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. Lacee 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  
Mr. Eric Gloudemans  
Mr. Patrick Haire  
Passenger  
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 with 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