

Presented: October 29th, 2019

TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF RIVER CITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 2019 Board Meeting Minutes

The Board of Directors of the Transit Authority of River City met on Tuesday, September 24th, 2019 at 1:30 PM, at the Transit Authority Offices, 1000 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40203, pursuant to written and electronic notice to all Board Members.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Alice Houston
Mary Morrow
Mary Margaret Mulvihill
Cedric Merlin Powell
Charles Rogers
Ted Smith
J.C. Stites

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

QUORUM CALL

Chairman Powell called the meeting to order at 1:33 P.M.

SPEAKERS

Marcellus Mayes, Chair of Metro Disabilities Coalition

- Mr. Mayes expressed his concern for the safety of the TARC bus riders due to the drivers being overworked. Mr. Mayes added that the bus drivers drive for 88 hours with only 8 hours of rest.
- Mr. Mayes also stated that he has not experienced a 4 minute wait call. Rides are not on time and they need to be more routine.
- Mr. Mayes added that there have been 14 rapes and 100 sexual assaults made against Lyft. Mr. Mayes suggested that drivers for Lyft need to go through a pre-screening process before being hired by their company.

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Bill Wright, President of the Greater Louisville Council for the Blind

- Mr. Wright stated that he is surprised that there is not representation of a blind person for any of the major local groups in the Metro Louisville area.

Charlie Sims, TAAC Committee Chair

- Mr. Sims congratulated Wanda Henderson on the new paratransit contract that now includes handicapped individuals.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The motion was duly moved, seconded and approved for the July and August 2019 Board Meeting minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE / ADMINISTRATION

Resolution 2019-40 2019 Contract Negotiations – TARC and ATU 1447

A resolution approving a contract between TARC and Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 1447, for the period of September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2022.

- Mr. Risco added that TARC and the Union came into agreement after a day and a half. Wages will increase in the three years. Mr. Risco thanked the Union's Leadership, Mr. Theo Hamilton.

The motion was duly moved, seconded and approved.

Resolution 2019-41 P-2695 Excess Workers' Compensation Insurance Policy

A resolution authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an insurance policy with Arch Insurance Company for the 2019/2020 policy year.

- Mr. Risco stated that the contract with Arch Insurance Company will ensure medical benefits for all TARC employees. The current contract with The UnderWriters Group will expire August 31st.

The motion was duly moved, seconded and approved.

Resolution 2019-42 Ferdinand L. Risco, Jr., Executive Director

A resolution authorizing the Human Resource Department to increase the Executive Director Ferdinand L. Risco, Jr's pay to an annual starting salary of \$190,000 retro back to April 21, 2019 based on the agreed annual starting salary for the Executive Director.

- Chairman Powell stated that Mr. Risco's compensation was reviewed. We want to ensure Mr. Risco receives compensation for his transition to Executive Director. As of to date, Mr. Risco has not received compensation.

The motion was duly moved, seconded and approved.

Resolution 2019-43 Fire Extinguishers

A resolution authorizing the Executive Director to award a one (1) year extension to Choate Fire Protection for Fire Extinguishers at an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 for a one year term.

- Mr. Risco stated that after placing a bid to nine potential vendors only one vendor responded, Choate Fire Protection. We are asking to go into contract for a one year extension with Choate Fire Protection.

The motion was duly moved, seconded and approved.

Resolution 2019-44 Small Passenger Vehicles

A Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to enter into one contract with Superior Van and Mobility, and two contracts with Heritage Ford Inc., for P-2780 Small Passenger Vehicles.

- Mr. Risco explained that Resolution 2019-44 is to enhance mobility for handicapped individuals. The Authority acts on behalf of 5310. We are asking to go into contracts for three years with Superior Van Mobility and two years with Heritage Ford, Inc.
 - Mr. Rogers inquired what the 5310 program is.
- Mr. Risco responded that the 5310 program is a code federal regulation. This is funding of small, non-urbanized operations. The FTA grants funding and the Committee makes recommendations of funding. In addition, we received great accommodations regarding our program. The Contract Award Summary illustrates an individual line contract for each type of vehicle.

The motion was duly moved, seconded and approved.

Resolution 2019-45 Police Services

A resolution authorizing the Executive Director to award a one (1) year extension to Off Duty Police Services Inc. for Police Services at an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 for a one year term.

- Mr. Risco stated that Resolution 2019-45 is a continuation of existing contracts for another year for off duty police officers. These officers will respond to calls for visual inspections, interaction with customers and provide ride checks. We have received six to eight requests from operators to have off duty police officers ride along when they are driving in certain areas. Having patrol in certain areas enables us to respond more rapidly. We stand by our Drive Safe, Ride Safe and Be Safe system.

The motion was duly moved, seconded and approved.

Resolution 2019-46 P-2406 Paratransit and other Contracted Transportation Services

The Executive Director is hereby authorized to approve a four (4) month contract extension with Yellow Cab/Procarent from October 1, 2019- January 31, 2020 for a total not to exceed \$2,400,000 and a six (6) month contract extension with First Transit from October 1, 2019-March 31, 2019 for a total not to exceed \$4,800,000.

- Mr. Risco stated that Resolution 2019-46 is to provide excellent response. We are extending our contract for four months with Yellow Cab and six months with First Transit. Our RFP contract will provide mobility services.

The motion was duly moved, seconded and approved.

Resolution 2019-47 CMAQ Program Funding

A resolution authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with Commonwealth of Kentucky Transportation Cabinet for CMAQ Program funds in the amount of \$1,111,200 million.

- Mr. Risco stated that Resolution 2019-47 will bring money into the agency. CMAQ is funding for the Outer Loop area of Louisville. This funding will provide

improved mobility for the business area. After conducting research, we discovered that there are plenty of jobs in the Outer Loop area and people will need access to transportation. We were awarded a \$1.1 million grant and we will match \$227,000.00.

- Mr. Stites inquired if the expectation is ridership and services, what is the term of commitment?
- Mr. Risco responded that an analysis was conducted and we were able to see the benefits. Ridership is a projection and we know the traffic patterns and are able to see where jobs are located and where the job seekers are located. If for some reason this does not work, we will continue to tweak the program to ensure we are maximizing services. This 3-year program will demonstrate that it is a value to the community.
 - Mr. Rogers inquired if this program is for paratransit also?
 - Ms. Mulvihill inquired if old buses will be a part of this program?
- Mr. Risco responded that we will work with our maintenance department to ensure the older model buses are able to be on the road. Mr. Frantz and I continue to reach out for resources to discuss our fleet issues.
 - Mr. Stites inquired about the recoup of investment.
- Mr. Risco stated that our fare box ratios are 13% to 14% and this number sometimes spikes to 15%. Revenue paying customers is up. We are removing transfers out of the system and fare box should improve. We will do our part for the community by enhancing hybrid and electric feet. We will utilize these when we can in an effort to get more vehicles off the road.

The motion was duly moved, seconded and approved.

Resolution 2019-48 Request for Transfer of COTA buses

A Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to request and execute the transfer of seven (7) Gillig buses from the Central Ohio Transit Authority.

- Mr. Risco stated that we would love to purchase fleet. We identified a system that has better functioning fleet. We will pay back local interest for seven buses. It costs \$55,000.00 for each bus and the cost per electric fleet is \$840.00. We have seventy buses that are beyond their use of life. This transfer will allow us the opportunity to reduce aging fleet with seven newer buses. It will cost \$90,000.00 for the transfer.
 - Chairman Powell asked what the average miles are and what kinds of impact will this have on our fleet. Will it be 200,000 to 250,000 fewer miles?
 - Mr. Hobin answered that the transfer buses will be 100,000 miles per bus.
 - Mr. Stites stated that this is great research. Utilizing electric buses for the future is a smart way to go.

- Ms. Mulvihill inquired if there is an opportunity at the Federal level?
- Mr. Risco responded that he has spoken with delegates in Frankfort and with the FTA Acting Administrator about our fleet. We will have to find a local match if we do receive funding. They are receptive and we are optimistic that something will happen. We also met with the Secretary of Transportation's office and the hope is that something will resonate from these conversations. It is time for an investment in mobility. We have the largest electric fleet outside of California. We will purchase two more electric fleet.
 - Mr. Stites asked what the return of investment is.
- Mr. Risco responded that we will be able to provide you with the return of investment once we have completed our Transit Asset Management plan.
 - Mr. Rogers added that this is a great opportunity to bridge the gap.

The motion was duly moved, seconded and approved.

Resolution 2019-49 Transit Strategy and Tactical Roadmap

A resolution authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a six (6) month contract with Nimbus at an amount not to exceed \$160,000.00.

- Mr. Risco mentioned that TARC wants to communicate everything discussed during today's Board Meeting with the community. The question is, how do we do this? Mr. Risco stated that we would like to have an agreement with NIMBUS for 6 months to develop and implement TARC's 2020 Transit Strategy and Tactical Roadmap. Having this contract with NIMBUS will ramp up our awareness. We can get the message out during the Legislative session which is coming soon.

The motion was duly moved, seconded and approved.

NEW BUSINESS

FY19 Audit Financials

Scott Nickerson from Crow LLP gave an overview of the FY19 Audit Financials.

- Mr. Nickerson stated that we managed \$1 million dollars last year and the common challenge was on funding. The financial statements prepared by management are correct and are also in good standards. Based on the audit, no adjustments need to be made. We are in a \$4.2 million dollar deficit. Cash flow is positive. We are building policies and procedures for capital reserves.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Risco presented the Executive Director's report.

- Mr. Risco announced that moving forward he would present a monthly snapshot of the agency.
 - Safety – Accidents are up by 4%. We continue to focus on our Ride Safe, Drive Safe and Be Safe Program.
 - On Time Performance – 78% is still an issue. Will have a strategic plan meeting in the next few weeks. We are rebuilding relationships with stakeholders in the city. We have the LINC project that we have been working on. We will have the first 60 days of what the system will look like for the future.
 - Ridership - We have expanded the MyTARC Card within the community. We have 1.7 million riders and we are down by 9%.
 - Marketing – We are focused on downloads of our app. Currently, our app has been downloaded 8,000 times which is a 22% increase from last month. Our social media followers who view the TARC website are up by 50%.
 - Customer Service – Our call volume is down for fixed route and paratransit. We have our consultant whom is helping us with policies and procedures. Our comments have increased. We have one complaint per 1,000 riders.
 - 45th Anniversary Celebration – Mayor Fischer joined us as we buried our time capsule.
 - Financial Review: Our revenue and expenses are up by 1%. We are driving our expenses down.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- Mr. Powell thanked the TARC family for the years he has served on the TARC Board of Directors. Mr. Powell wishes everyone the best of luck and he appreciates the opportunity.

Adjournment:

Adjournment at 2:53 P.M.

Cedric Merlin Powell
Chair

Date