



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES – MARCH 30, 2016**

The Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) Board of Directors met in regular session in the Board Room at PSTA Headquarters at 9:00 AM on this date with the following members present:

Darden Rice, Chairperson
Julie Bujalski, Vice-Chairperson
Janet Long, Secretary/Treasurer
Joseph Barkley
Doug Bevis
Mark Deighton
Ben Diamond
Samantha Fenger
Pat Gerard
Patricia Johnson
Bill Jonson
Brian Scott
Kenneth Welch
Lisa Wheeler-Brown

Absent:

Dave Eggers

Also Present:

Brad Miller, CEO
Alan Zimmet, PSTA General Counsel
PSTA Staff Members
Members of the Public

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Rice called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM and the Board was led in a moment of silence to remember Mr. Henry Lussier, the PSTA rider who passed away, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vivian Peters, Largo resident, challenged the Board to ride the bus for one week. She also spoke about her experiences riding the bus in a wheelchair.

Joe Barfield, St. Petersburg resident, commented on the transfer points for Routes 59 and 5. He stated his opinion that the transfer points are a simple issue to fix but believes there is a lack of interest to make them better.

[Mr. Welch entered the meeting at 9:13 AM.]

Phil Compton, Sierra Club, thanked the Board for the changes made to Williams Park. He indicated that there will be an Earth Day event at the park on April 23rd and Proterra will have an electric bus on display.

[Ms. Long entered the meeting at 9:16 AM.]

NON-BOARD COMMITTEES

Transit Riders Advisory Committee (TRAC) – Elaine Mann, Committee Chair, reported on the March 8th TRAC meeting.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) – Ms. Bujalski reported on the MPO Board meeting that took place on March 9th.

Legislative Update State/Federal – Mr. Diamond spoke about the March 2nd Legislative Committee meeting and Ms. Long reported on the recent Washington, D.C. trip for the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Legislative Conference.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Bevis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Welch to approve the Consent Agenda. There were no public comments. The Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda, which included approval of the February 24, 2016 Board meeting minutes, the support vehicle maintenance contract, the Motorola radio maintenance contract, and the Giro HASTUS software upgrade.

ACTION ITEMS

Largo Crossroads Agreement – Mr. Miller presented background information on the Largo Transit Center. He said the essential terms of the proposed settlement agreement

and mutual release are that Walmart will pay \$250,000 to PSTA and the Agency will approve the transit center site and the road. Mr. Miller indicated that PSTA's engineers believe the \$250,000 will cover the repair cost of the road should it fail. Mr. Miller said the expected opening date is May 1st with a ribbon cutting ceremony on April 28th, followed by a Town Hall on May 6th. Mr. Zimmet added some history about the transit center site and the agreement. He said that PSTA will pay Walmart's 10% share of the maintenance costs of the road for 20 years or when PSTA has replaced 35% of the slabs in the road, whichever comes first.

Mr. Barkley reported that the Finance Committee unanimously recommended approval of the settlement agreement, and made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jonson. Mr. Barkley amended his motion to authorize Mr. Miller to sign all the documents for closing and the agreement for the transit center. Mr. Jonson agreed. In response to Chairperson Rice's call for public comment, Ms. Peters stated that she is looking forward to the opening saying that it will be better than the Tri-City Plaza transfer point. Motion passed unanimously.

SEIU Labor Agreement – James Bradford, Chief Operating Officer, stated that 83% of the Union members voted yes on the contract. He indicated that a deal was reached on a three-year contract agreement that is within PSTA's projected budget. Mr. Bradford provided background information regarding the new labor agreement that will be in effect through September 30, 2018. He also highlighted some key contract points such as increased wage progression steps, starting Bus Operator rate of \$12.50, a one-time \$300 stored balance for health insurance contributions, a \$500 annual lump sum compensation based on attendance, and the creation of a Health & Wellness Committee, as well as other Committees.

Rick Smith, SEIU Chief of Staff, added his comments about the agreement and the great negotiations between labor and management. Mr. Barkley said the joint Finance and Planning Committees unanimously recommended approval of the three-year agreement. Mr. Welch mentioned the living wage issue and questioned whether everyone will be at the \$12.50 level. Ms. Bujalski said that she is supportive of the agreement. Chairperson Rice thanked Mr. Bradford and Mr. Smith for their hard work on the agreement. Mr. Barkley made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gerard to approve the three-year agreement. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

CEO's Performance Evaluation – Chairperson Rice stated that the Personnel Committee met on March 11th to review the CEO performance evaluation forms. She thanked the Board for completing the evaluation and for their comments. She reported that

Mr. Miller enjoyed a more than 20% improvement in his comprehensive scoring and noted some of Mr. Miller's key accomplishments.

Chairperson Rice indicated that in recognition of the improvement, the Personnel Committee unanimously recommended the following: Mr. Miller's compensation be adjusted by 2.5% and the next Board-completed performance evaluation will be completed in 12 months (March 2017). In six months, Mr. Miller will prepare a summary scorecard of progress on PSTA's Path Forward Strategic Plan goals and areas of note by specific Board members on this performance evaluation. Chairperson Rice said he will discuss this progress with the Board members and respond to their feedback, but no formal evaluation by Board members will be required until a year from now.

Mr. Jonson noted that he is very satisfied with the process and made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barkley to approve the Personnel Committee's recommendation. Mr. Welch commented that Mr. Miller and staff have done a great job with the increased Board communication. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Miller thanked the Board saying that he is very honored. He also extended his thanks to staff.

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

2017 Key Budget Assumptions – A presentation was provided in the packet with all the key assumptions. Mr. Miller noted that these were presented to the Planning Committee which was the start of the FY 2017 budget planning. He indicated that over the next couple months, the Planning Committee will be reviewing the key assumptions and other major items in the budget in more detail, with a Board review of the draft budget in June. Mr. Miller said the millage decision is in July with final approval in September.

DART Contract – Mr. Miller indicated that the Planning Committee received this presentation. He said that this is PSTA's largest contract and will go out to bid next week. This will be presented at the July meeting for Board award.

PSTA Performance Report/Updates – The performance reports will be sent to the Board when they become available.

Mr. Miller informed the Board that on March 12th, PSTA and the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority (HART) participated in a joint bus Roadeo. He said he will

be attending the statewide Roadeo April 2nd in Fort Myers, along with teams from PSTA and HART.

Chairperson Rice asked if PSTA has the option of choosing more than one provider for the DART contract and Mr. Miller answered yes. Mr. Deighton questioned how many Care Rides are provided versus Yellow Cab rides. Mr. Miller responded that Care Ride handles about 500 rides a day and the same for Yellow Cab.

FUTURE MEETING SUBJECTS

The Board was provided with a list of upcoming meeting subjects. Mr. Miller indicated that the Board will receive a presentation on PSTA's Succession Plan and the awarding of the Marketing and Advertising Services contract at the April meeting. He said on May 6th there will be a PSTA Board workshop as well as a joint PSTA/MPO Board workshop in July. Mr. Miller also noted that there may be a possible joint PSTA/HART Board meeting scheduled for the summer.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Long asked if there is a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) presentation planned for the Finance Committee and Mr. Barkley responded yes. Ms. Long expressed her concern about rapidly changing technologies. Mr. Miller indicated that there may be a speaker on new public transit technologies at the May 6th workshop.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Fenger said she is pleased with the shared collaboration regarding the labor agreement.

Ms. Gerard noted how different the atmosphere is now as opposed to a year ago and thanked everyone for their hard work.

Mr. Bevis said congratulations to everyone who worked on the labor agreement.

Mr. Barkley congratulated SEUI and Mr. Bradford on the agreement and also Mr. Miller on his performance evaluation.

Ms. Johnson stated that she is looking forward to the coming year.

Mr. Jonson commented on the Day in the Life of a Driver presentation that was delivered to the Transit Riders Advisory Committee (TRAC) and suggested that the Board also receive that presentation. He noted that the City of Clearwater is continuing to utilize a combination of the Jolley Trolley and ferry service from the mainland to the beach. He said thank you to the Board for working together so well.

Ms. Bujalski stated her belief that the Board is working well together and also with Mr. Miller. She said she is happy about the direction the Board is going.

Ms. Long suggested that once a month, highlight one Bus Operator or employee who has done something outstanding. She mentioned the gondola project and suggested that a presentation be given to the Board.

Mr. Deighton commended everyone on the labor agreement and congratulated Mr. Miller on the evaluation. He also thanked Mr. Zimmet for working on the Largo Transit Center agreement.

Mr. Diamond said he shares everyone's positive feelings about where PSTA is headed and the focus on partnerships and innovation. He stated that he is looking forward to the Board workshop and the exploration of other innovative modes of transportation.

Ms. Wheeler-Brown indicated that she is enjoying serving on the Board as the newest member and is especially pleased with the communication that comes from PSTA.

Chairperson Rice stated that she is thankful for her colleagues on the Board, staff, and Mr. Miller. She indicated that she is grateful for meetings like today's to have the chance to reflect on positive accomplishments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairperson Rice adjourned the meeting at 10:49 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for April 27th at 9:00 AM.

Chairperson