CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING

OF

January 14, 2011

10:41 A.M.
CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Right now I'd like to call the Chatham Area Transit Authority to order and ask Patricia for the roll call please.

MS. HAWKINS: Good morning. Chairman Liakakis

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Dr. Thomas

DR. THOMAS: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Ms. Stone

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Holmes

MR. HOLMES: Present

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Shay

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Farrell

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Odell

MR. ODELL: Here

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Mr. Farrell is also here, they just stepped out for a moment.

MS. HAWKINS: Okay. Mr. Gellatly

MR. GELLATLY: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Kicklighter

MR. KICKLIGHTER: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Mr. Broker

MR. BROKER: Here

MS. HAWKINS: Dawson

Also present at the meeting was Ty Butler, Kevin McDonald, Mike Ake, Chad Reese and Patricia Hawkins.
CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Okay thank you. Next item on the agenda is approval of minutes from the December 3, 2010 Board meeting. It was distributed to all the members of the Transit Authority. Need a motion on the floor to --

MR. BROKER: I move for the approval Mr. Chairman.

MS. STONE and DR. THOMAS: Second.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Have a motion on the floor and a second. All in favor signify by raising your hand. Motion passes. What I’d like to do right now is introduce some people from our Chatham Area Transit and in that we have our Vice President from Veolia who now is from that company that we have a private public contract with and in setting that up so hopefully with this particular program and what Veolia has done in the past, it will be successful and we will have a lot more riders and efficient operation. And what occurred here a number of months ago is we had a fairly fast movement of the former CAT Director and what happened is our Vice President here Michael Ake; what he did was immediately went into action to get us an interim CAT Director and he chose Kevin McDonald here who sitting on this end. And Kevin has done an excellent job. We can see from his past the things that he has done and he has worked hard for that short period time that he’s been here and he will continue to be here for a few weeks to help the new CAT Executive Director who is Chad Reese. And Chad has done excellent job you can see all of the transit areas in different cities around the country and the experience and training and education that he has had. He’s done an excellent job and we’d like to thank Michael there the Vice President for reaching out all over to find Chad Reese to come to our area to be the Executive Director because we know that he’s gone be successful. Kevin did a great job and he’s going back to California, but as I mentioned he will be here for a few more weeks to help Chad get acclimated to all the of things that is needed for our area for transit our bus system. So Chad we thank you very much for coming on board with us, we welcome you and of course Kevin we wish the best for you when you do return to California and thank you on behalf of the Transit Authority for what you have done in this period of time.

MR. MCDONALD: Thank you Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Okay, the next item is new business. Item 1; Transmittal of the independent auditors report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010; Ken Duncan with Daniel and Duncan, LLC will be present to respond to questions from the Authority’s Board. Helen.

MS. STONE: Mr. Chairman in all due respect I’m very glad now to have this document, but I’m not prepared now to ask any questions of a document that I got five minutes ago. So I don’t know whether it would be possible to have Mr. Duncan come back at the next meeting when we’ve had a chance to look at this. I mean it doesn’t seem like I’m doing due diligence to approve something that I’ve gotten five minutes ago.

MR. ODELL: If that’s a motion I’ll second it.
CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Okay we have a motion on the floor and a second to get this report and bring back the information to us so all of our Authority members can look it over and be able to go over that. Okay all in favor raise your hand. Motion passes. Now let me explain to people in the audience that might know this. We have a board up here so when we vote on motions what we do is we punch the buttons, that’s for the nine members of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, but we also have four appointed members that are from the general public representing the Transit Authority so that they could have input in there also. So what we do because it’s only nine lights up there we raise our hands for particular motions that we have so I want the audience to know that especially those people that are viewing this on television. Next item; request Board approve the contract with Key Risk Management services for Run-Off Claims Management for Workers Compensation claims acquired by the Authority prior to the delegated management contract with Veolia Transportation effective July 21, 2010. The Run-Off Claims contract is requested for the period July 21, 2010 thru June 30, 2011. Kevin did you want to make any information on that or we can just vote on it?

MS. STONE: I would just like for clarification for the citizens who are viewing this to understand what this Run-Off is cause the name in and of itself is a little bit confusing.

MR. McDONALD: I certainly understand that. Veolia’s implementation of the delegated management contract in July 1, 2010, there were existing claims under the Chatham Area Transit Authority that were not closed out and those still have to be administered and carried forward until those claims are continued. Key Risk is the company that will administer those claims on a go forward basis until they’re closes. This allows the payment for administration of those claims that were in existence prior to Veolia’s acquisition of the delegated management contract.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Okay –

MR. ODELL: May I just ask a question. Is it possible for us to get a summary of the claims?

MR. MCDONALD: Yes.

MR. ODELL: Not today obviously, but at some point. Yeah, because worker’s compensation claims could last for several years so –

MR. MCDONALD: Absolutely will be happy to provide that.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Alright we need a motion on the floor to approve –

MR. ODELL: Move for approval.

MR. BROKER and MS. STONE: Second.
CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: All in favor signify by raising your hand. Motion passes. Item 3; update on the Comprehensive Operations Analysis being performed by Veolia Transportation for CAT. Kevin.

MR. MCDONALD: Thank you Mr. Chairman. As part of the delegated management contract one of the deliverables from Veolia to CAT is a Comprehensive Operational Analysis of the transit agency’s operations looking at existing service and also looking at what would be plans that would be brought back to this body for implementation in the future. That work is ongoing and a number of actions have already been taken; in particular, one of the items that is of particular interest is looking at how future service through—operated through CAT will align with the Intermodal Transit Center that’s also under development. There are a number of different categories of service changes; some are minimal changes that would be just minor tweaks to routes and schedules. Others are more substantial and would require public outreach before implementation and at this point the plan and the schedule calls for the full presentation to made to this body at the February 11th meeting that would include all the plans from the minimal changes to the more extensive changes and for the Board then to consider how those would or could be implemented on a go forward basis along with some, if any, cost implications. What has been done to this point is the Veolia staff has worked with the architects working on the downtown the Intermodal Transit Center to look at how buses would get into and out of that location as it moves forward as well as the downtown circulator service that would minimize the impact on Broughton and Oglethorpe streets in terms of traffic impacts while minimizing any cost impacts.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Harris

MR. ODELL: Kevin can we get those – your presentation will be February 11th or his presentation. Can we get those a week in advance?

MR. MCDONALD: Certainly.

MR. ODELL: And the transmittal information have a contact telephone number so that its convenient for us if we wanted to call someone to ask questions about it we don’t have to make it a two or three step process. Question with this I’d like to call and all of the information is there for us to do that. Is that possible?

MR. MCDONALD: Yes sir.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: And a number of things are in the particular book that was sent to us on some the analysis Harris. Okay, the next item; update on the Downtown Intermodal Transit Center project. Kevin.

MR. MCDONALD: Again thank you Sir. I’m pleased to report that we’ve had a number of very productive meetings with the architects with the folks from the MPO as well as some initial contact with the Historic Savannah Foundation on looking at the site planning that’s been going on on the Downtown Intermodal Transit Center. The group
that has been working on that has determined the most effective way for not just CAT service to access that location, but also for the Greyhound looking at ways to maximize access by pedestrians, bicycles in a way that maintains as much of or possibly all of the existing structure because of the significance of that actual structure. We’ve had very productive meetings with Mr. Thomson at the MPO as well as Miss. Sarah Ward of Historic Preservation officer and again that is a project that will continue to move forward and the February meeting as well that will come back with a costing scenario on the different design options. One fully fledged out that is the preferred option that will be presented for the Board’s consideration as well as other secondary in terms of a recommendation option for the Board to consider. So that will come before this body at the February meeting as well.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Chad as much as you know about it of course you haven’t been here for a long period of time is that our new Director when he takes over that Chad has that information because this Transit Center has been going on for a long period of time. And we have had some setbacks and all and we wanna put this on fast track because locations that we could not get for different reasons and all and then one of the main reasons was a particular land owner wanted a huge amount of money. If you’d put what we would have to transmit about a property that the County owns plus the $8 million it probably been close to $20 million we paid for an empty lot which was way out of line and so we just disregarded that and came up to this other location which is close by there. But we need this for our riders in our community to make sure that they’ve got a place in that and we know that the County at this particular point that we have members of the County working on that project also to get it done quick period of time. So Chad thank you very much for what you doing and all. Patrick.

MR. SHAY: Like the very good request of Mr. Odell, I think it would be very important that we not receive information including all these cost analyses just at the meeting. I certainly would like to have the same information that goes to every other one of these members. I would like to have it well in advance of that because I love my work and I like to be prepared for the meeting just like you do.

MR. MCDONALD: We will make sure that happens.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Okay good. Next item; request Board approve the submission of construction documents as prepared by PBS&J for their consultant subcontractor Turner Associates Architects & Planning, Inc., for sealed construction bids for the proposed new Bus Wash/Fueling facility located at CAT’s main office 900 East Gwinnett Street.

MR. ODELL: Move for approval.

MR. BROKER: Second.
CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Alright we have a motion on the floor and a second to approve this document. All in favor signify by raising your hand. Motion passes. Item 6; update on CAT’s December 2010 Key Performance Indicators. Kevin.

MR. MCDONALD: Thank you Mr. Chairman. At your last meeting the Board requested some more detailed information on year over year comparison of CAT’s performance. And what this report before you lays out is our first take at looking at presenting that information to you and I would appreciate any feedback you can give to us on the format or content of this report. You will notice as you go through this report that there is some data prior to CAT – I’m sorry Veolia’s acquisition or conversion on the delegated management contract in July of last year that was unavailable at the time this report was presented. We’re still in the process of seeing if we can get that from the prior contractor – the prior person involved.

MS. STONE: Mr. Chairman I think that’s what I was looking at something to compare it to. I mean all we’ve got are these year’s figures and it doesn’t – it’s not very helpful if you can’t compare it to last year’s figures. So in going through this, I think the data is very good information but I don’t have anything to compare it to. So that would be my concern.

MR. MCDONALD: And as we go forward we will continue to track down that data. What we’ve been able to do is go back in some instances, back to April of last year and some instances on where we have that data a full prior fiscal year and the plan is on a go forward basis is to look at one complete fiscal year of data as well as the existing fiscal year to date data for comparison.

MS. STONE: Thank you.

MR. ODELL: So we might not be able to capture some historic data realistically.

MR. MCDONALD: It is possible that we may not be able acquire that from the previous contractor.

MR. ODELL: Can we look at this from a cost benefit. And that is if its’ gonna cost a big pile of money to compile this data, if we can know that in advance that might be good for you all and for us if because the data was not maintained prior to Veolia, prior to Joe Rivers, if we could put a cost number on that before you venture into doing it especially if the cost is gonna be passed on to us. If the cost is gonna be passed on to us, we’d like to know that cost in advance of it being incurred.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Thank you Kevin.

MR. MCDONALD: If I might Mr. Chairman just to point out and to highlight a few of the slides that are included in the data you have before you. What you’ll notice when we talked about on page 5 of your report that compares the fixed route boardings. Looking at December 2009 to December 2010, you’ll notice a increase there that reflex about a
17% increase in ridership on the fixed route service from December 2009 to December 2010. Similarly on page 6 there’s a roughly a 13% increase in ridership from December 2009 to December 2010 on the Telelride boardings and so forth. One of the points I’ll just mention on page 7, you’ll notice that horizontal line on preventable accidents on the fixed route. The horizontal you’ll notice from July through essentially through March of July 2009 through March of 2010 that data was not available and that’s the reason you see the horizontal line there but again we’ll attempt to go back and get some of that data. The dot that you see on the dotted line represents 7 preventable accidents and looking at that on a preventable accidents per 100,000 miles brought us to about I believe it was 3.25 accidents per 100,000 miles, but again the plan is that we would be able to look at this data and compare prior fiscal year performance to current fiscal year performance on a go forward basis.

MR. ODELL: Will be also, be able to look at national data like you know, we might be doing great, but nationally we might in ah that higher 2%. So is there any way you can blend that would not only give us the prior years but whether or not overall nationally whether or not we’re within the norm or we’re higher than the norm—I think Chad you’re smiling you see what I—

MR. REESE: Yes sir, we’ll have it for you at the next Board meeting.

MR. ODELL: You know what I mean right?

MR. REESE: Yes sir.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Okay and in that Kevin and of course Chad thank you very much because you had 18 pages here on this information and there are a number of them like you were just stating that have all these graphs and all in here so that we can look at the available documentation that you had to bring this information to us.

MR. MCDONALD: Thank you sir. Is this format acceptable to the Board?

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Yes. Number 7; discussion regarding goal setting workshop schedule.

MR. MCDONALD: Thank you sir. As you mentioned earlier I that the Chatham Area Commission—The Chatham County Commission will be looking at goal setting and budget for the up coming fiscal year and this item is just a request that this body also consider setting a time and a schedule to look at the CAT budget and goals for the up coming fiscal year. So that was the purpose of this item was to request the Board consider that.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: And I will also pull all the members of the Transit Authority to come up and hopefully that we can have all of the members. Now also too if any of the Board members have some suggestions on some of the replacements because we have a couple of replacements in the general public to come on board with the nine members
of the County Commission. We’d like to have that as soon as possible so anybody that would like or anybody in the community that would like to be on the Transit Authority can send that to the Commission Board and I will then bring that information up as we have the resumes of people that would like to come on board. We had a couple of members that were ill and then one that transferred out of the area so we need to get that filled as soon as possible. So as I mentioned Kevin and to you Chad, we’ll see about setting up that meeting as soon as possible also. Okay.

MR. MCDONALD: Thank you sir.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: And of course we’ve already introduced our new Executive Director that will be coming on board here in a few weeks Chad and again thank you. We appreciate the information and of course to Veolia to you Michael thank you very much for your fast response to getting a good person in like Chad. Somebody with the experience and his leadership has been excellent in other transit areas so we thank you very much for that.

MR. AKE: Yes sir.

CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS: Okay now we will recess. We’ll go out right now. The meeting is over for the Chatham Area Transit Authority and we will convene again for the County Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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