

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MACON-BIBB COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

March 28, 2023

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 28, 2023 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:

Members: Dave Dickey, Charles Murphy, and Deborah Garcia.

Members Absent: Otis Redding, III, Rachel Umana and Lynn Farmer

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

Also, in attendance were Commissioner Elaine Lucas, Commissioner Virgil Watkins, Laura Corley, C. Jack Ellis, Jay Scott, Edward Smart, Wade Horton, Mike Greenwald, Eddie White, Cathy Maclin, Savannah Polk, Darius Maynard, Jacqueline Glover, Lemuel Brown, Tom Ellington, Morgan Wilburn, Gwendolyn Westbrook, Chelsea Paris, Larry Dunning, Sherry Miller, Donald Miller, Neta Huckabee, and Wade Marks, Jr.

Chairman Tompkins called the meeting to order and welcomed all those in attendance before requesting that each individual observe a time of silent prayer and reflection.

Chairman Tompkins then requested each of the Board members to review the proposed Agenda and indicate any additions or corrections that were needed. A motion was then made by Dave Dickey to approve the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Charles Murphy and approved.

The Board was then asked to review and approve the Minutes of the February 28 meeting. Following their review Deborah Garcia seconded the motion of Dave Dickey to approve the Minutes as presented and printed and said motion was approved.

The meeting was then opened for Public Comments by the Chairman and he informed those in attendance that the Board is interested in substance not personalities and each individual

is limited to five minutes and no reference should be made to a person or an office in their comments. The Chairman then recognized Elaine Lucas who stated she was present to discuss the proposed fare increases. She requested that the Board reverse its earlier decision and asked that the Board consider four points which she outlined in a handout provided to the Board members.

Wade Horton and Jacquelyn Glover were recognized and voiced their opposition to an increase in fares for Paratransit. They were followed by Lemuel Brown, Gwendolyn Westbrook, Eddie White, and Pastor Larry Dunning who all voiced their opposition for the proposed increase in fares, requesting that the Board reconsider its earlier decision. Wade Marks was then recognized and stated he got hurt on the bus and he now has an attorney.

The Chairman recognized Ms. Georgia Slagle for presentation of the Financial Report. Ms. Slagle stated that as of February 28 cash is down approximately \$600,000.00 from the previous year but grant receivables are much higher since there are four months of grant receivables. Net property and equipment total \$13,202,000.00. Current liabilities total \$920,000.00 but there is no outstanding balance on a line of credit. Rental income totaled \$510,000.00 versus \$485,000.00 the previous year. After removing depreciation, the unfavorable changes in Net Position for the year are positive for rentals. The current change in Net Position for February was a negative \$33,000.00 but after adjustments for non-operating expenditures it translated into a positive operating change in Net Position of \$183,000.00. Paratransit revenues totaled \$1,337,000.00 and expenses before depreciation totaled \$1,126,000.00 resulting in a favorable change in position of \$183,373.00. A motion was then made by Dave Dickey to approve and accept the Financial Report. The motion was approved following a second by Charles Murphy.

The Chairman then opened the floor for New Business and recognized President Ross.

1. 2023 MTA Procurement Policy Update (vote) – President Ross shared that the Authority is required to update the policy every three years. It contains all the details as to how purchases are made. A motion was then made by Dave Dickey to approve the 2023 Procurement Policy. The motion was approved following a second by Charles Murphy.

2. C. Jack Ellis -Revitalizing “Colored Waiting Room” – Mr. Ellis shared that he had toured the building along with Jay Scott and would like to restore the Colored Waiting Room to its original condition. Mr. Scott informed the Board he started preserving properties approximately six years ago and he has successfully worked with the Parks Service. He would

write the grant and find the funds available to make the renovations. No matching funds will be required, and an application will also be made with for an Equal Rights Grant. A proposed Agreement will be submitted to the Authority for its approval authorizing them to write the grants and approve their fees. Mr. Ellis and Mr. Scott will be back in touch with the Authority after further investigation.

Chairman Tompkins then opened the floor for OLD BUSINESS:

1. Three New Paratransit Electric Buses due to be delivered by Friday, March 31 - President Ross informed the Board he was informed by the manufacturer that there is a further delay, and the buses will be delivered in another week or so.

The floor was then opened for Board Member Comments by the Chairman. Mr. Dickey stated that he totally approved of the presentation of the Colored Waiting Room by Mr. Scott.

Charles Murphy stated that he plans to ride the bus and talk to many riders and get their input on the proposed fare increase.


The motion to adjourn was then made by Dave Dickey and approved following a second by Deborah Garcia.

Respectfully submitted,



Lee Brown, Secretary

Approved:



Louis Frank Tompkins, Chairman