

SUBURBAN MOBILITY AUTHORITY FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

APPROVED MINUTES – February 25, 2021

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) was held on Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 2:04 PM. The meeting was held via a digital public video conference.

ATTENDANCE

SMART Board of Directors:	Vice-Chairperson	Ms. Vicki Wolber Ms. Hilarie Chambers Mr. Abdul Haidous Mr. Royce Maniko Mr. Bret Rasegan
Absent:	Chairperson	Mr. Khalil Rahal Mr. John Paul Rea
SMART Board Secretary:		Ms. Tiffany Martin-Patterson
SMART General Manager:		None
SMART Staff Present:		Ms. Beverly Anderson Mr. Fred Barbret Ms. Haley Barrett Mr. Darren Beach Mr. Ronald Beier Ms. De'Shalon Brownlee Mr. L. Burt Mr. Ryan Byrne Ms. Sabrina Clay Mr. Robert Cramer Mr. Dennis Ellis Mr. Melvin Evans Ms. Beth Gibbons Mr. Avery Gordon Mr. Dustin Hagfors Ms. Melissa Hightower Mr. Ian Holme Mr. Joe Kim Mr. Konner Petz

Ms. Lacey Shepard
Ms. Kirsten Silwanowicz
Ms. Leeya Sutter
Mr. Darrell Taylor
Mr. Andy Thorner
Ms. Madonna Van Fossen
Mr. Tony Vinson
Ms. Patricia Waling
Mr. Mike Walter
Mr. Mark Watson
Ms. Brenda Ynclan

Public Registered:

HRC
Passenger

Mr. Eric Gloudemans
Mr. Patrick Haire
Mr. Robert Pawlowski
Mr. Corey Rowe
Mr. Thomas Yazbeck

1. Call to Order

A) Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

Present: Vice-Chairperson Ms. Vicki Wolber, Ms. Hilarie Chambers, Mr. Abdul Haidous, Mr. Royce Maniko, and Mr. Bret Rasegan

Absent: Chairperson Mr. Khalil Rahaland Mr. John Paul Rea

A quorum was present.

3. Public Notice and Rules of Order

The Secretary read the Public Notice and Rules of Order into the record.

4. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Royce Maniko, seconded by Ms. Hilarie Chambers, to approve the amended Agenda by adding Board Member Business to the February 25, 2021 Board meeting.

DISCUSSION

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

5. Minutes

A. Regular Board Meeting Minutes for January 28, 2021

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Royce Maniko, seconded by Mr. Abdul Haidous, to approve the Board meeting minutes for January 28, 2021.

DISCUSSION:

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

B. Executive Session Meeting Minutes for January 28, 2021

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Bret Rasegan, seconded by Mr. Abdul Haidous, to approve the Executive Session meeting minutes for January 28, 2021.

DISCUSSION:

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

6. Public Participation

Vice-Chairperson Ms. Vicki Wolber declared the meeting open for Public Participation.

DISCUSSION:

➤ Mr. Robert Pawlowski - Passenger

Mr. Pawlowski voiced his concerns about SMART's drivers passing passengers and bus stops and routes 560/Schoenherr and 530/Garfield. He requested SMART Board meetings be posted on SMART's website and YouTube.

7. Chairperson's Report

DISCUSSION:

Vice-Chairperson Ms. Vicki Wolber thanked SMART's staff for supporting the vaccine rollout in Macomb County.

8. Deputy General Manager's Report

Mr. Robert Cramer, Deputy General Manager, reported on the following:

Fares & Safety

- Passes on sale today
 - DART App
 - Transit Centers
 - Online Sales
- March 15 Changes:
 - Regular fares required to ride
 - Mid-bus chain removed
 - Front-door boarding required
 - Bus maximums implemented
- Every bus has permanent or temporary shield and two hand sanitizer stations

SMART/Vax Program

Working on more official materials to describe and market the effort.

Basic premise: we will do anything we can to help remove transportation as a barrier to getting vaccinated.

- Will materialize in all sorts of ways:
 - Fixed Route transport
 - Mobile vaccination stations
 - Connector transport
 - Community partners
 - Microtransit focus zones
 - Drive up and/or drive through

Macomb Partnership

- **Initial:** Supply Macomb with pre-screened list of seniors ready for new vaccine site
 - SMART called 1,500 seniors in our database
 - Provide rides to anyone in the county who needs one to get vaccinated
- **Phase Two:** SMART serves as hotline to get on senior wait list for the county
 - Over 2,000 seniors registered as of Tuesday – another 2,000+ yesterday
 - Working to get a web portal to help automate the process

Staff Vaccinations

- Working with Macomb to get drivers vaccinated
- 105 staff signed up so far
- Educate2Vaccinate –
 - New partnership to educate SMART staff, spread the word on buses
 - Staff webinars week of March 8
- Possibly get access to essential worker vaccination slots for all SMART essential staff

SMART Training Center Project

- SMART's driver and mechanic staffing challenge has grown during COVID
- Current training spaces are undersized and disconnected
- No dedicated maintenance training area
- Working with HRC and entire team at SMART to renovate the Hein Building to create the SMART Training and Education Center
- High priority project will likely take ~2 years

Microtransit is Launching!

- The time is finally here!
- On-Demand service to connect riders to fixed routes and other local destinations
- Adds more, supplemental service to build on our existing services
- Vaccine Focus Areas – Mid-March
- Microtransit Pilot Zones – Mid- to Late March

9. New Business

A. Resolution: Authorization for Purchase Order Change Action (POCA) #2 Purchase Additional Adobe Acrobat Pro DC Enterprise License

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Abdul Haidous, seconded by Mr. Royce Maniko, that the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to approve POCA #2 in the amount of \$4,456.40 to be added to Dell Inc.'s contract.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Maniko asked if there would be any issues with the vendor being located in Texas due to the ice storm. Mr. Robert Cramer said no due to this being a license.

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

B. Resolution: Authorization to Ratify an 8-Month Contract for Vaccination Transportation via Microtransit Service

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Abdul Haidous, seconded by Mr. Bret Rasegan, that the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to ratify a contract for vaccination transportation via microtransit service for an amount not to exceed \$1,709,716.00 to River North Transit (Via).

DISCUSSION:

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

C. Resolution: Authorization to Award a Contract for Three(3) Ford 350 Transit Vans

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Bret Rasegan, seconded by Mr. Abdul Haidous, that the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to award a contract to Hoekstra Transportation Inc. for the purchase of three (3) Ford 350 Transit Vans. The vehicles will be purchased under a cooperative purchasing agreement through The State of Michigan. The total cost for three vehicles is \$170,433.00.

DISCUSSION:

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

D. Resolution: Authorization to Award a Contract for Microsoft Consultant Services

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Royce Maniko, seconded by Mr. Abdul Haidous, that the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to approve a contract in the amount on \$85,025.00 to Speridian for Microsoft Consulting Services.

DISCUSSION:

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

E. Resolution: Authorization to Award a Contract for Bus Stop Digital Signs

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Abdul Haidous, seconded by Ms. Hilarie Chambers, that the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to approve a contract to Connectpoint for bus stop digital signs, solar kits, and batteries to include installation, training, software subscriptions, support, and sim cards with AT&T plans for 3 years in the amount not to \$1,786,500.00 with 2, 1 year renewal options in the amount of \$198,000.00 per year. The total cost for 5 years is \$2,182,500.00.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Royce Maniko asked how many digital signs SMART will receive and if they will have GPS capability for on-time arrival information. The Board was informed that the first order will consist of 100 but SMART can purchase up to 300 and they will have GPS.

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

F. Resolution: Authorization for Purchase Order Change Action (POCA) #10 – Additional Fueling System

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Bret Rasegan, seconded by Mr. Abdul Haidous, that the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to approve a POCA #10 in the amount of \$776,904.28 to R.W. Mercer Co.

DISCUSSION:

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

10. Board Member Business

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Abdul Haidous thanked SMART's staff for all of their hard work.

The Board inquired if Lake Erie Transit was part of MERS with SMART. Ms. Leeya Sutter, Director of Human Resources, confirmed that Lake Erie Transit is part of MERS.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon motion made by Mr. Abdul Haidous, seconded by Mr. Bret Rasegan, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 3:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany C. Martin-Patterson
Secretary to the Board of Directors