

MINUTES
METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY
OF HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 20, 2011

MOTIONS - 2011-79 to 2011-89
RESOLUTIONS - 2011- 114 to 2011-126

Presiding - Chairman of the Board, Gilbert A. Garcia, CFA

Board Members Present:

Allen D. Watson, Vice Chairman
(City of Houston)
Burt Ballanfant (Multi-Cities)
Carrin A. Patman (City of Houston)
Christof Spieler (City of Houston)
C. Jim Stewart, III (Multi-Cities)
Gary Stobb (Harris County)

Board Member Absent:

Lisa Castañeda (Harris County)
Honorable Dwight Jefferson
(City of Houston)

The Regular Board Meeting of the Metropolitan Transit Authority Board of Directors was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Gilbert A. Garcia.

Chairman Gilbert A. Garcia called for a motion for approval of the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of November 30, 2011. Board Member Stewart moved for the approval of the minutes. Board Member Ballanfant seconded the Motion. All Board Members present voted in favor.

MOTION NO. 2011 - 79

Chairman Garcia next called on the members of the public who had signed up in advance of the meeting to make their comments.

Public Speakers:

Mark Hogue - Mr. Hogue commented on METRO Bus Routes 32, 49 and 35 and gave his ideas for route changes.

Mark Smith - Mr. Smith commented that he is opposed to the proposed route adjustments.

Anne Culver - Ms. Culver, Executive Director of Scenic Houston, offered comments on METRO's vehicle wrap program.

Mr. AJ - Mr. AJ offered his comments on the proposed route adjustments to the 30 Clinton and 60 Hardy and bus fares.

Janis Scott - Ms. Scott commented on the recent public hearing on route adjustments.

Tina Araujo - who represents the East Downtown Management District, offered her congratulations to METRO with regard to the Full Funding Grant Agreement and appreciation for the selection of the names of the EaDo/Stadium and Leeland/Third Ward stations.

Fernando Cisneros - Mr. Cisneros offered his support for the name of the Fulton/North Central rail station.

Thomas Wolfe, Director of Texas Interfaith, commented that he is concerned that the adjustment of Bus Route 48 would affect the elderly in the Pleasantville Community.

Brad Wray, representing Houston City Councilman, James Rodriguez stated his support for the Second Ward/Coffee Plant Station name, and asked that the Third Ward stations reflect that the Third Ward boundaries cut off at Interstate 45.

Chairman Garcia then called on George Greanias, President & CEO, for his report.

Mr. Greanias reported on the following matters:

- Texas Comptroller Golden Level Award - METRO once again received the award from the Texas Comptroller's Office for providing financial information to the public.
- US 290 Diamond Lanes - In partnership with the Texas Department of Transportation, the US 290 Diamond Lanes have been completed and are now open in both directions.
- METRO Holiday Activities – Among the activities were METRO's partnership with M.D. Anderson Hospital to have the children design METRO's Christmas Card, a METRO employees holiday decorating contest, and METRO's police department participation in the Blue Santa Program to provide holiday toys to five hospitals.
- METRO Service Changes - METRO had approximately 200 people attend the public hearing, and continues to dialogue with the community to gather public input.
- METRO Ridership Increases - METRO has had an overall ridership increase of 5.7 percent which includes local service, Park & Ride and METRORail.

Chairman Garcia called on audience member Leo Vasquez to comment on the station naming process. Mr. Vasquez commended the Board on the community input process and is fully supportive of the station names as recommended by the committee.

Chairman Garcia called on the Chairs of the METRO Board Committees to give their reports.

Board Member Ballanfant, Chair of the Capital Programs Committee, stated that he had nothing to report out of his committee.

Board Member Stewart, Chair of the Customer Service Committee, reported that his committee had discussed METRO's proposed changes to bus service.

Board Member Patman, Chair of the Government/Public Affairs Committee reported that there was one item that the committee considered and recommended for approval on the board agenda.

David Couch METRO's Senior Vice President of Capital Programs then invited Doug Reehl, Vice President of Parsons, to brief the Board on the status of construction contracts on the light rail project. Mr. Reehl gave a briefing on project status, small and disadvantaged business utilization, and workforce training.

Chairman Garcia then called for consideration of the Consent Agenda Items Numbers 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. The Motion for approval of the Consent Agenda Items was made by Vice Chairman Watson and seconded by Board Member Stewart. All Board Members present voted in favor.

MOTION NO. 2011 - 80

By Motion, as reflected in these minutes, the Board approved the acceptance of the monthly committee reports including the investment and financial reports and passed the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 114: Authorization for the President & CEO to execute an interlocal agreement between METRO and Harris County to secure tolling interoperability with the Harris County Toll Road Authority System

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 115: Authorization for the President & CEO to extend the Chase Tower Antenna Lease through June 2013, in the amount of \$71,492 to accommodate communication during the transition from the current system to the Harris County Regional Radio System

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 116: Authorization for the President & CEO to execute a one (1) year contract with Verizon Wireless via a TXDIR Cooperative Contract in support of the SAFEBus Project, in an amount not-to-exceed \$185,000

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 117: Approval of METRO's revised Drug & Alcohol Policy for Safety Sensitive Employees

Chairman Garcia then asked for consideration of Item Number 12 on the agenda. The motion for passage of the item was made by Board Member Stobb and seconded by Board Member Stewart. All Board Members present voted in favor.

MOTION NO. 2011- 81

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 118: Authorization for the President & CEO to negotiate, execute and deliver a two year extension to the ACS contract at a cost not to exceed \$3.3 Million

Chairman Garcia then asked for consideration of Item Number 13 on the agenda. The motion for passage of the item was made by Board Member Stewart and seconded by Board Member Stobb. All Board Members present voted in favor.

MOTION NO. 2011- 82

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 119: Authorization for the President & CEO to execute a contract with Siemens Industry, Inc. for overhaul services for its light rail vehicle power units, in an amount not-to-exceed \$314,600

Chairman Garcia then asked for consideration of Item Number 14 on the agenda. The motion for passage of the item was made by Board Member Stewart and seconded by Board Member Patman. All Board Members present voted in favor.

MOTION NO. 2011- 83

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 120: Authorization for the President & CEO to execute a contract with Siemens Industry, Inc. to transport, inspect and repair Light Rail Vehicle (LRV) 116, in an amount not-to-exceed \$1,500,000

Chairman Garcia then asked for consideration of Item Number 15 on the agenda. The motion for passage of the item was made by Board Member Ballanfant and seconded by Board Member Stewart. All Board Members present voted in favor.

MOTION NO. 2011 - 84

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 121: Authorization for the President & CEO to execute and deliver three (3) on-call requirements contracts totaling \$3,000,000 for construction management services for transit construction projects for a period of two (2) years with a one (1) year option

Chairman Garcia then asked for consideration of Item Number 16 on the agenda. The motion for passage of the item was made by Board Member Ballanfant and seconded by Board Member Spieler. All Board Members present voted in favor.

MOTION NO. 2011 - 85

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 122: Authorization for the President & CEO to negotiate, execute and deliver three (3) on-call requirements contracts for a total amount of \$1.4 Million for land surveying services

Chairman Garcia then asked for consideration of Item Number 17 on the agenda. The motion for passage of the item was made by Board Member Ballanfant and seconded by Board Member Spieler. All Board Members present voted in favor.

MOTION NO. 2011- 86

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 123: Approval for the naming of the METRORail Stations on the North (Red), Southeast (Purple) and East End (Green) Lines

Chairman Garcia then asked for consideration of Item Number 18 on the agenda. The motion for passage of the item was made by Board Member Patman and seconded by Board Member Stewart. All Board Members present voted in favor.

MOTION NO. 2011- 87

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 124: Authorization for the President & CEO to negotiate, execute and deliver contracts for consulting services for State and Federal legislative and agency coordination with Robert W. Strauser Consulting and C2 Group in a combined amount not-to-exceed \$350,000.00

Chairman Garcia then asked for consideration of Item Number 19 on the agenda. The motion for passage of the item was made by Board Member Patman and seconded by Board Member Stewart. Vice Chairman Watson voted nay. All other Board Members present voted in favor and the motion passed.

MOTION NO. 2011- 88

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 125: Authorization for the President & CEO to implement an interim policy for sponsored bus and rail wraps promoting transit ridership

At 11:23 a.m., Chairman Garcia convened the meeting into EXECUTIVE SESSION, pursuant to the Texas Government Code §551.071, §551.072, §551.074, and §551.076 to consult with the Board's attorneys regarding pending or potential litigation, legal matters in which the attorneys' duties are governed by the State Bar of Texas Code of Conduct; deliberations pursuant to the Act, to deliberate the purchase, lease, exchange or value of real property; personnel matters, security matters and devices, and legal issues regarding contract negotiations that may result in potential litigation.

The regular Board meeting re-convened into public session at 11:34 a.m.

Chairman Garcia then asked for consideration of Item Number 20 on the agenda. The motion for passage of the item was made by Board Member Ballanfant and seconded by Board Member Patman. All Board Members present voted in favor.

MOTION NO. 2011- 89

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 - 126: Ratification of a settlement and compromise agreement with CR V Hardy Yards, L.P. for property acquired through eminent domain proceedings

There being no other matters to come before the Board, Board Member Stobb moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Board Member Stewart. All Board Members present voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

The date for the next Regular Board Meeting is Thursday, January 26, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Alva I. Treviño
General Counsel and Assistant Board Secretary