

**SUBURBAN MOBILITY AUTHORITY FOR REGIONAL  
TRANSPORTATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**APPROVED MINUTES – March 22, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) was held on Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 2:00 PM. The meeting was held at the Buhl Building, 535 Griswold, Suite 600, Detroit, MI 48226.

**ATTENDANCE**

<b>SMART Board of Directors:</b>	Chairman	Mr. Abdul Haidous
	Vice-Chairman	Mr. John Paul Rea
		Mr. Robert Daddow
		Mr. Royce Maniko (VIA Conference Call)
		Mr. Gerald Poisson
		Ms. Melissa Roy
<b>Excused Absence:</b>		Mr. Khalil Rahal
<b>SMART Board Secretary:</b>		Ms. Tiffany Martin-Patterson
<b>SMART General Manager:</b>		Mr. John Hertel
<b>SMART Staff Present:</b>		Ms. Colleen Astalos
		Mr. Fred Barbret
		Mr. Ron Beier
		Mr. Robert Cramer
		Ms. Beverly Crockett
		Mr. Stephen Dobbins
		Mr. Melvin Evans
		Ms. Beth Gibbons
		Mr. Avery Gordon
		Mr. Dustin Hagfors
		Ms. Melissa Hightower
		Mr. Ian Holme
		Ms. Lynette Hurt
		Mr. Joe Kim
		Mr. Mike Patten
		Mr. David Sabuda

Ms. Kirsten Silwanowicz  
Ms. Leeya Sutter  
Mr. Darrell Taylor  
Mr. Keith Taylor  
Ms. Madonna Van Fossen  
Ms. Vita Venditti  
Mr. Tony Vinson  
Ms. Patty Waling

<b>Public Registered:</b>	Passenger Attorney ATU	Mr. Eugene Conway Mr. Nicholas Bachand Mr. Kevin Colon
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### 1. Call to Order

Chairman Abdul Haidous called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM.

A) Pledge of Allegiance

### 2. Roll Call

Present: Chairman Abdul Haidous, Vice-Chairman John Paul Rea, Mr. Robert Daddow, Mr. Gerald Poisson, Ms. Melissa Roy and Mr. Royce Maniko (VIA Conference Call).

Excused Absence: Mr. Khalil Rahal

**A quorum was present.**

### 3. Adoption of Agenda

**MOTION:** Moved by Mr. Gerald Poisson, seconded by Mr. John Paul Rea, to approve the Agenda for March 22, 2018.

#### **DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE:** All in attendance voted in the affirmative. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

### 4. Certification of Public Notice

The Secretary read the Public Notice into the record.

## 5. Minutes

### A. Board Meeting Minutes for February 22, 2018

**MOTION:** Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea, seconded by Ms. Melissa Roy, to approve the meeting minutes for February 22, 2018.

**DISCUSSION:**

None

**VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.**

### B. Executive Session Meeting Minutes February 22, 2018

**MOTION:** Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea, seconded by Mr. Gerald Poisson, to approve the Executive Session meeting minutes for February 22, 2018.

**DISCUSSION:**

None

**VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.**

## 6. Public Participation

Chairman Abdul Haidous declared the meeting open for Public Participation.

**DISCUSSION:**

- **Ms. Shona McDaniel** – Ms. McDaniel, a former SMART employee, voiced her concerns about the suspension of her financial pension benefits by MERS.
- **Mr. Nick Bachand** – Mr. Bachand, Attorney for Boulevard and Trubull (B&T) advised that B&T has been towing for SMART for a number of years and would like to continue working for SMART in the future.

## 7. Chairman's Report

**DISCUSSION:**

None

## 8. General Manager's Report

## **DISCUSSION:**

Mr. Hertel informed the Board that he has met with the County Executives for Macomb and Wayne County regarding placing SMART's millage on the ballot and showed everyone SMART's three commercial videos. He then reported on the following:

- Continued work on implementation of FAST service including April service changes, adjustments to the routing for Woodward and Michigan in the Downtown Detroit area (and added an LCA stop on Woodward).
- Continued work with the City of Royal Oak on potential additional local-funded city transit, which would likely be some sort of partnership with SMART.
- Completed the initial stage of FY 2019 Budget development draft.
- Exploring additional investment instruments including Flagstar Bank to increase SMART's investment income.

Mr. Hertel presented Certificates of Achievement to the following employees:

### **25 Years**

- Avery Gordon, General Counsel
- Kathy Hayes, A.M. Dispatcher
- Parris Guinn-King, Fixed Route Driver
- Reginald Vaughn, Fixed Route Driver
- Barry Ray, Fixed Route Driver
- David King, Mechanic

### **40 Years**

- David Wilson, Material Control Administrator
- Ronald Thacker, Mechanic

Positions filled:

- Maintenance Supervisor
- Senior Financial Analyst
- Support Coordinator
- Schedule Writer
- 3 Coach Service & Shelter Attendants
- 2 Customer Service Operators

Retirements in February, 2018:

- No retirements in February, 2018

Mr. Hertel gave recognition to Mr. Brooks Patterson, Oakland County Executive and Mr. Mark Hackel, Macomb County Executive for the continuous support of SMART and also stated that Mr. Warren Evans, Wayne County Executive has also supported transit during his term. Chairman Haidous stated that all three County Executives have been supportive of SMART and that the discussions relating to transit being held by the County Executives regarding the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) are healthy for the region.

9. New Business

**A. Resolution: Appointments to the Budget Committee**

**MOTION:** Moved by Mr. Gerald Poisson, seconded by Mr. Royce Maniko, that the Board of Directors of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation, hereby approves the appointment of Mr. John Paul Rea, Macomb County, Mr. Khalil Rahal, Wayne County and Mr. Robert Daddow, Oakland County for its Budget Committee.

**DISCUSSION:**

None

**VOTE:** Board members in attendance voted in the affirmative. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**B. Resolution: Amendments to the FY2017/18 General Operation Budget – Operational Grants**

**MOTION:** Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea, seconded by Ms. Melissa Roy, that the Board of Directors of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation hereby approves the Budget Amendments outlined in the Director of Finance’s communication to the Board dated 3/22/2018 and hereby increases the line items as follows:

Revenues – Various	\$908,000.00
Expenses – Various	\$1,478,300.00

and authorizes the use of contingency line-item appropriation in the amount of \$570,300 to fund the balance of expense over revenues that are presented.

**DISCUSSION:**

None

**VOTE:** Board members in attendance voted in the affirmative. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**C. Resolution: Protecting Local Government Retirement and Benefit Act (PA 202 of 2017) – Application for Waiver and Plan – Retirement Other Post Employment and Health Benefit System - SMART**

**MOTION:** Moved by Mr. Robert Daddow, seconded by Ms. Melissa Roy, that the Board of Directors of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation, hereby approve the submittal of a Waiver and Plan application to the State of Michigan, State Treasurer which includes:

1. Historical funding and labor negotiation information that specifically highlights how SMART has funded the Authority's retiree Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) and retiree health system over the past three fiscal years; and
2. A retiree (OPEB) Health System financial commitment of minimum \$4.1 million dollars annually over and above the Authority's pay-as-you go (OPEB) costs starting in fiscal year 2018/2019 through fiscal year 2027/28.
3. The minimum financial commitment will be reviewed annually by the Authority's Budget Committee and the Authority's actuary bi-annually, to determine if a larger financial commitment is required or to be made, or if affordability of the financial commitment becomes an issue for the Authority's annual operation budget.

**DISCUSSION:**

Mr. Daddow stated SMART is currently making advanced payments and inquired if SMART is considering reducing the funding. SMART will have to answer to the State of Michigan's Treasurer. He recommended that SMART continue to fund this account in advance.

**VOTE:** Board members in attendance voted in the affirmative. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**D. Resolution: Authorization to Award a Contract to Purchase (26) Propane Powered Connector Buses**

**MOTION:** Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea, seconded by Ms. Melissa Roy, that the General Manager of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to purchase twenty-six (26) propane powered buses. The vehicles will be purchased under a cooperative purchasing agreement through the State of Michigan. The total cost for these vehicles is \$2,126,306.00.

**DISCUSSION:**

Chairman Haidous asked what the cost savings are. Mr. Cramer informed the Board that the maintenance cost is lower and the cost of propane is less than half the cost of diesel.

**VOTE:** Board members in attendance voted in the affirmative. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**E. Resolution: Authorization to Award a Contract for Comprehensive Operational Analysis**

**MOTION:** Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea, seconded by Ms. Melissa Roy, that the General Manager of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to award a contract for the purchase of a comprehensive operational analysis. The amount of the contract is not to exceed \$572,372.27.

**DISCUSSION:**

None

**VOTE:** Board members in attendance voted in the affirmative. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**F. Resolution: Authorization to Award an Interim Contract for Towing Services**

**MOTION:** Moved by Ms. Melissa Roy, seconded by Mr. Gerald Poisson, that the Board adopt the resolution authorizing the General Manager to award interim contracts with Boulevard & Trumbull Towing and Joey's Towing and Recovery for two months. The contracts will provide service through May 31, 2018 with a cost for all contracts not to exceed \$35,333.00.

**DISCUSSION:**

None

**VOTE:** Board members in attendance voted in the affirmative. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

## **G. Resolution: Authorization to Approve a Purchase Order Change Action (POCA) for General Advertising Services**

**MOTION:** Moved by Mr. Gerald Poisson, seconded by Mr. John Paul Rea, that the General Manager of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to issue a Purchase Order Change Action of \$77,000 for advertising services to The Berline Group. The three-year contract ending April 30, 2019 will not exceed \$1,645,000.00.

**DISCUSSION:**

None

**VOTE:** Board members in attendance voted in the affirmative. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

## **H. Resolution: Authorization to Award a Contract to Purchase 47 Gasoline Busses**

**MOTION:** Moved by Mr. Gerald Poisson, seconded by Mr. John Paul Rea, that the General Manager of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to purchase forty-seven (47) gas powered busses. The vehicles will be purchased under a cooperative purchasing agreement through the State of Michigan. The total cost for these vehicles is \$2,949,720.00.

**DISCUSSION:**

Chairman Haidous asked why not use 100% propane. Mr. Cramer stated that as the busses are replaced they will be utilizing propane.

**VOTE:** Board members in attendance voted in the affirmative. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

## **10. Board Member Business**

**DISCUSSION:**

Mr. Maniko requested a correction to the Executive Session meeting minutes. The Board Secretary agreed to make the correction and give Mr. Maniko a call after the meeting.

Ms. Roy mentioned the RTA Service Map looks very similar to SMART's Service Maps. She also voiced her concerns with two transportation millage ballots being on the ballot.



Mr. Daddow stated that there has been much discussion concerning the RTA and the Millage.

Mr. Hertel stated that SMART and DDOT's coordination has been exceptional over the last couple of years. SMART continues to help transport Detroit residents into the Suburbs to work.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon motion duly made by Board member Mr. John Paul Rea, seconded by Ms. Melissa Roy, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 2:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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