



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SEPTEMBER 24, 2014**

**WILLIAM G. PORTER BOARDROOM
33 N. HIGH STREET**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tyler Lee called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dawn Tyler Lee, Chair
J. Cleve Ricksecker, Vice Chair
William A. Anthony, Jr.
Jennifer Brunner
James E. Daley
Harry Proctor
Jean Carter Ryan
Craig P. Treneff
Richard R. Zitzke

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mabel G. Freeman, Ph.D.
James E. Kunk
Robert J. Weiler

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Treneff moved to approve the agenda. Zitzke seconded the motion. Motion passed.

4. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2014 REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

Daley moved to approved the September 24, 2014 Regular Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes. Treneff seconded the motion. Motion passed.

5. COMMENTS OR STATEMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

No one from the audience made comments.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Stitt reported that staff is working closely with both Mayor Coleman and the Franklin County Commissioners to secure appointments to fill four terms that expired in April. Gina Ormond, Nationwide Realty Investors, has been appointed to fill one of those positions. Ms. Ormond was appointed by Mayor Coleman and it is anticipated that she will be sworn in at the October 22 Board of Trustees meeting.

President Stitt announced that COTA is required to review public transit fares every three years. He said the last fare review was conducted in 2011, resulting in a fare increase that was effective in January, 2012. Staff is currently considering options for the Board's consideration in October and November so that changes to the current fare structure can be incorporated into the 2015 budget. Stitt reviewed the fare increase progression from 1974 through 2012. He said recommendations for Board consideration will include recommendations for the CBUS.

President Stitt reported that COTA continues to receive feedback on the Transit System Review recommendations including line #19 which runs through Grandview on 1st Avenue which has been recommended for discontinuation. The City Council of Grandview Heights and the Village Council of Marble Cliff each passed resolutions in support of continuing line #19 service connecting their communities to downtown.

President Stitt recognized employees who have done extraordinary things to the benefit of COTA and community. Diamond Zimmerman was recognized for picking up litter and debris she finds in shelters she passes on her powerwalk at lunchtime. President Stitt also recognized Claire Beck, Alex Beim, Brian Weiss, and Andy Volenik for their work coordinating with the City of Columbus and other political subdivisions throughout COTA's service area to develop a bus stop manual to ensure that bus stops are designed in a manner that best serves our passengers and our communities. This work was initially slated for an outside consultant budgeted for \$100,000.

7. COMMITTEES:

A. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE – HARRY W. PROCTOR, CHAIR

2014-56 - AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES FOR THE CONTRACT WITH MEDICAL MUTUAL OF OHIO FOR AN EMPLOYEE MEDICAL/PHARMACY/DENTAL/VISION INSURANCE PROGRAM

Kristen Treadway, Vice President, Human Resources, presented this resolution. She said Resolution No. 2013-56 authorized a contract with Medical Mutual of Ohio for an employee medical/pharmacy/dental/vision insurance program for a period commencing January 1, 2014 and expiring December 31, 2014 with an option to renew for an additional one-year term.

COTA and Medical Mutual of Ohio have agreed to a twelve-month contract renewal with a premium increase of 2.56% based upon a medical loss ratio cap established during the 2014 plan year contract and expenditures for the additional one-year term are required.

This resolution authorizes COTA to allocate the funds for the provision of a medical/pharmacy/dental/vision insurance program for the period commencing January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2015 for an estimated expenditure not to exceed Twelve Million Nine Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand Nine Hundred Fourteen and 52/100 Dollars (\$12,933,914.52).

Anthony motioned to approve this resolution. Brunner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – WILLIAM A. ANTHONY, CHAIR

2014-57 - AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES FOR THE CONTRACT WITH WINTON TRANSPORTATION, LLC DBA UTS FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR SENIORS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES (NON-ADA SERVICE)

Clinton Forbes, Vice President, Operations presented this resolution. He said this resolution authorizes COTA to increase the value of the contract with Winton Transportation, LLC dba UTS for transportation services for seniors and individuals with disabilities (non-ADA service) by a total not to exceed One Hundred Eighty-Two Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Seven and 37/100 Dollars (\$182,927.37). Additional funds are needed to meet the anticipated contract requirements for the extended period through January 31, 2015.

Anthony motioned to approve this resolution. Treneff seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2014-58 - AUTHORIZING AN EXTENDED WARRANTY AGREEMENT FOR ALL DIGITAL ON-BOARD MONITORING AND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS WITH SAFETY VISION, LLC

Clinton Forbes, Vice President, Operations presented this resolution. He said COTA has standardized its digital on-board monitoring and surveillance systems for its transit coaches and non-revenue vehicles with Safety Vision, LLC and requires an extended warranty agreement to keep these systems in optimal working order. The current extended warranty agreement will expire September 30, 2014 and COTA wishes to enter into a one-year extended warranty agreement for 308 transit coaches and 11 non-revenue vehicles for the period commencing October 1, 2014 and expiring September 30, 2015 for a fixed expenditure of One Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand One Hundred-Fifty and 00/100 Dollars (\$172,150).

Daley motioned to approve this resolution. Zitzke seconded the motion. Motion passed.

C. PLANNING COMMITTEE – DR. MABEL G. FREEMAN, CHAIR

- UPDATE ON TRANSIT SYSTEM REVIEW – MIKE BRADLEY

Mike Bradley provided an update on the Transit System Review.

D. COMMUNICATIONS/MARKETING COMMITTEE – JAMES E. DALEY, CHAIR

2014-59 - AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COLUMBUS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN FOR A STUDENT TRANSIT PASS PROGRAM

Marty Stutz, Vice President, Marketing and Communications, presented this resolution. He said Columbus College of Art & Design has requested a continuation of their pass program to help provide their students with community access and alleviate transportation and parking problems. This resolution authorizes COTA to enter into an agreement with the Columbus College of Art & Design for a discounted semester fare payment at a cost of \$18.50 per student per semester, for the period beginning October 1, 2014 and ending July 31, 2015.

Proctor motioned to approve this resolution. Ryan seconded the motion. Motion passed.

E. FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE – JAMES E. KUNK, CHAIR

2014-60 - AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES FOR THE CONTRACT WITH JRED SERVICES, LLC FOR TRASH COLLECTION SERVICES FROM COTA'S BUS SHELTERS

Marion White, CFO/Vice President, Finance, presented this resolution. He said the original contract with JRED Services, LLC was for a three-year period with an option to renew for up to two additional one-year terms. This resolution authorizes COTA to exercise the option to renew the contract with JRED Services, LLC for trash collection at COTA's bus shelters for one year commencing October 1, 2014 and expiring on September 30, 2015 for a total not to exceed \$111,000.

Ryan motioned to approve this resolution. Treneff seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2014-61- AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF COTA'S APPLICATION TO MORPC, AND COTA'S AGREEMENT TO SHARE IN THE PROJECT COSTS AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PROPOSED PROJECTS

Marion White, CFO/Vice President, Finance, presented this resolution. He said biannually, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) considers applications for attributable funding (Congestion Mitigation Air Quality, Surface Transportation Program, or Transportation Alternatives Program). The new funding cycle covers the period of 2015 – 2021. The funds are allocated by MORPC on a competitive basis for highway, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian projects throughout the region. Recent MORPC allocations to COTA have primarily funded bus purchases.

COTA's Long Range Transit Plan (LRTP) includes bus purchases for both service expansion and vehicle replacement. The replacement buses are eligible for federal funding under the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program. COTA has requested 80% Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funding for 40 fixed-route replacement buses programmed during the MORPC funding cycle. Local COTA funds would cover the remaining 20% of the cost.

Contingent upon MORPC's Policy Committee approval (full or partial), the grant funding will be placed in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

This resolution authorizes COTA's application for funding and commits COTA to funding the local portion for the purchase of buses requested in the application submitted to MORPC.

Treneff motioned to approve this resolution. Ryan seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2014-62 - AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS FOR A DISCOUNT PASS PROGRAM

Marion White, CFO/Vice President, Finance, presented this resolution. He said the purpose of this resolution is to continue COTA's partnership with Columbus City Schools. This program enables all high school students from Columbus City Schools and a limited number of charter and non-public schools to ride COTA routes by presenting a valid magnetically encoded student picture ID.

The cost of this program to Columbus City Schools will be \$1.15 per ride on fixed route services and \$4.00 on Mainstream. The current contract rates are \$1.00 and \$3.50 respectively. The timing of the increases coincides with the three-year fare adjustment cycle planned for all COTA services January 1, 2015. The term of the proposed program is October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015.

Ryan motioned to approve this resolution. Treneff seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- FINANCE REPORT – MARION WHITE, CFO/VICE PRESIDENT, FINANCE

Marion White reported that August fixed route ridership is 2% above prior year or 3% above budget. This brings the year-to-date ridership to 170,483 or 1.4% above the prior year and 0.7% above budget. August is the fourth consecutive month of ridership growth compared to prior year, reversing the losses accumulated in the first four months due to adverse weather conditions. The subsequent growth has been due to the performance of the CBUS since its inception in May.

White said total operating revenue for the month of August is \$11.6 million which is \$193,000 or 1.7% above budget.

August fixed route passenger revenue of \$1,593,406 is \$58,877 or 3.0% below prior year and \$39,808 or 2.6% above budget. Year-to-date passenger revenue is \$96,340 or 0.75% below prior year and \$31,244 or 0.25% below budget.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business came before the Board.

10. UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Finance Committee – Oct. 22, 2014, 7:30 a.m., William G. Porter Boardroom, 33 N. High St.
- Board of Trustees Meeting – Oct. 22, 2014, 8:00 a.m., William G. Porter Boardroom, 33 N. High St.
- Board Retreat – Oct. 27, 2014, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Boat House at Confluence Park, 679 W. Spring St.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

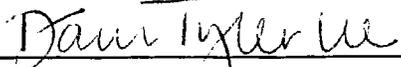
Treneff motioned to move into Executive Session to review negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(4). Zitzke seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Daley motioned to exit the Executive Session to review negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(4). Brunner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Adopted: October 22, 2014

Signed: 
Chair, Board of Trustees

Attest: 
President/CEO