

MINUTES
METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 16, 2006

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Metropolitan Transit Authority Board of Directors was called to order at 1:08 p.m. by Vice Chairman Gerald Smith. Board Secretary Jackie Freeman, and Board Members James W. E. Dixon, II, Carmen Orta, Rafael Ortega, Louise Richman and C. Jim Stewart, III were all present and constituted a quorum. Chairman David S. Wolff was absent. Board Member George DeMontrond, III arrived at 1:27 p.m.

As the first item for business, Vice Chairman Smith called for approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 26, 2006. Board Member C. Jim Stewart moved approval of the Minutes, as written. Board Member Stewart's Motion was seconded by Board Member Dixon. All Board Members present voted to approve the Minutes. (Board Member DeMontrond was not present for the vote on this matter.)

MOTION NO. 2006 – 52

Vice Chairman Smith next called upon those persons who had requested to speak before the Board. The persons who spoke and the substance of their comments were as follows:

1. James Olson – Executive Director of a local community organization serving the disabled, expressed his appreciation of METROLift services. Disabled persons have been able to use METROLift to travel to their jobs at Minute Maid Park and at the Toyota Center. Mr. Olson explained how METROLift has allowed disabled persons to join the workforce, and thereby improve the quality of their lives and their self esteem. He also thanked Art Jackson, METRO's Manager of METROLift Services, for the installation of bus shelters in the vicinity of the Toyota Center and Minute Maid Park.

2. Lloyd Jernigan – President & Chief Executive Officer of 20/20 Diversified Services, complained that data in the Small Business Program database contains incorrect contact information. He complained that prime contractors often fail to submit timely payments to their small business subcontractors. He stated that he has requested data from METRO regarding the Small Business Program which he believes will show program deficiencies.

Board Member Rafael Ortega requested a status report of Small Business Program activities for the next Human Resources/Diversity Committee meeting.

3. Marvin Holmes – thanked METRO staff members, Tangee Mobley and Transit Police Officer Bob Parker for responding to his complaints of rude bus operator behavior. He also asked that monthly bus passes be continued.

At the conclusion of the Public Comment portion of the Meeting, Vice Chairman Smith called for the President & Chief Executive Officer's Business Report.

President & Chief Executive Officer Frank Wilson gave a presentation on METRO's Small Business and Disadvantaged Business contracting efforts. Since 2004, the Small Business Program (now the Small Business Enterprise/Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program) has grown by over 100%. The volume of work has increased, and the rate of participation in the Program has increased. METRO's new Program, as approved by the Board in 2006, has an overall goal of 35% small business participation and includes a goal of 21% for disadvantaged businesses. Contracting opportunities for disadvantaged businesses have exceeded the goal during 2006. There have been important increases in Program participation for African American-owned and women-owned businesses. Mr. Wilson explained how the use of program advisers have enabled greater access to the market and has energized support for the Program. Mr. Wilson pledged to provide more information about Program activities during future meetings.

Vice Chairman Smith and Board Member Dixon thanked Mr. Wilson for his report and complimented staff for the Program's success. Board Member Dixon added that he looks forward to receiving backup data to better understand Program operations.

Vice Chairman Smith next called for approval of the Summary Agenda, containing Agenda Items 5, 6 and 10. Board Member Ortega moved approval of the Summary Agenda. Board Member Stewart seconded the Motion and all Board Members present voted in favor. (Board Member DeMontrond was not present for the vote on this matter.)

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By way of Summary Agenda, the Board of Directors approved the following:

1. Authorization for the President & Chief Executive Officer to execute and deliver a contract with JFT Construction, Inc. for construction of modifications to the Addicks Park & Ride lot, for an amount not to exceed \$2,579,131.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2006 – 77

2. Authorization for the President & Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and deliver an agreement with AMPCO System Parking for lease and operation of the Fannin South Park & Ride lot.

RESOLUTION NO. 2006 – 78

3. Authorization for the President & Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and deliver a modification to the contract with ACS Transport Solutions, Inc. to include the supply of disposable cards and add-value devices, and increase the maximum authorized expenditures under the contract by an amount not to exceed \$10,418,093.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2006 – 79

(Board Member DeMontrond arrived at 1:27 p.m. and participated in the vote of the remaining agenda items that came before the Board for consideration.)

Board Member Louise Richman moved that surplus funds from the 2006 operating budget be transferred to the Union and Non-Union Pension Plans, and also be used for fuel and fuel-related transactions. The Motion was seconded by Board Member Stewart and all Board Members present voted in favor.

MOTION NO. 2006 – 54

RESOLUTION NO. 2006 – 80

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Board Member Richman next moved that the Board, by resolution, declare its intentions to issue tax exempt obligations to purchase 65 transit buses. She further moved that the Board declare its intentions to use proceeds from the tax-exempt obligations to reimburse METRO for early payments made from the operating budget. Board Member Carmen Orta seconded the Motion. All Board Members present voted their approval.

MOTION NO. 2006 – 55
RESOLUTION NO. 2006 – 81

Board Member Dixon asked if a date and time have been scheduled for discussion of the facility provider selection process.

Mr. Wilson stated that December would provide the best opportunities for discussion without compromising the Project schedule. July, 2007, is the target date for the start of work. Mr. Wilson summarized plans to discuss the selection process and the potential facility providers with the Board. After a facility provider is identified to perform the work, staff will negotiate with the vendor for the most acceptable contract terms and conditions. The formal selection process contains at least two phases. Mr. Wilson stated that the selection process may provide for a third step in July, prior to construction. While the Project schedule is aggressive, it is important that METRO meet the schedule dates to solidify the receipt of federal funding in the FY'08 federal budget.

Vice Chairman Smith stated that staff will work with each Board Member to determine the best dates for discussion of the selection process.

There being no further matters to come before the Board for consideration, the meeting adjourned at 1:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula J. Alexander
Assistant Secretary