

BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MACON-BIBB COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

March 29, 2022

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority was held at 5:30 p.m. on March 29, 2022 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, Ella Mumphery, Otis Redding, III, Lynn Farmer and Rachel Umana.

Members Absent: None.

Also in attendance was President/CEO Craig Ross, F. Bradford Wilson, Jr. attorney for the Authority, Lee Brown, CFO, Jami Gaudet, Public Information Officer, and Brenda Banks, Executive Assistant. A proper Quorum was present.

Also, in attendance were Mike Greenwald and Liz Fabian.

Chairman Tompkins called the meeting to order and observed a time of silent prayer and reflection.

The Board members were then asked to review the agenda and indicate if any items needed to be added. A motion was then made by Dave Dickey to approve the agenda which was seconded by Ella Mumphery and approved.

Chairman Tompkins then asked the Board to review the February 22, 2022 Minutes and indicate if any changes were needed. Ella Mumphery seconded the motion of Dave Dickey to approve the Minutes and such occurred.

No Public Comments were requested.

The Chairman informed the Board that Ms. Slagle would not be present at the meeting and that the March and April Financial Reports would be submitted at the May meeting.

The Chairman recognized President Ross for the presentation of the February 2022 Operations Report. Presently there is one bus out of service and only five hours of lost time was incurred during the month. Fortunately, due to hedge pricing the Authority is benefitting from lower fuel costs than that of the public. OnTime performance for the Fixed Route was 79%

while ParaTransit was at 87%. There are ten openings for full time Fixed Route drivers and two full time ParaTransit drivers. There were four resignations during the month of February and due to the shortage of drivers, overtime hours have been excessive and having a negative impact on the budget. For 2022 59 events have already been scheduled at Terminal Station and 19 events in 2023. Outstanding operating reimbursement grants from GDOT total \$315,698.00 in addition to outstanding capital reimbursements in the amount of \$284,129.00. Operational funds due from Macon-Bibb County total \$645,250.00 in addition to its working capital/reserves due in the amount of \$148,900.00. One bus was rear-ended during the month but there was no damage. Ridership for the Fixed Route is now in excess of 300,000 for the year and the Mercer Route had its best month since March 2020.

NEW BUSINESS: The Chairman then opened the floor for New Business and recognized the President to address each of those items:

1. Constitutional Auditors: President Ross explained that in January an auditor with a sign did begin walking back and forth outside the Transfer Station. It is their practice to appear in public offices or property and draw attention to themselves and illicit a directive instructing them to leave the property. An incident did occur during March with one of the deputies. Meetings have been held with the administrative staff and instructions issued as to how to handle such situations in the future.

2. Transit State of Good Repair Conference: This conference was attended by President Ross and Tony Woodard. Most of the attendees were from larger transit authorities. One of the tasks on the agenda this year is to rewrite our manual.

3. APTA Legislative Conference: This conference focuses on the new Infrastructure legislation and the funding that may be available for electric buses. The BYD representatives were at the Authority yesterday and were informed of some of the problems we have experienced with our electric buses.

4. APTA Transit CEOs Conference April 8-11, 2022 in Denver, CO.: This conference will be attended by President Ross and CFO, Lee Brown. It should be extremely beneficial.

5. 41 Days of Free – March 21 thru April 30, 2022.

The Chairman then opened the floor for Old Business and called on President Ross for an update on the South Bibb County Routes. He explained that the process has slowed down. A letter was sent out to the South Bibb businesses but only three responded. Phone calls will begin


to the individual businesses at this time. Consideration is also being given to starting MicroTransit. It has been very successful in other locations and will be presented to the Board in the future for its consideration.

Chairman Tompkins opened Board Member Comments by thanking Mr. Greenwald for being a consistent partner with the Authority and assisting us in our projects. As plans are made for the May 6 long range planning meeting, he encouraged each of the Board members to bring each of their ideas so they can be documented and studied. We will also want Andy Stroud to be present to explain his plans for Terminal Station. The Chairman also documented his appreciation to Tony Woodard and his staff for keeping the buses running. He then noted that it will be necessary to vote on a new Vice-Chairman at the April meeting. Finally, the Chairman praised the staff for recommending the 41 days of free rides for our constituents and the need to evaluate the positive impact it will have.

A motion was then made by Dave Dickey to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved following a second by Ella Mumphery.

A special recognition was then given to departing Vice-Chairman, Charles Howard. Chairman Tompkins expressed his heartfelt thanks to Mr. Howard for his role as a Board member for the last 15 years. His active participation on the Board contributed significantly to the growth and development of the Authority and benefited our community. He was then presented a plaque for his service for 2007-2022 by the Board and then additional pictures were given to him from Ms. Mumphery individually.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Lee Brown, Secretary

Approved:



---

Louis Frank Tompkins, Chairman