

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MACON-BIBB COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

July 30, 2019

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority was held at 5:30 p.m. on July 30, 2019 in the conference room on the third floor of the Terminal Station at 200 Cherry Street, Macon, Georgia. Those present were:

Chairman: Frank Tompkins

Vice-Chairman: Charles Howard

Members: Jami Gaudet, Sheddric Clark, and Violet Poe.

Members Absent:

Also present were S. Craig Ross, President and CEO, Brenda Banks, Executive Assistant, Debbie Vetter, Human Resources Manager, Andy Stroud, Business Development Director, Darrell Lester, Safety and Training Manager, JoAnn Lamb, Operations Manager, June Slaughter, ParaTransit Manager, Joey Connor, Maintenance Superintendent, James Taylor, Inventory & Maintenance Manager and F. Bradford Wilson, Jr., Counsel for the Authority. A proper Quorum was present.

Also in attendance were Carl Brown, Dave Dickey, Sandra Curry, Lee Soloman, Mike Greenwald, David Scott and Maxine McBride.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tompkins and a moment of silent prayer and reflection was observed. The Chairman then requested the Board Members to review the Agenda for the meeting and indicate if any amendments needed to be made thereto. A motion was then made by Sheddric Clark to approve the Agenda. It was seconded by Jami Gaudet and approved.

The Chairman then inquired of the Board as to whether there were any additions or corrections that needed to be made to the June 25 Minutes that had been previously forwarded to them. Charles Howard seconded the motion of Jami Gaudet to approve the Minutes and such occurred.

The next Agenda item was that of Public Comments and it was noted that no one requested the opportunity to address the Board.

The Chairman then moved to the Financial Report. In Ms. Slagle's absence President Ross informed the Board that the year-end Financial Reports were a work in process and would be presented at next month's meeting.

Chairman Tompkins called on President Ross for the presentation of the June Operations Report. President Ross reported that only two buses were out of service during the month of June with OnTime performance at 84% and ParaTransit at 92%. The Smart cards should be in place by the end of July and it is anticipated that they will be in force by the end of August. President Ross then recognized Debbie Vetter for the excellent job that she does as Human Resource Director, and especially with the management of the worker's compensation cases. Overtime charges are now under control.

With respect to marketing and facilities management, there have already been 61 events at Terminal Station this year and 30 events are already booked for 2020. Andy Stroud is doing a great job in his management of Terminal Station and Ms. Gaudet was recognized to share the numerous compliments she received from the parents at a wedding she recently attended at Terminal Station, describing it as flawlessly executed.

Currently operating reimbursements are due from GDOT for May. Ridership is approximately 164,000 less than last fiscal year but this is in line with the national trend associated with lower gas prices and the purchase of vehicles. The Mercer Route will resume shortly with the resumption of school.

The Chairman then opened the floor for items for discussion. President Ross stated that the Greyhound representatives will be in Macon on Thursday when its first bus arrives at the Transfer Center. President Ross shared that he met with them earlier today and a news release will be issued later today.

A press release will also be issued for the start of Smart Cards in mid-August.

Civil construction plans are underway for the MTA electric charging station. The President and Mike Greenwald met with the representatives of Georgia Power last week along with the county engineer. A meeting is being scheduled with the State Fire Marshal next Wednesday.

We anticipate a large number of people will want to attend the Charging Station Groundbreaking Ceremony. The President asked the Board members to provide him with the names of everyone they wish to invite. A date has not yet been set but efforts are already

underway with a budget being created for the festivities. There are still a large number of items to be completed.

A meeting was recently held with the Bibb County Health Department representatives. It is relocating to a new facility on Forsyth Street and Safety and Training Manager, Darrell Lester recently drove a bus to the new facility. In its current location the Health Department was on the outbound route for the buses but following its move it will be on the inbound route. It is anticipated to open next March or April and continuing efforts will be made to determine how to best accommodate the riders with the new schedule and different scenarios.

The Chairman opened the floor for New Business and then Old Business matters but none was presented.

Chairman Tompkins then asked if any Board Member wished to make a comment. Ms. Poe was recognized and stated that she recently met with President Ross on July 23 to discuss the possibility of implementing an Education and Community Outreach component to the Authority that would focus on the employees, customers and the community. The goals would include raising awareness of the works of the Authority, increasing ridership, improving our employee, customer, and community relations. She inquired as to whether a member of the administrative staff could be assigned to research and find out if any other transit authority had such an educational component. Further details will be provided at the next monthly meeting of the Authority.


President Ross shared that he and Weston Stroud spoke to the Chamber of Commerce at its meeting last Thursday and were well received.

The Board was provided a photograph of the new benches that will be installed. President Ross noted that many favorable compliments had been received on the new bus shelter at Kroger.

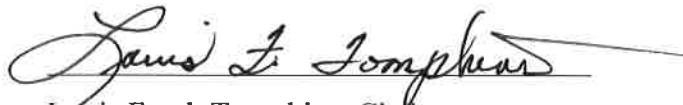
Chairman Tompkins then shared his thoughts and observations on the importance of public transportation for an Age Friendly Community. He noted that many of the events that are occurring are tied in with making Macon a more livable community. Macon is under a five year cycle and efforts should be made to raise our score with transportation and the promotion of it being so critical. He expressed his appreciation of the efforts of the staff of the Authority and its administration as well as the Board in moving our community forward and accommodating to individuals of all ages.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


_____, Secretary

Approved:


Louis Frank Tompkins, Chairman