

SUBURBAN MOBILITY AUTHORITY FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

APPROVED MINUTES – JULY 22, 2021

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) was held on Thursday, July 22, 2021 at 2:01 PM. The meeting was held via a digital public video conference.

ATTENDANCE

SMART Board of Directors:	Chairperson	Mr. Khalil Rahal
	Vice-Chairperson	Ms. Vicki Wolber
		Ms. Hilarie Chambers
		Mr. Abdul Haidous
		Mr. Royce Maniko
		Mr. Bret Rasegan
		Mr. John Paul Rea
SMART Board Secretary:		Ms. Tiffany Martin-Patterson
SMART General Manager:		None
SMART Staff Present:		Ms. Truvae Adams
		Ms. Veronica Adams
		Mr. Brandon Adolph
		Ms. Melinda Arndt
		Ms. Beverly Anderson
		Mr. Fred Barbret
		Mr. Darren Beach
		Mr. Ronald Beier
		Ms. DeShalon Brownlee
		Mr. Ryan Byrne
		Ms. Sabrina Clay
		Mr. Robert Cramer
		Mr. Melvin Evans
		Ms. Beth Gibbons
		Mr. Avery Gordon
		Ms. Sarah Gryniewicz
		Mr. Dustin Hagfors
		Ms. Melissa Hightower
		Ms. Lynette Hurt
		Mr. Joe Kim

Ms. Amy May
Mr. Michael Patten
Ms. Nichole Peters
Mr. Konner Petz
Ms. Lacey Shepard
Ms. Leeya Sutter
Mr. Darrell Taylor
Mr. Andy Thorner
Ms. Madonna Van Fossen
Mr. Tony Vinson
Mr. Mark Watson
Ms. Brenda Ynclan

Public Registered:

Passenger
Passenger
Passenger
Passenger

Mr. Cunningham
Ms. Marie Donigan
Mr. Robert Pawlowski
Ms. Renee Valenti

1. Call to Order

A) Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

Present: Chairperson Mr. Khalil Rahal, Vice-Chairperson Ms. Vicki Wolber, Ms. Hilarie Chambers, Mr. Abdul Haidous, Mr. Royce Maniko, Mr. Bret Rasegan, and 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. John Paul Rea, seconded by Mr. Royce Maniko, to approve the amended Agenda for the July 22, 2021 Board meeting which includes removing Item F, adding a General Manager Selection Committee report, and adding the option of proceeding into Executive Session to discuss the selection process for a General Manager.

DISCUSSION

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

5. Minutes

A. Regular Board Meeting Minutes for June 24, 2021

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea, seconded by Mr. Royce Maniko, to approve the Board meeting minutes for June 24, 2021.

DISCUSSION:

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

6. Public Participation

Chairperson Mr. Khalil Rahal declared the meeting open for Public Participation.

- **Mr. Cunningham** - Advocate

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Cunningham thanked SMART for the FAST Service and positive customer service. He requested Wi-Fi be added to all SMART's buses. He also voiced other comments. Chairperson Mr. Khalil Rahal requested a SMART Ombudsperson call Mr. Cunningham to address his other concerns.

- **Mr. Robert Pawlowski** - Passenger

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Pawlowski requested bus signs be added to the Oakwood and Michigan stops, the addition of a bus shelter in Dearborn, updating of Google Maps bus stops, and for SMART and DDOT passes to be sold at the Dearborn Transit Center.

- **Ms. Renee Valenti** – Passenger

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Valenti requested Wi-Fi be added to SMART's buses. She also voiced her concerns about SMART's drivers passing her at the bus stops as well as buses running late and/or not showing up.

7. Chairperson's Report

DISCUSSION:

None

8. Deputy General Manager's Report

Ms. Leeya Sutter, Director of Human Resources, reported that SMART's Legal Department has experienced a considerable amount of recent departures due to resignations and retirements. Chairperson Mr. Khalil Rahal has requested SMART staff conduct an analysis of the incidents leading up to the recent departures.

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

- General Updates
 - SMART Submitted Application to Join APTA
 - Staff Vaccination Rate: 44% confirmed
- Up Next:
 - Macomb pavement/SMART fuel systems completion
 - Macomb DR CV project
 - CRRSAA funding discussion
 - Park & Ride progress
 - Small bus scheduling/dispatch

DART Partnership with Wayne State

- After a few pilots, Wayne State will launch a program to pay fares of students, faculty, and staff this fall
- DART partners working with WSU to launch and promote
- Will use DART mobile pass platform to track

COVID Funding Considerations:

1. Increase Operational Abilities (Capital → Operating)
2. Competitive workforce/wages
3. Sustainable facility improvements
4. Vehicles and equipment
5. Innovate service/adapt and evolve
 - CRRSAA and ARPA Funding Status

Situational Training

- SMART Training Department partnering with AAATA and vendor to develop transit Video Response Training
- Creates a safe environment for drivers to practice deescalating situations and will be highlighted at APTA Technology Conference

Dream Cruise: August 21

- SMART Dream Cruise Shuttle Service returns
- Electric Bus from Proterra will be on display at Westborn Market in Berkley

Mr. Royce Maniko informed the Board that the APTA Membership is valuable to SMART. He asked if Proterra could provide a model bus for the Board members to see at a future Board meeting.

Mr. Bret Rasegan asked if SMART's staff is participating in RTA meetings. Mr. Cramer confirmed they are.

9. New Business

A. Resolution: Authorization to Award a Contract for Computer Network Hardware and Software

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 three-year contract for Computer Network Hardware and Software upgrade project in amount of \$1,159,504.00 with Amerinet of Michigan.

DISCUSSION:

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

B. Resolution: Authorization to Award a Contract for Information Post Box Sign Holders

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea, seconded by Ms. Hilarie Chambers, that the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to award a contract for a total amount of \$138,000.00 to Brasco International for Information Post Box Sign Holders.

DISCUSSION:

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

C. Resolution: Authorization to Award a Contract for Sign Poles and Anchor Sleeves

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea, seconded by Mr. Royce Maniko, that the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation Board of Directors hereby authorized to approve a one-year contract in the amount of \$76,300.00 with a one-

year renewal option in the amount of \$83,300.00 for a total of \$159, 600.00 to AVE Solutions for Sign Poles and Anchor Sleeves.

DISCUSSION:

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

D. Resolution: Authorization for Purchase Order Change Action (POCA #1) for Additional Microtransit Pilot Service

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea, seconded by Mr. Bret Rasegan, that the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to approve a POCA #1 in the amount of \$1,104,807.00 for additional Microtransit Pilot Service to Via Transportation (North River Transportation LLC).

DISCUSSION:

Chairperson Mr. Khalil Rahal asked if SMART had ridership numbers across the zones. Mr. Robert Cramer informed the Board that he does not have the information per zone, but SMART has over 200 rides per day across all of the zones. Chairperson Rahal requested the current and future ridership numbers be sent to the Board over the next three to six months.

All Board members voted in the affirmative with the exception of Mr. John Paul Rea, who abstained from his vote due to his position on the Board with the Huron-Clinton Metroparks Authority.

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

E. Resolution: Approval of FY 2022 Unified Work Program

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Abdul Haidous, seconded by Mr. Bret Rasegan, that the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation FY 2022 Unified Work Program referred to herein is approved and the Deputy General Manager is authorized to execute a negotiated project agreement with SEMCOG for \$381,806.00 of FTA Section 8 technical studies funds, represent that \$70,694.00 is available for the local match of these funds, and to negotiate, a may be required, the scope, cost, emphasis, etc. of the content of this program.

DISCUSSION:

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

10. Executive Session

Review the Evaluation of the General Manager's Applications

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea, seconded by Mr. Abdul Haidous, to move into Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations and the General Manager's search evaluation.

DISCUSSION:

Confidential

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea, seconded by Mr. Royce Maniko, to move out of Executive Session.

DISCUSSION:

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

11. GM Search Committee Report

DISCUSSION:

Chairperson Mr. Khalil Rahal stated the General Manager's Search Committee has met to discuss candidates and negotiations. The Board will have a decision real soon.

12. Board Member Business

DISCUSSION:

None

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon motion made by Mr. John Paul Rea, seconded by Mr. Royce Maniko, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

