

Triangle Transit Authority Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2006

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

Board Members Present:

Bill Bell	Ellen Reckhow (arr. 1:17 p.m.)
Anne S. Franklin	William G. Smith (arr. 2:20 p.m.)
Alice Gordon	Kenneth Spaulding (left 3:05 p.m.)
Bob Hinshaw	Bill Strom
Sig Hutchinson	M. Carter Worthy (arr. 1:30 p.m.)
Jeff Merritt	

Board Members Absent:

Nina Szlosberg

Staff Present:

Laurie Barrett	Maurice McGhee
Michelle Dawson	Greg Northcutt
Brian Fahey	Brad Schulz
Saundra Freeman	Juanita Shearer-Swink
Damien Graham	Garold Smith
Sylvester Goodwin	John Tallmadge
Wib Gulley	

Chair Alice Gordon called the meeting to order at 1:12 p.m.

I. Adoption of Agenda

Chair Gordon asked to move Board Recognition to the General Business Agenda and to remove the October 25, 2006, regular session minutes from the agenda. She noted the revised memorandum on the regional call technology (consent agenda) at Board member places, which was distributed previously by e-mail.

Action: On motion by Strom and second by Franklin the agenda was adopted with the revisions as noted above. The motion was carried unanimously.

Gordon then noted that David King is speaking to the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission in New York City today and Saundra Freeman is sitting in on his behalf.

II. Recognition

A. Introduction of New Hires

Saundra Freeman named the following new operators: Dexter Kornegay, Jean Will, Kinny Fortunat, Maria Serrano, Ralanda Gentry, Richard McMillan and Natalie

Wilson. She also said that three operators have completed training: Patricia Hill, Angeline Faison and Charlotte Mayes.

B. Announcement of Promotions

None.

III. Public Hearings

None.

IV. Public Comment

None.

V. Consent Agenda

Action: On motion by Merritt and second by Strom the consent agenda was adopted, with the exception of the October 25, 2006 – regular session minutes. The motion was carried unanimously.

The following consent agenda items were approved:

- September 27, 2006 – Regular Session Minutes;
- September 27, 2006 – Closed Session Minutes;
- October 25, 2006 - Closed Session A Minutes;
- 2007 meeting calendar (which is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes);
- Authorized purchase order not to exceed \$180,000 to NWN for procurement of the regional call center technology; and
- Authorized purchase order not to exceed \$175,312 to Urban Transportation Associates, Inc. for procurement of the automated passenger counter technology.

Reckhow arrived.

VI. Presentations

Chair Gordon recognized David Joyner, Executive Director of the North Carolina Turnpike Authority, whose presentation is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes.

Worthy arrived.

Spaulding asked who would own the projects done by NCTA. Joyner replied NCTA until the bonds are paid off, at which point the road will go to NCDOT.

Strom asked the life expectancy of the road and if re-building is factored in the financial analysis. Joyner said that the debt stream includes maintenance, operations and debt coverage and the bond covenants require a reserve of one and a half times the total of those three costs. Strom asked if the State would turn its back on \$130 million in annual revenues after the debt is paid.

Joyner said that everything related to turnpike projects would be measured in terms of its impact on revenue. He said that transit and related items are being studied.

General Counsel Gulley stated that the NCTA has invited TTA to comment on the scope of work for the study. Board members asked for an opportunity to comment as well.

VII. Reports & Recommendations

A. Personnel Committee Report

None.

B. Planning & Legislative Committee Report

None.

C. Operations & Finance Committee Report

None.

D. General Manager's Report

Saundra Freeman gave the following report on behalf of General Manager David King:

- King has met with a number of people/groups in the region: Sam Hunt, Mark Ahrendsen (DCHC MPO), NC State Treasurer to discuss tax increment financing, NCRR, John Brantley (RDUAA), the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce leadership roundtable, Ed Johnson (CAMPO), Durham County Board of Commissioners, David Joyner (NCTA), Russell Allen in preparation for the Raleigh City Council meeting, RTA leadership team, Senator Clark Jenkins, Mary Clayton (Parsons Brinckerhoff). King also attended a meeting on the regional human services consolidation project and is today providing testimony for the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission. She added that an agenda and King's testimony are available.
- Staff is working with Barr Construction related to the Bus Operations & Maintenance Facility expansion regarding issues with two DBE subs.
- Passenger Appreciation Week for paratransit riders will be held November 22 through December 2.
- Garold Smith said that staff is preparing PowerPoint presentations to provide to various groups in the community: governmental units and civic groups. He said the presentations will be complete by the first of 2007.
- Patrick McDonough said that town hall meetings are being held this week to talk about TTA services and listen to the public's thoughts about what new vehicles should look like. He said TTA also has prepared an online survey, with a goal of receiving 1,000 responses. McDonough said that the Transit Design Game would be used in January to prioritize the allocation of limited resources for features and services. Franklin asked for an update at the December meeting.
- Julie Woosley distributed a SmartCommute Challenge information sheet, which is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. She said that the Triangle area in NC is #1 in terms of percent of state agencies that are Best Workplaces for Commuters. Reckhow said she has been impressed by the marketing pieces.

E. General Counsel's Report

General Counsel Wib Gulley shared a copy of his presentation made at the Rail~Volution conference with Board members.

F. Board Member Reports

1. CAMPO TAC Representative

Anne Franklin stated that the CAMPO TAC would meet this afternoon.

2. DCHC TAC Representative

Bill Strom reported that the DCHC TAC discussed the joint MPO meeting scheduled for November 29, specifically the regional blueprint and the citizen participation element.

Worthy commented that she hoped this would move forward and not get bogged down. She said TTA has discussed the issue for four months and no one has stepped up to say the process is beginning.

Reckhow said that DCHC staff was of the opinion that only alternatives currently on some plan would be evaluated during this process. She said she raised the issue, and most of the MPO agreed that the process should consider that a new idea could be generated and should be evaluated.

Merritt agreed with Worthy and Reckhow. He said that he is hearing people talk about this issue, including people from beyond the three county region. He agreed that now is the time to get people engaged in a process.

Smith arrived.

Franklin asked for information on the joint MPO meeting. Bell stated that he would chair the meeting, which is focused heavily on transit. He said the transit infrastructure blueprint would be presented and the idea of a single advisory committee for the region to get public input into the process.

Gulley added that he and the General Manager have had conversations with John Hodges-Copple and the MPOs to help define the process.

Hutchinson asked for an update at the next meeting to give Board members an opportunity to comment.

3. Regional Transportation Alliance (RTA) Representative

Jeff Merritt said that he attended the meeting in which the General Manager made a presentation. He said Scott Saylor (NCRR) and a Norfolk Southern representative also were present. He added that transit is a big focus for RTA.

G. Chair's Report

Chair Alice Gordon encouraged Board members to attend the joint MPO meeting on Wednesday, November 29 at 9 a.m. at the NC Biotechnology Center.

Gordon then distributed Board member committee assignments. She said she is enthusiastic and energized with the challenge before TTA and looks forward to the opportunity to work with the Board on carrying forward TTA's mission.

VIII. General Business Agenda

A. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

Chair Gordon then presented out-going Board Chair Carter Worthy with a framed picture of a streetcar at the corner of Fayetteville Street in downtown Raleigh. She noted that Worthy has served on the TTA Board since 2001, and served two terms as chair. Gordon thanked Worthy for her work with TTA and her willingness to continue to serve in a leadership position.

Worthy said it has been an honor and pleasure to serve as TTA's Board Chair. She thanked the Board and staff and commended them for their work and leadership.

B. EEO Report

Sylvester Goodwin presented EEO report for the quarter ended September 20, 2006. He noted an improved turnover ratio of 3.6%, down 50% from the second quarter. He noted an unusually low number of bus operator resignations—two. He said bus operations turnover was only 2.3%.

Action: On motion by Franklin and second by Reckhow the EEO report was accepted. The motion was carried unanimously.

C. Master Developer Agreement Update

Wib Gulley said that no action is requested today. He said TTA is holding off on taking action until its key partners, particularly NCDOT, feels comfortable with the agreement.

Franklin asked if the Board needed to vote to recuse her from the discussion again. Gulley said no.

Gulley said this language has not been approved by Cherokee. He said it is an attempt to be reasonable. He said the LEED standard for residential development has not been developed and the language will be rewritten in terms of aspirations for environmental and energy sensitivity. He said the definition of transit has been expanded from rail to fixed guideway transit, an accepted term for transit that moves in a fixed guideway, including BRT.

Strom asked if FTA has commented. Gulley replied that FTA has indicated in a letter that they have reviewed the agreement and see no fatal flaws; however, FTA is reserving approval until a review of transit use at specific sites and return on investment can be made.

Strom then asked about the Public Private Partnership Pilot Program. Gulley said final guidance has been delayed until the end of the year. He said FTA has indicated that an executed MDA will satisfy that TTA has a partnership in place.

Strom asked about funding for the project and what role the MDA has. Gulley said that the MDA speaks only to TOD around station sites not to building a fixed guideway system. He said the only federal participation would be as part of the pilot program, which is unknown at this point.

Strom then asked how Board members would answer questions about how the agreement makes it more likely that TTA would be able to fund the project. Gulley responded that this agreement will help boost ridership and possibly help get TTA approved to participate in the federal pilot program. He said there other revenue sources, but it is early to have a specific package in place.

Spaulding left.

D. New Business

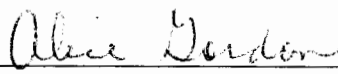
Hutchinson shared several articles by Donald Shoup, a recent presenter at the Urban Design Center on parking. Hutchinson said as TTA will have parking, he thought this information was appropriate. Gordon asked that staff review the information.

IX. Closed Session(s)

None.

X. Adjournment

Action: On motion by Strom and second by the meeting was adjourned at 3:11 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously.



Alice Gordon, Chair

Attest:



Michelle C. Dawson, CMC
Clerk to the TTA Board