

BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MACON-BIBB COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

June 29, 2021

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority was held at 5:30 p.m. on June 29, 2021, in the Morris 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: Dave Dickey, Lynn Farmer, Ella Mumphery, Otis Redding, III, and Rachel Umana

Members Absent: None

Also present was Craig Ross, President/CEO, Brenda Banks, Executive Assistant, Lee Brown, CFO, Jami Gaudet, Public Information Officer, Weston Stroud, Manager of the Office of Planning and Engagement, and F. Bradford Wilson, Jr., Counsel for the Authority. A proper Quorum was present.

Also, in attendance were Mike Greenwald, Liz Fabian, and David Scott.

The meeting was called to Order by Chairman Tompkins and he welcomed everyone and as the moment of silent prayer and reflection were observed asked that the catastrophic events in Florida be remembered.

Chairman Tompkins then requested the Board to review and indicate if any changes were needed to the agenda. A motion was then made by Dave Dickey to approve the agenda and such occurred following a second by Charles Howard.

Chairman Tompkins next asked the Board to review the Minutes of the May 25 meeting contained in their documents. The Minutes were approved following a motion by Dave Dickey and a second by Charles Howard.

No request was made to make a public comment to Ms. Banks.

President Ross reported that no Financial Report would be presented to the Board by Ms. Slagle.

The Chairman called on President Ross for presentation of the May Operations Report. President Ross began his report by requesting the Board members to present any questions they

have to him concerning operations. He then went on to state that the Authority has been doing business with Route Match for fifteen years. During the past several years, issues have developed. A Zoom meeting was held earlier today with their management staff. Currently eight of the tablets are working on the Fixed Route and only three of thirteen tablets on ParaTransit. This negatively effects our On Time Performance and they have promised a prompt response by Friday of this week to address the issue.

Ridership is increasing and hopefully that trend will continue. The Mercer bus will run from noon - 5:00 p.m. beginning the new school year starting in September 2021. A new route will take students from Mercer to Walmart on Gray Highway each week.

The Chairman then opened the floor for New Business and recognized President Ross to address the following items:

1. Ratify Vote on Bus Operator Sign-On Bonus: The Board was previously contacted to request the approval of a \$1500.00 bonus for new drivers who are able to successfully complete the probationary period. Any employee who recommended a new driver would be entitled to a \$500.00 bonus, as well if such was received by the new driver. As of today, no applications had been received. A motion was then made by Charles Howard to ratify the vote on the bonuses. The motion was seconded by Dave Dickey and approved.
2. Title VI Draft Approval: President Ross informed the Board that Mr. Stroud has spent extensive time on preparing the Title VI Plan. Dr. Greenwald has also worked very closely with the Authority to draft the document and has saved the Authority significant time. President Ross expressed his appreciation to him for all his hard work. The Authority is now taking a more active role in its preparation which was previously handled by Macon-Bibb County Planning and Zoning. Documents will now be sent to GDOT for its review and recommendations. Dave Dickey made the motion to approve the Title VI draft. The motion was seconded by Rachel Umana and unanimously approved.
3. Vote on Payment to New Flyer. A motion was made by Dave Dickey to approve the issuance of the check to new Flyer of America in the amount of \$460,161.40. The motion was approved following a second by Charles Howard.
4. Bi-Party Agreement Addendum: President Ross stated the Authority's full budget request had been approved by Macon-Bibb County. President Ross had a prior

conference with Mayor Miller and an agreement was reached that if the Authority received its full budget request no subsequent request would be made for any shortfall. A motion was made by Dave Dickey to approve the Bi-Party Agreement Addendum and authorize its execution. The motion was unanimously approved following a second by Rachel Umana.

5. New Route to South Bibb County: President Ross stated that with the additional budgeted funds a new route in South Bibb County is currently being studied which may require four new buses. Two routes are being considered with one on Houston Road and the other on Hwy 247. Dr. Greenwald is assisting with the mapping of the routes.
6. New Five Million Sq Ft \$600+ Million Recycling Plant: This will be a major addition and the Authority wants to make sure that potential employees have transportation to and from work.
7. APTA Kaleidoscope Series: President Ross informed the Board that if they were unable to watch the continuing education program, it is still available for anyone who missed it and he will continue to forward the emails of subsequent programs to the Board members.
8. Transit Board members Seminar in Philadelphia, PA on October 3-5, 2021: All new Board members are encouraged to go to the seminar. As soon as the official flyer is received, it will be forwarded to the Board. Plans are to fly out on Saturday. Meetings will begin on Sunday and fly back on Thursday.
9. MTA Downtown Challenge Grant Winner of \$14,500 for *Transfer Station Mural Completion* at Poplar & Fifth Street: Ms. Gaudet applied for and received a grant to complete the Terminal Station mural. She has a committee that will review the artist and then make a recommendation to the Board.
10. Bike Walk Macon Downtown Challenge Grant Winner of \$22,000 for Multi-Modal Macon Bus Stop Seating, Lighting and Bike Racks at Public Spaces: These funds will be available to the twelve stops in the downtown area.


#### OLD BUSINESS:

1. Terminal Station Parking Lot Paving: A washout occurred that created a hole. The Macon Water Authority has been unable to find the cause of the problem, but Buckland Paving will patch it.

2. Update on Congressman Sanford Bishop's Earmark: Congressman Bishop would like to schedule a time to meet with the Authority. The request for \$2,600,000.00 for electric buses remains on the list of potential requests that could be approved by the committee at the midway point of the process.

Chairman Tompkins then opened the floor for Board member comments, but no response was received and the meeting was adjourned.

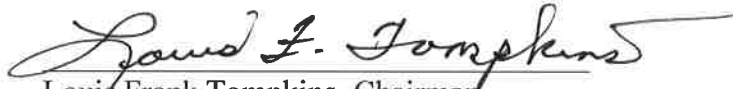
Respectfully submitted,



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Lee Brown, Secretary

Approved:



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Louis Frank Tompkins, Chairman