



CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT®

BOARD MEETING

OF

September 9, 2011

10:20 A.M.

DR. THOMAS: Madam Secretary will you please give the roll call.

MS. HAWKINS: Good morning. Okay Chairman Liakakis is not here. Dr. Thomas

MS. HAWKINS: Dr. Thomas

DR. THOMAS: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Broker

MR. DAWSON: He stepped out for just a minute.

MR. DAWSON: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Farrell

MR. FARRELL: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Gellatly

MR. GELLATLY: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Holmes

MR. HOLMES: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Kicklighter

MR. KICKLIGHTER: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Odell

MR. ODELL: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Shay

MS. HAWKINS: And Ms. Stone

MS. STONE: Present

MS. HAWKINS: Thank you

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

DR. THOMAS: Thank you. We'll now have the approval of the minutes.

MR. ODELL: Move for approval.

MS. STONE: Second.

DR. THOMAS: All in favor of the motion. All in favor of the motion let it be known by raising your hand. Motion is carried, thank you. New business; Request Board approval for temporary parking lot license agreement between Chatham Area Transit as licensor and Oglethorpe Associates. Chad.

DR. REESE: Thank you Dr. Thomas, CAT the owner of a lot at Oglethorpe and Martin Luther King Boulevard. We've owned that lot for a number of years and we've leased it out to Oglethorpe properties for overflow parking as well as to the County for the sheriff's deputy parking. The lease on the current—the current lease is expiring and this is an extension of the current lease. It's important to note that this lot is also under consideration for sale to the City of Savannah and once executed the City of Savannah will assume the lease responsibility for it, but we need to extend the lease in order to continue – so they can continue to use the property for parking.

MR. ODELL: So we're gonna extend the lease with the expectation the City of Savannah will purchase?

DR. REESE: Yes, that's correct.

MR. ODELL: I make a motion to approve.

MS. STONE: Second.

DR. THOMAS: All in favor of said motion let it be known by raising your hands. Opposes, carry none. The motion is carried. We now have the Executive Director's update, Chad.

MR. REESE: Thank you Dr. Thomas. Some important things to know, first of all ridership has continued to increase. It's up 9.1% year-to-date compared to last year. Farebox recovery is also up. We had a decrease in the number of accidents, decrease in the number of complaints per hundred thousand passengers. The interesting thing to know is that this is the first month that we've moved from a manual reporting system for monitoring ontime performance to a computerized automated system for measuring ontime performance; and ontime performance number for the month of July is 68%. In the past it's been between 85% and 90% under the manual calculation. So it's at 68% ontime performance.

DR. THOMAS: Great, good job. Commissioner Farrell.

MR. FARRELL: What is your goal for ontime performance?

DR. REESE: The goal is ultimately has to be established by the Board at some point, but typically industry wise you would be looking between 88 and 90%. One of the things

that the information here shows us is that we have quite a distance to go in terms of being able to improve that. The advantage is now we know what the real number is and we also have historical data for the past month to go back and begin making adjustments to the system. The disadvantage is the timeframe it takes to make it up because you have three schedule changes a year so it gives you three times a year to make adjustments to the schedule in terms of fixing your ontime performance. When it's a schedule related issue there are a number of other related issues that affect that such as your policy, how you issue transfers, the human factor; human performance associated with it as well as the traffic related issue. From a pure scheduling standpoint that's done three times a year. The other things that we have to move forward on and address pretty quickly are the human factors. And in the departmental report, the Operations Report we have the information broken down by route and we also have information by time of day. In addition to that what we have that we haven't had before is we can actually track ontime performance by operator as well.

MR. BROKER: I just had a comment on the farebox recovery. This is – this is about the highest farebox recovery rate that I've seen in a long long time if ever one this high and I'd like to ask Chad if could just maybe could comment on, you know, why this jump.

DR. REESE: One of the things that's important to know is the new agreement with Savannah State and the way it's structured and outlined that number is actually calculated as part of our farebox recovery now as opposed to contracted services so it's included as part of our overall system and process.

MR. BROKER: Right, because I know that probably the highest farebox recovery rate I've seen was maybe twenty-seven cents on the dollar so this is big thank you.

DR. REESE: Another thing that's important to know, while we did make improvements in the area of safety, that does not represent a systematic cultural change in our approach to safety. So we had a good month that still does not mean that we have a good safety program so it's something that we will continue to work on and improve.

DR. THOMAS: Okay any other discussion? Good job. Do you need to elaborate any further on the departmental updates?

DR. REESE: I would like to make a couple of -- a few comments.

DR. THOMAS: Okay.

DR. REESE: First of all, one of the things you will notice in the report is on 9/11 at 8:46 am we will stop all buses in the system for one minute in observance of 9/11. Also, in the month of October we're having breast cancer awareness month so you will see our operators in pink uniforms throughout the month and we're still developing coordinating programs that we'll come back to the Board with in terms of being able to assist in some form of transportation for breast exams. We're still working with community partners to set that program up. The next thing is that the CAT Prowler, our late night service will start later this month. The –

(Laughing)

DR. THOMAS: Sorry.

DR. REESE: The second—last but not least I would like to introduce a couple of our new staff people. First I would like to introduce Patrique Lindahl. He is our new Chief Development Officer who has been on board for about a week now. He comes to us from the Veolia headquarters in Paris where he was the Marketing Officer there, but prior to that he was in charge of marketing for Northern Europe for all of Veolia and so we're delighted to have him as part of the team as well as Sarah Rayfield who's our new Transit Planner that will be coming on board in about a week. These two individuals will work along with Valerie Ragland and Timamu Hakim in terms of our whole system development team that was outlined in the budget; in terms of our new approach on how we move the system forward.

MR. ODELL: Will we be changing – May I –

DR. THOMAS: Yes.

MR. ODELL: Will we be changing at some point the organizational structure used for CAT? And the only why I asked that is that the terms that we use are different as comparison to FTA and some of the other federal--

DR. REESE: Yes sir. We use some terms that have been around for a number of years that are somewhat out dated. In transit agencies they are usually referred to as C level positions now so the what we call the Executive Director is at ninety plus percent of the transit systems refer to as the CEO. The head of Operations is now the COO, the head of Planning and Marketing is Chief Development Officer and your head of Finance is the CFO and that's in align with federal requirements – the new federal FTA standards.

MR. ODELL: Thank you Chad.

DR. THOMAS: Thank you. That covers all of them?

DR. REESE: Yes it does.

DR. THOMAS: Thanks you very much. Good job. Commissioner Kicklighter.

MR. KICKLIGHTER: Thank you. Unless there is someone here wanting to discuss the Executive Session item, I'll make a motion at this time to um, oh my God help me out with it Odell. Do I want to approve it or do we need to change the agenda? Make a motion to go out of order on the agenda?

DR. THOMAS: I want to be sure that we're not breaking any rules here.

MR. BUTLER: You can vote on that without going into Executive Session if there's no need – if –

MR. KICKLIGHTER: Okay unless there's someone wanting to discuss it, I'll make a motion to approve claim involving date of loss January 9, 2010.

MR. BUTLER: You would need to vote first to add it to the agenda.

MR. KICKLIGHTER: Yeah I make a motion to add that to the agenda first.

MR. ODELL: Second.

DR. THOMAS: All in favor of the motion to add it to the agenda raise your hands. Opposers, the motion is carried

MR. KICKLIGHTER: Thank you. Now I will make a motion to approve the claim involving date of loss January 9, 2010.

MR. ODELL: Second.

DR. THOMAS: All in favor of the motion raise your hands, opposers, motion is carried. Thank you. I think that covers everything for CAT today. We will now adjourn.

MR. ODELL: I want to compliment really, I read the staff report. I for the first time believe that that light that we see at the end of the tunnel. It's daylight. I'd long thought that it was an on coming train, but I now know that its daylight. I compliment you and Veolia for what you all have done.

DR. REESE: Thank you sir.

MR. KICKLIGHTER: Thanks for helping on the brain freeze amend the agenda was the word I was looking for.

DR. THOMAS: Thank you so very much. We will now reconvene as the County Commission in just a few moments.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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