

PORT AUTHORITY OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Port Authority of Allegheny County was held on Friday, March 27, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., at the Authority's Administration Offices, 345 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15222-2527, pursuant to due public notice given as required by law .

Board Members:

Tom Donatelli
Jeff Letwin
Representative Dom Costa
Senator Jim Brewster
Rob Kania
Amanda Green Hawkins
John Tague
Dean Richardson, General Counsel

Media:

Melissa Daniels, Tribune-Review
Molly Born, Post-Gazette
Alex Zimmerman, City Paper

Port Authority Staff:

Ellen McLean, chief executive officer, Bill Miller, Chief Operations Officer, Jim Ritchie, Communications Officer, Mike Cetra, assistant general manager Legal and Corporate Services, Pete Schenk, chief financial officer, Keith Wargo, assistant general manager Engineering and Technical Support, Barry Adams, assistant general manager Human Resources, Tony Trona, director Purchasing and Materials Management, Tom Noll, director Technical Support, John Beeler, manager Customer Service, Dan DeBone, Community and Government Relations officer, Breen Masciotra, Communications coordinator, Chris Walker, Service Planning, Mike Zamiska, director System Safety, Fred Mergner, Service Planning, Darcy Cleaver, Service Planning William Wagner, PAPD, Diane Williamson, executive assistant.

Other

Jim Robinson, ACTC President, Molly Nichols, PPT, Glen Walsh, Carolyn Lenigan, Charles Vogel, O'Hara Township, Allison Garcia, O'Hara Township, Robert Concilus, Chris Kuznicki, PPT, Bob Ieraci, PPT, Joan Natko, ACTC, Aaron Pittman, County Council, Julie Jakubec, Darryl Phillips, Parsons Brinckerhoff, Dean Mougianis, PPT, Judi Anderson, PB, Pat Miskiewicz, PPT, Ray Miskiewicz, PPT.

Following the recital of the pledge of allegiance, recommendation was made for approval of the minutes of the February 27, 2015 Regular Meeting. A motion was moved, seconded and passed.

Vice Chairman, Mr. Tom Donatelli, called on Ms. Ellen McLean for a report from the Chief Executive Officer.

Ms. McLean reported that Earth Hour 2015 is a worldwide event which will be held tomorrow from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. She explained that many local organizations and governing bodies are involved and announced that Port Authority is participating as well. Many places will dim or turn off nonessential lightings and signage during that hour. Port Authority will shut off the blue

track lighting and white exterior car lighting on the Monongahela Incline. Ms. McLean noted that turning off these lights does not disrupt operations, nor does it cause a safety hazard. Port Authority is pleased to participate this year, and beyond this event, we continue to make positive changes to benefit our environment.

Next Ms. McLean reported on a national effort led by transit advocates to call attention to the significant improvements needed through the new Federal Service and Transportation Bill. The American Public Transportation Association, or APTA, is planning a "Standup for Transit Day" on April 9 and we are trying to raise awareness for the need of this bill. Ms. McLean noted that as everyone is aware, federal dollars greatly benefit our transit system in many ways. We use it for bus purchases, highway maintenance, light rail work and station projects. She added that you will likely see and hear media reports of plans being discussed now for events being held by advocates in Pittsburgh. Staff will continue to provide updates as we get those.

Ms. McLean next commended Detective Sergeant William Wagner. This past Monday, Sergeant Wagner was patrolling Port Authority's Sheraden Park and Ride Lot, when he spotted an individual in a car that appeared to have an illegal substance. When he approached the vehicle, the driver backed the car into him, pinning him against another vehicle. It was a very serious situation and Sergeant Wagner could have been hurt far worse but we are happy he is o.k.

Ms. McLean wanted to point out that Port Authority's Police Department differs from other law enforcement agencies as its primary focus is on the security of our transit system and the security of our riders.

Ms. McLean concluded her report by saying that, "I'm not sure that ridership would flourish at a transit station or a park and ride if it was riddled with crime. It is vital that we have police officers who address these situations, not only by working with the communities and riders, but also by having the resources to properly investigate and arrest those responsible."

As part of the public comment period, the Vice Chairman called on Dr. Robert Concilus as the first speaker.

Dr. Concilus urged the Board to utilize diesel hybrid technology motors for all new buses that Port Authority will purchase to cut air emissions by 50 percent. Dr. Concilus distributed a map of air pollution that appeared in the Post-Gazette recently. If you look at the distribution of air pollution in our community, you can see that it follows rivers, valleys and highways. And the reason that it follows highways is because of diesel emissions which can have significant impact on human population.

Dr. Concilus continued remarking about the pollution in Pittsburgh and the impact this has to our health. He concluded his report by urging the Board to consider, when ordering the new buses, to explore all possible funding sources. And please do that as soon as possible as every extra day of exposure threatens the citizens of our community.

The Vice Chairman called on the next speaker, Ms. Julie Jakubec. Ms. Jakubec spoke on behalf of the Township of O'Hara and the RIDC Business Alliance. RIDC is a large industrial park located in O'Hara Township that is home to 144 corporate headquarters, offices and

manufacturers. There are 6,500 people presently employed there and the businesses in RIDC estimate 925 additional people will be added. Ms. Jakubec stated that there is no bus service to RIDC. She explained that individuals ride the bus to Freeport and Alpha Drive and walk over a mile into the park in all kinds of weather.

Ms. Jakubec distributed results from a recent survey with important data that should demonstrate the need for public transportation to RIDC. She stated that, "we believe the solution is to start with the restoration of bus service for a single loop in RIDC."

Ms. Jakubec concluded her report by saying that the restoration of bus service to RIDC Park is a win/win situation. It will increase ridership, provide employment opportunities and allow the business an opportunity for growth. The Township of O'Hara is happy to provide any other additional information or answer any questions.

The Vice Chairman called on Mr. Sean Rollman for remarks. Mr. Rollman is the chief financial officer for Zoll Medical headquartered in RIDC Park. Mr. Rollman reiterated the need for public transportation to and from the Park. He noted that his business over the last four years has added approximately 600 employees, from less than 300 to now approaching 900. The company's four-year plan has them hiring another 500 people. He noted that we have had people in the past resign due to transportation issues, and have heard from other people who have declined to apply for jobs due to not having transportation available to them. He also reiterated the safety concerns brought up by Ms. Jakubec.

Mr. Rollman finished his remarks by urging the Board to restore some level of service back to the Park that existed a couple years ago to help add our growth of employees and of course provide safety to your riders.

The Vice Chairman called on Ms. Audrey Glickman from Greenfield who wanted to discuss her concerns regarding the pending closure and demolition of the Beechwood Boulevard Bridge, also known as the Greenfield Bridge, to begin this October and last upwards of two years. There's a strong desire by the Greenfield community for engagement with Port Authority prior to route changes being finalized or even begun.

The Greenfield Community Association Development and Transportation Committee had been asked to gather input from the citizens and submit it to Port Authority. However, residents have more questions than input. The bottom line is that there is a need for further engagement with Port Authority before the plans are finalized.

The Vice Chairman called on Mr. Jonathan Robison, vice president Allegheny County Transit Council, for his remarks. Mr. Robison proposed that Port Authority share policies, projects and programs when they are still in draft. Shared options and drafts will provide staff and the decision-makers with the ideas and view of the citizens when the input is most useful, when the policies, projects and programs are still being shaped.

The Vice Chairman called on Ms. Pat Miskiewicz from Baldwin Borough. Ms. Miskiewicz gave testimony urging the Board to restore service that was eliminated during the 2011 service reductions in her area, which includes Churchview Avenue, Willett Road, Spencer, Custer and

Cloverfield. Ms. Miskiewicz gave examples of the hardships the residents are facing without public transportation in their community.

The Vice Chairman called on Ms. Molly Nichols, community organizer with Pittsburghers for Public Transit, for her remarks. Ms. Nichols said that March 18 was National Transit Worker Appreciation Day and to honor that over a dozen PPT volunteers distributed nearly 2,000 thank you cards for riders to give to their operators. The group also delivered cards to over 100 Maintenance workers. Many riders were enthusiastic to thank their drivers, who were often thrilled to be acknowledged. Ms. Nichols noted that transit workers have very challenging jobs, and we hope this event encouraged riders to recognize the value of thanking them every day.

Ms. Nichols also provided a brief highlight from that day when the group visited the Manchester Main Shop. They complete vehicle overhauls on five-year-old buses to ensure they can stay on the road for over 10 years and up to 500,000 miles. She commented that PPT wanted to make sure the public understands the incredible work that is being done there.

Ms. Nichols continued her remarks by saying that, as Ellen McLean mentioned, April 9 is National Stand Up for Transportation Day. If the federal government does not pass a surface transportation bill, we will not have access to much needed federal dollars for both operating and capital costs. In addition to participating in a press conference at 10 a.m. and outreach campaign that day, PPT will be encouraging riders at bus stops to call their elected officials to tell them why transit is so important and to ask for their leadership to support a bill. We encourage the Board to support these efforts to secure federal funding and do all that is in its power to help.

Ms. Nichol said that PPT was pleased to see that ridership has increased in September, namely on routes where service was added. This helps to prove that the demand for service is real. With the current \$18 million surplus, and additional revenue coming from the State, PPT expects Port Authority to add service in the coming year. As you've heard today, providing service to transit deserts such as Baldwin, Moon and Groveton, as well as RIDC Park, is crucial.

Ms. Nichol concluded her remarks by announcing that Earth Day is April 22. It's good to see Port Authority participating in Earth Hour. We know that Port Authority is inherently sustainable for providing public transit which accounts for less than one percent of transportation emissions. There's no doubt that getting more people out of their cars and into buses is one of the best things we can do for the environment, our air quality, and our economy. We've also heard a lot from riders who would like to see Port Authority develop a sustainability plan to demonstrate how you are making the right economic and environmental choices. Ms. Nichols added that we echo the sentiments stated earlier about hybrid diesel buses which are proven technology with good performance. Not only do studies indicate that hybrid diesels are the best environmental option, but they also require little to no new infrastructure.

The Vice Chairman called on the final speaker, Ms. Chris Kuznicki for remarks on bus service in Baldwin Borough. Ms. Kuznicki indicated that she moved to Baldwin because of the good bus service, noting that the residents of Baldwin deserve bus service. Ms. Kuznicki's suggestion to become more cost-efficient is to eliminate stops in the South Side. She noted that she feels this

is also a safety issue since the stops are so close together. She feels people would give up a little convenience so that areas without service can have it.

The Chairman called on Mr. Letwin for a report of the Performance Oversight Committee.

Mr. Letwin reported that a meeting of the Performance Oversight Committee was held on Thursday, March 19 and the minutes from the previous meeting were approved by the Committee.

The financial results for the period ending February 2015 were presented at the meeting.

It was reported that total operating income for the month of February exceeded budget by \$886,000 mainly due to higher passenger revenues, and total expenses continued the trend of being below budget at \$3.4 million under budget. Total subsidies for the month were \$120,000 under budget.

From a year-to-date perspective, it was reported that total operating income exceeded budget by \$1.7 million due to higher passenger revenues. Total expenses through the first eight months of the year are \$17.5 million under budget with significant savings in materials and supplies.

It was also reported that operating subsidies are \$268,000 under budget for the fiscal year and the Authority's cash position continues to be strong with almost \$72 million in operating cash.

There was one resolution reviewed at the meeting.

Mr. Letwin reported that the Committee reviewed three procurement actions and found these bids to be in accordance with the Authority's procurement policies and procedures, prices to be fair and reasonable, and the bidders to be responsive and responsible.

Mr. Letwin commended the Procurement Department staff for the significant decreases in two of the three bid items over the previous bids for those items.

The Performance Oversight Committee therefore recommends for award the three items listed in the Board packet in the total amount of \$943,623.40.

On behalf of the Performance Oversight Committee, Mr. Letwin respectfully requested approval of the resolution as presented.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed that the resolution be approved as presented.

Mr. Letwin stated that staff updated the Committee on the Maintenance Work Order System. The report covered the purpose of the system which included meeting upcoming FTA MAP requirements, improved asset management and state reporting. Benefits and functionality of the new Work Order System were also presented highlighting inventory control, real time asset maintenance management and a review of sample screen shots. A project schedule was also discussed.

Mr. Letwin further reported that staff also gave a presentation to the Committee on the current status of Port Authority's ConnectCard. New products and enhancements were covered and the next steps of the project were discussed.

That concluded the report of the Performance Oversight Committee.

The Vice Chairman called on Mr. John Tague for a report from the Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee. Mr. Tague reported that the Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee met on Thursday, March 19 at 10 a.m. There were no resolutions for consideration at the meeting; however, Mr. Tague had a few media updates to report.

The first update pertained to the Federal reauthorization. Port Authority's Community & Government Relations Officer, Dan DeBone, attended the American Public Transportation Association's Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., joining other transit organizations from Pennsylvania in carrying a unified transit message to member of Congress regarding the need for reauthorization. The groups that attended are members of the Pennsylvania Public Transportation Association and they will continue to coordinate with Allegheny County, PPTA and elected leaders on this important issue. Mr. Tague noted that Port Authority relies on federal funding for various needs, including bus replacement, rail vehicles and overall maintenance of our system.

The other item discussed at the Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee was the South Hills Village Transit Oriented Development project. Representatives from Massaro and Dawson provided an overview of the development plan at the Authority's South Hills Village property adjacent to our South Hills Parking Garage. It was reported at the meeting that the project is progressing and there were no major hurdles conveyed.

Mr. Tague then updated the Board on a few issues that were not discussed at the Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee meeting. In regards to the Oakland Task Force meeting, Port Authority has reviewed current plans for an improved transit station stop at Fifth and Atwood. The group has raised several questions regarding design. We're committed to responding to these issues, as we are to other questions raised from stakeholders.

In regards to bus rapid transit, Mr. Tague reported that Port Authority continues to participate in regular meetings with the City, County and other local organizations on efforts to develop a BRT in the uptown corridor, noting that the next steps include planning public meetings.

The last item Mr. Tague updated the Board on was the City way finding project. He reported that Port Authority continues to coordinate way finding projects with similar efforts in the City involving various groups, including the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership. These relations will benefit users as we define how our signage will meet the City way finding maps and signs.

That concluded the report of the Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee.

Under new business, the Vice Chairman called on Mr. Jim Ritchie, Port Authority's Communications officer, to present a resolution requesting authorization to enter into a funding

agreement with the Stadium Authority of the City of Pittsburgh for free fare at the North Shore Station.

Mr. Ritchie reported that in March of 2012, Port Authority opened the North Shore Connector, the light rail extension to the North Shore. It included the construction of two new light rail stations on the North Shore, including the North Side Station and Allegheny Station, in addition to the new Gateway Station in downtown.

In February 2012, the Authority Board entered into an agreement with the Stadium Authority to fund free fare at the North Side Station from April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2015. Over the past several months, and in advance of the expiration of the original funding agreement, the Authority and the Stadium Authority have negotiated a proposed agreement for the Stadium Authority to continue funding free fare at the North Side T Station for an additional five years, starting April 1 through March 31, 2020. The terms and conditions are described in the Board packet under Exhibit A of the resolution.

Mr. Ritchie stated that Port Authority management believes that it is in the best interest of the Authority to enter into the new funding agreement with the Stadium Authority to continue to bolster ridership on the North Shore Connector and support the continued development and growth on the North Shore.

Mr. Ritchie respectfully requested approval of the resolution as presented.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed that the amendment pass.

There was no more business to conduct.

The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Friday, April 24, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned.