

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

APPROVED MINUTES – February 28, 2019

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) was held on Thursday, February 28, 2019 at 2:00 PM. The meeting was held at the Buhl Building, 535 Griswold, Suite 600, Detroit, MI 48226.

ATTENDANCE

SMART Board of Directors:	Chairman	Mr. John Paul Rea
	Vice-Chairman	Mr. Robert Daddow
		Mr. Abdul Haidous
		Mr. Gerald Poisson
		Mr. Khalil Rahal
Absent Board Members:		Mr. Royce Maniko
		Ms. Melissa Roy
SMART Board Secretary:		Ms. Tiffany Martin-Patterson
SMART General Manager:		Mr. John Hertel
SMART Staff Present:		Ms. Haley Barrett
		Mr. Ronald Beier
		Mr. Robert Cramer
		Mr. Steve Dobbins
		Mr. Melvin Evans
		Mr. Dustin Hagfors
		Ms. Lynn Hurt
		Ms. Karyn McKenzie
		Mr. Michael Patten
		Mr. Ralph Rayner
		Mr. David Sabuda
		Ms. Kirsten Silwanowicz
		Ms. Leeya Sutter
		Mr. Darrell Taylor
		Mr. Keith Taylor
		Mr. Andrew Thorner
		Mr. Tony Vinson

Public Registered:

ATU/SMART
Passenger
Passenger
Transit Riders United

Mr. Kevin Colon
Mr. George Hardnett
Mr. Derek Holloway
Ms. Megan Owens

1. Call to Order

Chairman Mr. John Paul Rea called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

A) Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

Present: Chairman Mr. John Paul Rea, Vice-Chairman Mr. Robert Daddow, Mr. Abdul Haidous, Mr. Gerald Poisson and Mr. Khalil Rahal

Absent: Mr. Royce Maniko and Ms. Melissa Roy

A quorum was present.

3. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Abdul Haidous, seconded by Mr. Gerald Poisson, to approve the Agenda for February 28, 2019 meeting.

DISCUSSION

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

4. Certification of Public Notice

The Secretary read the Public Notice into the record.

5. Minutes

A. Board Meeting Minutes for January 24, 2019

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Gerald Poisson, seconded by Mr. Abdul Haidous, to approve the meeting minutes for January 24, 2019

DISCUSSION:

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

B. Executive Session Meeting Minutes for January 24, 2019

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Abdul Haidous, seconded by Mr. Robert Daddow, to approve the meeting minutes for January 24, 2019.

DISCUSSION:

None

VOTE: THE MOTION CARRIED.

6. Public Participation

Chairman Mr. John Paul Rea declared the meeting open for Public Participation.

DISCUSSION:

- Mr. George Hardnett, Passenger
Mr. Hardnett was upset about paying \$6.00 extra per year per the proposed fare changes and stated SMART should have the same age threshold for senior fare of 62 years old as the Social Security office.
- Ms. Megan Owens, Transit Riders United
Ms. Owens thanked SMART for the fare alignment with DDOT and removing the transfer fee. She also voiced her concerns about SMART's FAST service not being timely and rude customer service.
- Mr. Derek Holloway, Passenger
Mr. Holloway supported SMART with regards to approving the new fare changes. He was convinced the combined SMART and DDOT pass would help improve transportation in the region.

7. Chairman's Report

DISCUSSION:

Chairman Mr. John Paul Rea thanked SMART's staff for all of their work on the proposed fare changes.

8. General Manager's Report

DISCUSSION:

Mr. John Hertel reported on the following:

- FAST continues to grow! January was the first time SMART was able to compare FAST to FAST and the results are encouraging for continuing the rapid pace of growth in the second year of the new service.
- SMART had a busy month of public involvement.
- First, the ongoing "SMART PATH" online engagement tool has over 250 responses already. The tool can be found on the front page of SMART's website. SMART encourages the Board members to take a look and will continue to provide feedback.
- Second, SMART held four public hearings on the proposed fare changes and also accepted comments via email and regular mail. Almost all of the comments on the proposal were positive and supportive.

Human Resources

- Ongoing contract negotiations with ATU, ATU Clerical, Teamsters, AFSCME and UAW representatives.
- New Hire Maintenance Training Classes were scheduled on February 19 and 22, 2019
- MERS provided educational sessions to SMART employees regarding the defined benefit pension plan and health care savings program in February, 2019.
- Diversity and Inclusion Training were provided on January 29, 2019 and February 1 and 14, 2019

Retirements in February, 2019:

- 2 Fixed Route Operators, 1 Mechanic and 1 Manager of Procurement will retire in February, 2019

Filled Positions:

- 2 Coach Service and Shelter Attendants
- 2 Mechanics
- 1 Data Payroll Technician

9. Financial Report

A. 1st and 2nd Quarterly Financial Report FY19

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Robert Daddow, seconded by Mr. Abdul Haidous, that the Board of Directors of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation hereby receives and files the combined First and Second Quarter 2018/2019 Financial Report as presented by the Director of Finance, Mr. David Sabuda, at the February 28, 2019 meeting.

DISCUSSION:

None

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

10. New Business

A. Resolution: Proposed Fare Modifications

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Abdul Haidous, seconded by Mr. Khalil Rahal, that the General Manager of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to implement a series of fare modifications outlined in the agenda item and incorporated attachments, effective on Wednesday, May 1, 2019.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Gerald Poisson confirmed SMART is paying \$600,000.00 for the fare modifications and wanted to know what the quid pro quo would be for SMART. Mr. Robert Cramer stated passengers will eventually be able to purchase passes on their mobile smartphones. Mr. John Hertel informed the Board that this would be a modern movement and it would make the agency stronger in the long term. He also stated that the original plan was to have a regional pass. This is a convenient improvement for the passengers and a good public relations move.

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

B. Resolution: Authorization to Award an Interim Contract for Liquefied Petroleum Gas for Connector Fleet

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Abdul Haidous, seconded by Mr. Gerald Poisson, that the Board adopt the resolution authorizing the General Manager to award an interim four month contract for liquefied Petroleum Gas to Blue Flame Propane from February 1, 2019 through May 31, 2019 for a cost not to exceed \$173,300.00.

DISCUSSION:

None

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

C. Resolution: Authorization to Award a Contract to Purchase Network Computer Communication Switches and Management Software

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Gerald Poisson, seconded by Mr. Abdul Haidous, that the Board of Directors of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation authorizes the General Manager to award a contract to Avalon Technologies Inc. for Network Computer Communication Switches and Management Software. The amount of the contract is not to exceed \$141,660.00.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Poisson voiced his concerns about the price difference in bidders. Mr. Robert Cramer stated SMART has seen this type of difference in the past and it is due to some of the vendors providing support costs upfront.

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

D. Resolution: Authorization to Award a Contract for Transit Bus Simulators

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Abdul Haidous, seconded by Mr. Khalil Rahal, that the General Manager of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to award a firm, fixed price contract to FAAC Incorporated for the purchase and installation of transit bus simulators. The total cost of the contract is \$1,673,305.00.

DISCUSSION:

Board members wanted to know the life expectancy of the simulators and if SMART has spoken with other transit agencies to see if they had one. Mr. Robert Cramer informed the Board that the life expectancy of the simulator is 10 years and it was found that the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority has one.

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

E. Resolution: Authorization to Award a Contract for Driver and Road Supervisor Uniforms

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Abdul Haidous, seconded by Mr. Gerald Poisson, that the General Manager of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is hereby authorized to award a 3-year firm, fixed price contract, with two one-year options, for bus driver and road supervisor uniforms with Enterprise Uniform, Inc. The annual amount of the contract is estimated to be \$160,000.00. The total cost for a 3-year contract is estimated to be \$480,000.00; a 5-year contract is estimated at \$800,000.00.

DISCUSSION:

None

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

F. Resolution: Authorization to enter into an Interim Contract for Bus Advertising

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Gerald Poisson, seconded by Mr. Abdul Haidous, that the Board adopt the resolution authorizing the General Manager to award an interim contract with Outfront Media for seven months. The contract would provide bus advertising services through September 30, 2019. This interim contract will generate revenue for SMART at a guaranteed fixed amount of \$43,750.00 per month or at a rate of 55% of net billing, whichever is greater.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Haidous asked if SMART will audit Outfront Media. Mr. David Sabuda, SMART's Director of Finance, said that they will be audited monthly.

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

11. Board Member Business

DISCUSSION:

None

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon motion made by Mr. Abdul Haidous, seconded by Mr. Khalil Rahal, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 2:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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