

PORT AUTHORITY OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2013

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Port Authority of Allegheny County was held on Friday, April 26, 2013 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:**

Jeff Letwin, Chairman  
Thomas Donatelli  
Constance Parker  
John Tague Jr.  
Mavis Rainey  
John Brooks  
Robert Hurley  
Joel Lennen, General Counsel

**Port Authority Staff:**

Bill Miller, Bus Operations officer, Mike Cetra, assistant general manager Legal and Corporate Services, Keith Wargo, assistant general manager Engineering and Technical Support, Jim Ritchie, Communications officers, Heather Pharo, Public Relations & Communications coordinator, Deborah Skillings, Community Outreach coordinator, Tom Noll, director Technical Support & Capital Programs, John DeAngelis, manager Contract Administration, Nancy Vandling, manager Contract Administration, Jerimaine Ward, professional services contract specialist, Robert Sechler, professional services contract specialist, Fred Mergner, assistant manager Scheduling and Service Planning, Diane Williamson, executive assistant

**Other**

Jim Robinson, ACTC President  
Jonathan Robison, ACTC  
Glenn Walsh  
Annette Kroll  
Lee Palumbo, Auditor General's Office  
Mark Wiezorek, AG  
Austin Davis, Allegheny County Executive's Office  
Carolyn Lenigan  
David Donahoe, ARAD  
Jon Smith, ACTC  
Aaron Pittman, County Council  
Joan Natko, ACTC

The Chairman called the meeting to order and recommendation was made for approval of the minutes of the March 22, 2013 Regular meeting. The motion was moved, seconded and passed.

The Chairman called on Ms. Constance Parker for a report of the Performance Oversight Committee.

Ms. Parker report that a meeting of the Performance Oversight Committee was held on Wednesday, April 17, 2013 and the notes from the previous meeting were approved by the Committee.

It was reported at the meeting that the operating income for the month of March 2013 was \$137,000 above last year. The total operating income was reported as \$2.6 million below budget. \$2.3 million was due to a general ridership loss of approximately four percent and the city schools monthly pass purchases. The remaining \$300,000 is due to a transitional issue with moving the Smart Card System from a consignment-based sales system.

Expenses for the month of March were reported as \$1.5 million lower than last year. Total year-to-date expenses were reported at \$24.6 million below budget. Ms. Parker noted that the savings were in employee benefits, diesel fuel, other materials and supplies, purchased services and utilities.

There were two resolutions discussed at the April meeting. The following resolutions were reviewed and are being recommended by the Performance Oversight Committee for approval.

The Performance Oversight Committee reviewed two procurement actions and found these bids to have been submitted in accordance with the Authority's procurement policies and procedures, the prices to be fair and reasonable, and the bidders to be responsive and responsible.

The Performance Oversight Committee recommends these items for award in the total amount of \$390,980, as described in the Board packet.

On behalf of the Performance Oversight Committee, Ms. Parker respectfully requested approval of the resolution as presented.

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

The next resolution authorizes the Authority to award a construction contract for an underground radio transmission systems upgrade in the light rail tunnel in the Downtown Central Business District. After a review of the bids by staff and Legal counsel, it has been determined that the bid of T.S.B., Inc., doing business as Schultheis Electric, in the amount of \$1,838,425 is the lowest responsive bid from a responsible bidder meeting the Authority's specifications for the contract. It is recommended that the contract be awarded to T.S.B., Inc., doing business as Schultheis Electric, subject to pre-award requirements.

On behalf of the Performance Oversight Committee, Ms. Parker respectfully requested approval of the resolution as presented.

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

That concluded the report of the Performance Oversight Committee.

The Chairman called on Mr. Jonathan Robison for his remarks. Mr. Robison said that he was expecting to be able to report on the new senate bill that we were told would be introduced this week. He noted that when that resolution is introduced, it will be quickly reviewed by Port Authority staff to make sure that it is what we were told to expect, the funding that we need to prevent service cuts and fare increases. There is one thing we can do and that is to contact friends and/or family who live in key legislative districts outside Allegheny County and the Philadelphia area.

The Chairman called on Mr. Tague for a report of the Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee. Mr. Tague reported that it seems like only yesterday that we were celebrating the grand opening of the T extension to the North Shore, but an entire year has passed.

At this month's Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee, we had a presentation looking at the light rail to the North Shore one year later. A particular focus of the presentation was the impact that the extension has on downtown, the North Shore, the city and the region as a whole. Joining in the presentation were representatives who experienced changes and observed the impact firsthand. Mr. Jeremy Waldrup, president and CEO of Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, discussed how the extension has become a regional asset, supporting current and future North Shore development with more than \$1 billion in investment either completed, underway or planned.

Next Mr. Merrill Stabile, president of Alco Parking, along with Rifat Qureshi, development manager of the Sports and Exhibition Authority, talked about the dramatic increase in parking utilization since the opening of the T extension. In particular, the West General Robinson Garage, located directly adjacent to the North Side Station, was only 70 percent utilized and is now filled on a daily basis with a waiting list for lease spaces. It appears that commuters find it convenient to park in the garage and hop on the T for a free ride into downtown. It was noted that the extension helped to redistribute the parking demand, alleviating some of the pressure on downtown parking.

Also at the Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee meeting, Mr. Jim Sacco, executive director of the Stadium Authority at Heinz Field, noted how the T has made getting to Heinz Field or any of the North Shore venues extremely convenient. Patrons attending events like the Steelers games are now able to park in places like South Hills Village and travel hassle-free to the game. The more spectators take the T the travel congestion is improved.

Mr. Tague stated that Port Authority appreciates the free zone fare sponsored between downtown and the North Shore by the Steelers and Rivers Casino at the Allegheny Station and by the Sports and Exhibition Authority and Alco Parking at the North Side Station. The convenience and frequency of the service between downtown and the North Shore make it very attractive for workers, residents and visitors.

Mr. Tague continued reporting that since the opening of the North Shore service, ridership has increased by 18 percent on weekdays, 29 percent on Saturdays and 49 percent on Sundays. Mr. Jim Ritchie, Port Authority's Communications officer, discussed how the opening of the

North Shore location, in combination with Port Authority's change in ad policy, created new advertising opportunities. The advertising revenues support the operating budget.

The second item on the agenda was a resolution to modify the operating hours for the Wabash Tunnel. In December 2004, Port Authority opened the Wabash Tunnel for high occupancy vehicle commuter traffic providing access from Route 51 to the South Side and Downtown Pittsburgh. The tunnel's current hours of operation remain open to traffic outbound to Route 51 on a daily basis from 7 p.m. until 5 a.m. Over the past few months, the Authority's senior management along with representatives of the Operations and Safety Review Committee, have been reviewing the tunnel's overnight hours of operation due to several accidents occurring in and around the tunnel involving speeding and the consumption of alcohol and the larger number of arrests of motorists driving under the influence while traveling through the tunnel. Based on this review, senior management and the Operations Safety Review Committee recommended operating hours be modified to close the tunnel to all traffic on a daily basis from 11 p.m. until 6 a.m.

This resolution authorizes the Authority to proceed with modifying the operating hours for the tunnel as described above and as more fully detailed in Exhibit A to the resolution in your packets. This resolution further authorizes appropriate Port Authority management to temporarily modify the tunnel's operating hours in the event of an accident, emergency or other such temporary modification.

On behalf of the Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee, Mr. Tague respectfully requested approval of the resolution as presented.

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

Mr. Tague concluded his report indicating that we will continue to coordinate meetings with the stakeholders as discussions occur regarding transportation funding. Last Wednesday, the Allegheny County Transit Council invited Mr. Tague along with other new Board members to attend their monthly meeting. Mr. Tague was able to attend and thanked Mr. Jim Robison, president of ACTC, for the invitation.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Tague for the gratifying report with respect to the North Shore Connector. Mr. Letwin reminded everyone that Mr. Jack Brooks led this Board through that process, which was quite challenging, and acknowledged Ms. Rainey who was also with us under incredible pressure. It turns out that we are all vindicated. He thanked Mr. Brooks for his leadership in that endeavor.

The Governance Committee did not meet this month.

There was no new business.

The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Friday, May 31, 2013.