

CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT
AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING

OF

April 8, 2011

10:55 A.M.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: I now call the Chatham Area Transit Authority to order and ask for the roll call from Patricia Hawkins.

MS. HAWKINS: Good morning. Chairman Liakakis

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Dr. Thomas

DR. THOMAS: Here.

MS. HAWKINS: Ms. Stone

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS & DR. THOMAS: She's here.

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Holmes

MR. HOLMES: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Shay

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: He's here

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Farrell

MR. ODELL: He's here.

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Odell

MR. ODELL: I'm Here

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Gellatly

MR. GELLATLY: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Kicklighter

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: He's not here, he's absent.

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Broker

MR. BROKER: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Dawson

MR. DAWSON: Here

MS. HAWKINS: And we're good.

Also present at the meeting was Ty Butler, Chad Reese, CJ Bright and Patricia Hawkins.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Okay next all of the members of the Authority were sent the minutes of the last meeting. We need a motion to approve.

MR. DAWSON: So moved.

MR. BROKER: Second.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: All in favor signify by raising your hand. Motion passes. In case there's some people in the audience might not understand, we have additional members and we only have nine buttons up there for the minutes or whatever it might be any kind of issue so we vote by hand 'cause having additional members here on the Chatham Area Transit Authority. Item number I; Reminder of budget goals session on April 14, 2011, at the Trade Center, Chad.

MR. REESE: Yes sir next Thursday from 1:00pm – 5:00pm we will be having a Board Retreat for Board members from 1:00 – 5:00 and we request your participation as part of the retreat.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Yeah, we encourage all of the members of the Transit Authority to be at that meeting. It's a short meeting and I think its in the Jasper Room as soon as you walk into the Trade Center it's the first room on the left hand side. Okay next item; request Board approve the updated CAT Procurement Policy and Procedures Manual, Chad.

MR. REESE: Yes, staff is requesting the Board approve the updated procurement and policy manuals to be in compliance with the current FTA regulations. The last update occurred in 2002.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Need a motion on the floor.

MR. BROKER: So moved

MS. DAWSON: Second.

MR. ODELL: We're all moved.

MR. REESE: Well once the Board approves we're current.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Okay, we have a motion on the floor and a second, all in favor signify by raising your hand. Motion passes. Next item; Request Board approve modification of the Transit Project Pages of the Metropolitan Planning Organization's for

fiscal year 2011 thru fiscal year 2014 Transportation Improvement Plan which is better known as the TIP plan, Chad.

MR. REESE: Yes sir earlier—earlier this year the Board approved the staff to move forward the conceptual plan for the construction of the Downtown Intermodal Center; as a requirement of that staff has been given the task to find the funding available to complete the construction in this project. We've identified the funding sources as a result in order for us to apply for the grant we have to update the Transportation Improvement Plan at the MPO in order to move forward with that process the CAT Board must approve the changes in order to be advertised and submitted to the MPO for advertising and recommendation.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Need a motion on the floor.

MR. BROKER: So moved.

MR. ODELL and MR. HOLMES: Second.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Have a motion on the floor and a second, all in favor signify by raising your hand. Motion passes. Next; Request Board approval to issue Request for Proposal for wheelchair accessible taxi service, Chad.

MR. REESE: Yes sir in accordance with our updated Procurement Policies before a RFP can be issued it must first have a – be presented to the Board and approved by the Board to issue a RFP. This is one of a two fold project with issuance of RFP for accessible taxi and a new program that we're calling CAT Freedom. It's a program which we've had funding for, for a couple of years and we need to move forward with implementation of the program –

MR. ODELL: Move for approval.

DR. THOMAS: Second.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: I have a motion on the floor and a second to send out the RFP for the wheelchair accessible taxi service and this is very important because it will help the – with a number of people that were unable to get service and it will instead of having a bus to go pick up just one individual the taxi service will be able to provide that and we want all the Authority members to know that there's monies available so it's nothing having to do with adding additional monies there because it's already been appropriated by the government.

MS. STONE: Thank you Mr. Chairman, I assume then we'll get the information back on the RFP? I mean this is not a vote to approve anything at this point.

MR. REESE: No ma'am its not. It's a vote to issue a RFP

MS. STONE: That's fine

MR. REESE: And under our procurement policies results with RFP have to come back to the Board with a recommendation.

MS. STONE: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: All in favor signify by raising your hand. Motion passes. Next, update the CAT Board on the recommendations of Phase 1 of the proposed Preferred Service Plan that have been compiled as a result of the feedback received from four community outreach meetings that were held to introduce the plan to the public. Oh, okay, I'll come back to number 5 in just a minute. I just read this particular item 6 and we'll come back to 5 in just a moment. You've heard what the recommendation is for Phase 1 of the Preferred Service Plan we need a motion on the floor to approve.

MR. FARRELL: So moved.

MS. STONE: Second.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: All in favor signify by raising –

MR. ODELL: I'm not ready because I haven't heard. Have you said yet?

MR. REESE: The – well this is an update. As you recall we came to the Board for approval to go public and conduct public hearings and receive comments on the Preferred Plan of the Comprehensive Operations Plan and this is a presentation to present the Board we can do it or do it without the presentation. We've included the comments in here that we've received from the public.

MR. ODELL: And we have the summary of the findings from those four meetings in our package?

MR. REESE: Yes sir.

MR. ODELL: Okay, then I'm ready and call for the vote unless we just want to listen to another presentation. Okay I don't think we do. I call for the vote.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Okay, let's go raise your hands. Motion passes. Item 5; Request Board approval to issue bid for wheelchair accessible taxis.

MR. REESE: Yes sir, Mr. Chairman the first part of the program was for service providers this is for the evaluation of the vehicles and issue a bid for the purchase – for the vehicles that would purchase under this grant. Again we will conduct a bid and bring those results back to the Board for approval.

MR. ODELL: Move for approval.

MR. SHAY: Second.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Alright, all in favor signify by raising your hand. Motion passes. Item 7; the Executive Director update, Chad.

MR. REESE: There are a number of issues here; one of the first issues to update is the issue with the historic bus stop signs and we're working out an arrangement with the Historic Savannah Foundation to retain those signs and but they will be modified to include information for customers, for tourists as well as bring them in compliance with ADA. The second one is the new name for the form they call House Bill 277, it's the Transportation Investment Act of 2010 which will be one of the topics at our upcoming Board Retreat. The third one is in the area of key performance indicators. One of the areas of importance is the ridership. Ridership continues to increase. We're up 12.8% year-to-date compared to last year. Farebox recovery is up from 28.6% to 32%. We still have to make significant improvements in our area of safety. We average 2.1 accidents per 100,000 miles, but again these KPI's are issues that we will be discussing at the Board Retreat as well as ontime performance was 88.3%.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: That it?

MR. REESE: Yes sir.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Okay,

MR. SHAY: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Yes.

MR. SHAY: First of all I'd like to thank you for working with Historic Savannah Foundation. I had the chance to see the proposed solution to the problem the other day and I think it's a very intriguing idea and I hope the Historic Savannah Foundation will like that, but I want to thank you for working closely with them to save the orange lollipop bus signs. And then also I want to just real briefly say how much I appreciate the fact that you and Veolia and our Chatham Area Transit staff are now working very hard to get real numbers for us on these performance indicators and I'm not suggesting that the numbers we had before were unreal, but I think in your quest to be able to get down into the numbers and get meaningful information that the Board members need to understand that in this initial period probably about at least a year its gonna look like we're actually having declining performance when in fact what we're having is a better measure of what performance is and things that are sort of deliciously vague like ontime; I think we're gonna be much better about defining what it is that ontime actually means. I know as I talk to people that are waiting at transit stops that they are uniformly of the opinion that the bus is always late and I think part of the reason is because there's no way to measure when exactly its suppose to be there. So I appreciate the fact that you're adding

empiricism to all of this and I want to encourage you that even though the numbers aren't always encouraging that it's a very very good thing that we do the best that we can to make it as scientific as possible and I thank you for your efforts.

DR. THOMAS: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN LIKAKIS: Yes.

DR. THOMAS: I to, I want to thank my colleague Commissioner Patrick Shay because that's exactly what I was about elude to. We thank you so much because this is gonna give a different perspective as to where we are and you know and where we're going. And it gives us a truer picture of the expectations and exedra so thank you so very much. I mean we're getting there.

MR. REESE: Thank you.

MR. SHAY: The one number that I'm the most pleased with is that ridership is up. That's the ultimate measure of our success. If more people want to use this system, the better off the system is and the better off our community is so that's

CHAIRMAN LIKAKIS: Item 8; Department updates and this is for information only. Item A) Operations update, Chad.

MR. REESE: It's in your packet for review information I'll be happy to entertain any questions you may have.

CHAIRMAN LIKAKIS: Any questions? Item 2b) Maintenance update.

MR. REESE: Again its included in your packet and I'll be happy to entertain any questions. The significant thing there is that we're at about 10,000 miles between service interruptions and road calls compared to July of last year we were at about 2500 so its significant improvement there and we have some internal goals that we've set, but again that's a number that we're gonna be requesting the Board to set at the Board Retreat in terms of what our actual performance should be.

CHAIRMAN LIKAKIS: Okay and adding item C) Marketing update also and that was also in your packet giving you information on that. Chad.

MR. REESE: Its included its detail there in terms of the outreach program, customer complaints and our focus moving forward. One of the things that you will see rolling out within the next month or so is a new ridership campaign its called the Cool Campaign that we will roll out as part of environmental slash public transit awareness program.

CHAIRMAN LIKAKIS: Okay and now I need a motion on the floor they want to add an Executive Session on a personnel matter that'll only take a few minutes. Need a motion on the floor.

MR. DAWSON: So moved

MS. STONE and DR. THOMAS: Second

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: We have a motion on the floor and a second to add Executive Session for a personnel matter. Let's raise your hand. Motion passes. We'll go into the Green Room right now this won't take but a few minutes as soon as we go over this personnel matter then the Chatham County Commission will reconvene.

BREAK FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: A personnel matter was just discussed briefly and now we are adjourning the Chatham Area Transit Authority and reconvening as the Chatham County Commission.

No votes were taken in the executive session

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Patricia R. Hawkins, Secretary-Treasurer
Chatham Area Transit Authority