

BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MACON-BIBB COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

September 4, 2018

A special called meeting of the Board of Directors of the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority was held at 5:30 p.m. on September 4, 2018 in the Morris M. Cohen conference room on the fourth floor of the Terminal Station at 200 Cherry Street, Macon, Georgia. Those present were:

Chairman: Frank Tompkins

Vice-Chairman: Charles Howard,

Members: Dr. Tom Ellington, Sheddric Clark, Jami Gaudet and Violet Poe.

Members Absent: None.

Also present were S. Craig Ross, President and CEO, Brenda Banks, Executive Assistant, JoAnn Lamb, Operations Manager, and F. Bradford Wilson, Jr., Counsel for the Authority. A proper Quorum was present.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tompkins. He informed those in attendance that neither the Board nor the staff would be answering questions during the course of the meeting, but such could be presented after the meeting is concluded. He then asked everyone in attendance to join him in a silent prayer and time of reflection.

The Chairman asked the Board members if there were any changes or additions that needed to be made to the agenda. Sheddric Clark then made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ellington and approved.

The Chairman informed the Board that he would be calling on President/CEO Ross to explain the Modifications of MTA Bus Routes and then for counsel to explain the Modifications of MTA ParaTransit/ADA Policies. Board members will then have the opportunity to ask any questions or seek clarification on any issues that are raised.

President Ross explained that due to the significant cuts in MTA's budget in the last two years, amounting to \$1,200,000.00, changes were required. Fortunately though, through discussions our CFO Lee Brown has had with our CPA and GDOT, the funds that were paid under the Bi-Party Agreement with Macon-Bibb County for FY 16 and FY 17 will be matched.

President Ross then initiated his review of the revised proposal for the new routes and stated only a few cuts will now occur. Last week during the discussion, it was anticipated that

Kings Park would be cut, but that will no longer occur. The Board was provided a list of the proposed route cuts and provided an explanation for each of those involved. No ParaTransit customers will be lost as a result of these changes. The North Highlands and Macon Mall routes will continue to provide transportation to the two Walmarts. This proposal will continue as a work in process, and a follow up report will be made. A meeting is scheduled for Sunday with the drivers to obtain further comments from them. President Ross then expressed his appreciation to Mike Greenwald for the excellent job he had done in the preparation of the maps of the routes that were available for review at the conclusion of the meeting. He then asked Ms. Gaudet if she would assist with the press announcement, and she indicated that she would.

The routes will cease at 7:40 p.m. each night. Maintenance will continue on the buses with the shop closing at 11:00 p.m. No employee's hours will be affected, nor will there be any reductions in force.

The Chairman then called on Mr. Wilson for an explanation of the modifications of the MTA ParaTransit/ADA Policies. He stated the resolution that was prepared amends the current ADA policy pertaining to ParaTransit eligibility requirements, service area, and visitors. ParaTransit eligibility, currently contained in Section 12 would become the entire Section 11 of the amended policy. The revised paragraph 11 would also provide language more consistent with the regulatory language of 49 C.F.R. Section 37.123(e).

Service Area contained in Section 12 in the current policy becomes the entire Section 12 in the amended policy. The modification provides language more consistent with 49 C.F.R. Section 131. It further defines the limitations of the service area to the boundaries of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia as defined in the Macon-Bibb County Charter dated January 1, 2014.

In the current policy, the section entitled "Visitors" is shown as Section 13. Under the amendment it now becomes Section 14.

The Chairman then opened the floor for questions or comments. Dr. Ellington pointed out that Payne City has become part of Macon-Bibb County as approved by its citizens at a subsequent referendum.

President Ross shared that he had reviewed approximately 2,000 ParaTransit applications. He found two with Warner Robins addresses and one in Jones County, but each of the Warner Robins addresses were actually in Macon and Bibb County. Other ParaTransit services in their home county are available to them. President Ross shared that our focus is on servicing our Bibb County customers.

The floor was then opened for discussion. The federal statutes were read and several questions or comments were made. A motion was then made by Jami Gaudet that the resolution amending the ADA policy be approved with the sentence contained in the jurisdictional boundary limitation of Section 12 be amended to delete: “excluding the geographic area encompass within the boundaries of the City of Payne City”. The motion was seconded by Sheddric Clark and approved by a 5 to 1 vote, with Dr. Tom Ellington casting the dissenting vote.

There being no further business to address at this time, the motion of Sheddric Clark to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Jami Gaudet and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sheddric Clark, Secretary

Approved:

  
Frank Tompkins, Chairman