
Board of Directors Meeting Summary

Meeting Date/Time: September 19, 2019, 6:30-9:00pm

Location: Ann Arbor District Library, 343 South Fifth Avenue, 4th Floor, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Board Member Attendees: Mike Allemang, Raymond Hess, Eric Mahler (Chair), Jesse Miller, Kathleen Mozak-Betts, Kyra Sims, Sue Gott, Roger Hewitt, Ryan Hunter

AAATA Staff Attendees: Matt Carpenter (CEO), Bryan Smith, John Metzinger, Tim Sanderson

Chairman Eric Mahler called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

1. OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Approve Agenda

Mr. Roger Hewitt proposed to introduce the consideration of a resolution pertaining to, but not amending, the FY2020 Budget under agenda item 3.1.1. The amended agenda was approved unanimously.

1.2 Public Comment

Mr. Jim Mogensen discussed cost placed onto ridership, super stops, and inquired as to how the decision was made regarding AirRide in Ypsilanti.

Larry Krieg congratulated Mr. John Metzinger, CEO Matt Carpenter, and the AAATA staff for their GFOA award. He discussed policy 1.2 and 1.2.1 on environment, referencing CEO Carpenter's March 2019 interpretation of the policies and Greta Thunberg's activism.

Michelle Barney discussed A-Ride service needs and hopes that something can be done about longer than 30 minute waits for service.

1.3 General Announcements

Mr. John Metzinger introduced LaTasha Thompson (AAATA, new Manager of Finance) and Mike Blackston (AAATA, new Manager of IT).

He also announced that Michelle Whitlow was awarded the 2019 Manager of the Year by the Michigan Public Procurement Officers Association (MPPOA).

CEO Carpenter acknowledged Mr. Keith Book's efforts to reformat the AAATA Board Meeting packets and requested feedback on the formatting from the Board. Favorable comments ensued.

1.3.1 Farewell Bill DeGroot (Verbal)

CEO Carpenter thanked Mr. Bill DeGroot for his contributions to AAATA. Mr. DeGroot thanked the Board for all they have done and for their selection of CEO Carpenter. Ms. Sue Gott spoke of Mr. DeGroot's strengths and specific contributions to AAATA. Mr. Roger Hewitt expressed that it has been a pleasure working with Mr. DeGroot. Chairman Mahler added additional appreciation and acknowledgement of Mr. DeGroot's exemplary attributes.

1.3.2 GFOA Award (Verbal)

Ms. Catherine McClary of the GFOA presented the GFOA Award on Financial Reporting and Budgeting to AAATA and explained how the award is determined. Mr. Metzinger and Ms. Thompson accepted the award.

1.4 Board Officer Elections

Chairman Mahler explained the process of accepting Board Officer nominations from the floor.

Mr. Mike Allemang nominated Eric Mahler for Chairman of the Board. The nomination passed unanimously.

Chairman Mahler nominated Kyra Simms for Secretary. The nomination passed unanimously.

Chairman Mahler explained the functions of the Treasurer role as listed in the Articles of Incorporation and how other Boards in the industry have handled this position. There were no nominations from the Board for the Treasurer role. Chairman Mahler proposed that the position will be left open until actions can be taken by the Board to address the proper municipalities regarding a change in the Articles of Incorporation.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Ryan Hunter moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Kathleen Mozak-Bett's seconded the motion. Sue Gott abstained. The motion carried.

2.1 Minutes

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING DATES: 2019 – 2020

October 17, 2019

November 21, 2019

December 19, 2019

January 16, 2020

February 20, 2020

March 19, 2020

April 16, 2020

May 21, 2020

June 18, 2020

July 23, 2020

August 20, 2020

September 24, 2020

Note: Board meetings in July and September are later than normal to avoid conflicts between earlier committee meetings and long weekends.

3. 2020 BUDGET UPDATE

3.1 Monitoring Report: 2.4 Financial Planning & Budgeting (Approval)

Mr. Metzinger presented on the policy monitoring report.

Ms. Mozak-Betts moved to vote the policy in compliance, except for the reserve balance. Mr. Miller supported this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3.1.1 Resolution Concerning Capital Construction Executive Limitations 07/2019

Mr. Hewitt discussed Executive Limitations and having new ones in place by the end of the year. Mr. Hewitt moved to consider Resolution 07/2019. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gott.

Resolution 07/2019
RESOLUTION CONCERNING
CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

WHEREAS, the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority's proposed budget for the Fiscal Year 2019-20 includes initial funding for the replacement of the Ypsilanti Transit Center.

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors believes that additional Executive Limitations policies may be necessary to ensure that Board expectations are clear for the Ypsilanti Transit Center and future capital construction projects.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the CEO of the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority shall not execute any additional contracts concerning the replacement of the Ypsilanti Transit Center until the Board of Directors has had sufficient time to revise the Executive Limitations policies concerning capital construction, if such revisions are deemed necessary.

Mr. Miller expressed concern that the resolution not slow down the process on construction of the YTC. He asked for AAATA staff to discuss their reactions to the resolution.

CEO Carpenter expressed that it should not slow down the process considering that the earliest TheRide should hear about the award is after Thanksgiving. He expressed a positive view of the idea moving forward.

Ms. Sims sought confirmation that the CEO is not requesting any directional dollar amount. Mr. Hewitt confirmed that to be the case for any contracts concerning this particular construction project, not any other contracts. Ms. Sims requested Ms. Gott's opinion on the matter and how it came about.

Ms. Gott discussed the opportunity to provide clarity in policy favorably and provided further affirmation of Mr. Hewitt's resolution.

Mr. Hewitt suggested that the Service Committee can discuss drafting possible Executive Limitations at their meetings and bring those drafts and their discussions to the Board for the Board's approval.

Ms. Kathleen Mozak-Betts asked if there is a way to open the discussion to not just the Service Committee. Mr. Hewitt welcomed that. Chairman Mahler explained how that is possible as long as quorums are observed.

Mr. Raymond Hess and Mr. Hewitt discussed that the function of the resolution would just be for major construction capital expenses on this particular construction project and would no longer be valid as additional Executive Limitations are developed by the Board.

The motion passed unanimously.

3.2 FY 2020 Budget (Approval)

Mr. Metzinger presented on the highlights of the Recommended FY2020 Budget.

Ms. Mozak-Betts asked Mr. Smith about the purchase of the paratransit fleet and concern for the rehabilitation and replacement in the future. Mr. Smith expressed that it would provide a couple years of cushion to plan out the replacement.

Mr. Miller asked about the purchase of new buses, if it will allow for more modern amenities. CEO Carpenter described Nova's bus design and potential opportunities to make improvements within the budget. He described the most visible upgrade to be a 10 inch wider door. CEO Carpenter expressed his excitement to bring forward an improved customer experience.

Mr. Hewitt moved for the recommended budget to go into the record. This was seconded by Mr. Allemang. The FY 2020 Budget was adopted unanimously.

**Resolution 06/2019
ADOPTION OF FY 2020 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
ANN ARBOR AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

WHEREAS, the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority (AAATA) Board of Directors (Board) is required by the Michigan Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act of 1968 to adopt a balanced operating budget on or before September 30 for its next fiscal year, which begins on October 1, and

WHEREAS, AAATA staff have developed a 2020 Operating and Capital Budget that furthers Board Ends Policies within Executive Limitations and provides multi-year context;

WHEREAS, the AAATA is required to develop a fiscally-constrained four-year program of capital projects for inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to be submitted to the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study (WATS) in order to be eligible for federal funds, and

WHEREAS, the AAATA is required to submit the capital program for FY 2020 to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as part of the annual application for FY 2020 federal funding, and

WHEREAS, the AAATA is required to submit the capital program for FY 2020 – FY 2023 to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) as part of the annual application for FY 2020 state funding.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby approves the AAATA FY2020 Operating and Capital Budget as its general appropriations act with total expenditures as follows:

- **\$47,389,476 for operations.**
- **\$17,987,928 for capital investment (contingent upon grant awards).**

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority Board of Directors hereby adopts the FY 2020-2023 Capital Program, of which FY 2020 and beyond is subject to amendment in future years.

4. POLICY MONITORING & DEVELOPMENT

4.1 Committee Reports

4.1.1 Governance Committee

Chairman Mahler described fewer verbal reports to allow focus elsewhere, the experiment of utilizing the Committees rather than task forces, and highlighted Board educating topics.

Ms. Gott discussed using speakers that are not local and exploring the use of videoconferencing to include outside speakers.

4.1.2 Finance Committee

Ms. Sims pointed out that the Monitoring Report 2.4 was the main topic and reported that the Audit Task Force was completed with the award to UHY.

4.1.3 Service Committee

Mr. Hewitt described a lively discussion of the capital construction which he feels was captured well in the meeting minutes.

4.2 Monitoring Report: 3.0 Global Governance Process & 4.0 Global Board-Management Delegation

Chairman Mahler expressed the consensus that the Board is in compliance and will make adjustments as appropriate. There were no questions on the responses.

4.3 LAC Report

Ms. Cheryl Weber described the LAC members' receptiveness to the direction of the LAC. Chairman Mahler thanked CEO Carpenter and Ms. Mozak-Betts for their contributions to the direction.

5. STRATEGY & OPERATIONAL UPDATES: CEO

5.1 Fall Service Update (Verbal)

Mr. Smith described the Fall service process as a successful challenge.

5.2 CEO Report

CEO Carpenter gave a State Budget process update. He expressed hope that the budget will be a bigger continuation budget with state and local representatives remaining in support of transit.

Mr. Allemang asked if there was anything new on the RTA. CEO Carpenter explained changeover with the passing of Mr. L. Brooks Patterson and TheRide's contribution to the regional effort with D2A2.

Mr. Miller asked about the traffic light priority award. Mr. Sanderson will put together an update for the Service Committee.

6. EMERGENT BUSINESS

No emergent business.

7. CLOSING ITEMS

7.1 Topics for Next Meeting

- Ends
- Chairman Mahler proposed the Annual Plan of Work be added.

7.2 Public Comment

Larry Keeler discussed overhearing some confusion on the fares for NightRide and HolidayRide.

CEO Carpenter expressed that there have not been any fare changes to NightRide or Holiday Ride and an effort to make that clear to all customers.

Jim Mogensen discussed walkers on the fixed route buses. He suggested attachments for the walkers on the fixed route. He also suggested an official sign be placed at the Packard bus stop that the receptacle there is not to be used for pet excrement.

7.3 Board Assessment of Meeting

7.4 Adjournment

Ms. Gott moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hewitt seconded the motion. Chairman Mahler adjourned the meeting at 8:06pm.

Respectfully Submitted by: Keith Everett Book

Approved October 17th, 2019