. Rail Corridor Property Acquisition

Pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11 (a) (3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.

B. Office Location

Pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11 (a) (5) to establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease.

C. General Counsel Performance Evaluation

D. General Manager Mid-Year Evaluation

Pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11 (a) (6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee.

Action: The Board returned to regular session at 2:55 p.m. On motion by Bell and second by Reckhow the Board approved a salary increase to \$140,000 for the General Counsel. The motion was carried unanimously.

X. Adjournment

Action: Chair Gordon adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.



Alice Gordon, Chair

Attest:



Michelle C. Dawson, CMC
Clerk to the TTA Board