

BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MACON-BIBB COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

July 26, 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 July 26, 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 Chair: Lynn Farmer

Members: Dave Dickey, Otis Redding, III, Charles Murphy and Rachel Umana

Members Absent: Ella Mumphery.

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

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

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

Chairman Tompkins requested the Board to review the proposed Agenda. President Ross stated that New Business needed to be amended to reference two BYD Electric buses that were just received. A motion was made by Dave Dickey to approve the amended Agenda. The motion was seconded by Charles Murphy and approved.

Chairman Tompkins then directed the Board to review the May 31, 2022 Minutes. A motion was then made by Dave Dickey to approve the Minutes. The motion was approved following a second by Lynn Farmer.

No public comments were originally requested. Subsequently, Wade Marks, Jr. arrived at the meeting and was afforded the opportunity to address the Board. He stated that he rides Paratransit and was requesting that the signs for the bus stops be updated, and also in larger print. He praised the Paratransit staff for doing a great job. Chairman Tompkins indicated he would pass this information along.

Due to Ms. Slagle's absence, no financial report was presented. Mr. Dickey made the motion to suspend the delivery of a financial report until the next meeting. The motion was approved following a second by Charles Murphy.

President Ross was then called on by Chairman Tompkins for presentation of the June Operations Report. He noted that the average number of buses out of service was four during the month and the average time lost was 12 hours, which are acceptable numbers. The Fixed Route buses had OnTime performance of 81% and Paratransit at 99%. There are openings for ten full time drivers on the Fixed Route and one on Paratransit. There was one resignation during the month.

During 2022 there have already been sixty-five events scheduled at Terminal Station with an estimated income of \$174,270.00. A total of thirty-nine events have already been schedule for 2023. Grants are in line with budget and have been received timely. There was one preventable accident during the month and one nonpreventable accident. On a high note, Fixed Route ridership exceeded one-half million passengers during FY 22.

NEW BUSINESS: The Chairman then opened the floor for New Business and President Ross was recognized to present the following items:

1. APTA Sustainability/Operations Workshop in Pittsburg, PA on August 7-10, 2022- Jo Ann Lamb and Jeanie Wells will be attending.
2. APTA TRANSform Conference in Seattle, WA on October 9-12, 2022- Board Members need to notify President Ross as soon as possible, but no later than August 15, as to whether they will be able to attend.
3. Customer Code of Conduct & Suspension Policy- Human Resources Manager Debbie Vetter and President Ross are researching and developing the Code of Conduct at this time. An initial draft will be ready for each of the Board Members to review in the near future so it can be voted on at the next meeting.
4. Flyer-The Spirit of Macon II – The dedication of the mural by Abraham Abebe is scheduled for July 29.
5. Flyer- Macon Heritage – A News Conference and luncheon will be held on August 4. Food will be furnished by BYD and we need for you to confirm as soon as possible so an accurate head count can be obtained. President Ross praised Ms. Gaudet for doing a fantastic job with this project.

OLD BUSINESS: The floor was then opened for Old Business by the Chairman and President Ross was called upon to address the following items:

1. Property Sale of 2723 Cason Street Closed on June 30, 2022 – The Authority now owns all of the real property behind the Central Office on Broadway. The recently purchased brick building on Cason Street will be torn down. The County has approved the sale of the remainder of Cason Street to the Authority for \$10,000.00. There are three additional blighted houses adjacent to the Authority’s property which may become available at a later time.
2. “Government Department of the Year” Award presented by Bike Walk Macon- President Ross expressed appreciation to Ms. Umana for this award.
3. South Bibb County Routes on Hold due to Driver Shortage and Fuel Cost – Funds are currently available as are buses, but the Authority does not have a sufficient number of drivers to initiate the operation of this route at the present time.
4. Mercer Bus Press Conference Held on July 20, 2022 – The Authority has a new Mercer Bear bus which is ready for operation. The press conference went extremely well.

Chairman Tompkins then opened the floor for Board member comments and recognized Mr. Murphy. He stated that he recently received a call from a lady inquiring about the South Bibb County route. He will now be able to explain to her why it is not yet operational.

A motion was then made by Lynn Farmer at 6:10 p.m. to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Dave Dickey and approved.

A motion was made by Dave Dickey at 6:32 p.m. to exit Executive Session and return to the regular Board meeting. The motion was approved following a second by Lynn Farmer.

A motion to adjourn was then made by Dave Dickey, seconded by Charles Murphy, and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Lee Brown, Secretary

Approved:

  
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Louis Frank Tompkins, Chairman