

**THE COAST-WACCAMAW RTA
BOARD MEETING
July 31, 2013
12:00 p.m.**

Board Present: Bernard Silverman, Chair
Joseph Lazzara, Vice-Chair
Ivory Wilson
James Elekes
Wilbert G. "Mickey" James
Lillie Jean Johnson
Gary Loftus
Nicholas Twigg

Staff Present: Myers Rollins, General Manager
John Glover, Transportation & Service Planning Manager
Julie Norton-Dew, DGM of Finance & Administration – CFO
Felicia Beaty, DGM of Operations – COO
Joe Ponticello, Director of Internal Controls
Barbara Blain-Olds, Staff Attorney
Kevin Parks, Grants and Procurement Manager
Cathy Hennessy, Staff Accountant
Erica Hill, Business Development Specialist
Rick Carroll, Street Supervisor
Lynette Nobles, Executive Assistant
Doug Herriott, Transportation Manager

Also Present: Pam Creech, Citizens Advisory Committee
Doris Gleason, Director of Outreach, AARP
Bobby Lamb, Coast Rider

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), notices of the meeting were provided to the press, stating the time, date, and place of the meeting on Monday, July 29, 2013.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Silverman called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Bernard Silverman gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT. Myers Rollins addressed the Board. He was saddened to announce that there had been an accident this morning at about 10:00 a.m. involving a Coast bus and a pedestrian bicyclist. The pedestrian is in serious condition. Fortunately, the accident was

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not the bus driver's fault, but the driver will still be brought in for mandatory drug testing, according to policy. Mr. Rollins is preparing a formal statement for the media, and asked that everyone please pray for the pedestrian's full recovery.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUORUM/ROLL CALL: Roll call was taken. A quorum was present.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF VISITORS:
Doris Gleason, Director of Outreach, AARP
Barry Spivey, Horry County Finance
Anita Crone, Georgetown Times

Verbal introductions were made for the benefit of Director Elekes.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (none)

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION: The following employees were recognized:

- Employee of the Quarter: Sharon Bigam
- Operator of the Quarter: Casper Allison

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: It was properly moved and seconded that the minutes from the previous meeting of June 26, 2013 be approved. There being no questions, a voice vote was taken. No nays being heard, the motion carried.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Ms. Pam Creech represented the Citizens Advisory Committee. Ms. Creech reported that the next CAC meeting will be in September. The CAC is getting surveys out to the public and is currently researching different ways to get the surveys out to the public, i.e. newspaper, media, email, and even mass mailings such as bill stuffers through Horry Electric and Horry Telephone, with the goal being to reach as many residents as possible.

MASS TRANSIT PRESENTATION: CEO Rollins updated the Board on steps taken to demonstrate to Horry County Council efforts made to achieve Council's request of changing the makeup of the Coast Board. Since more time is needed to fulfill the request, Mr. Rollins went before County Council and requested that the vote on the resolution be deferred to give Mr. Rollins an addition month to carry out the work. Since that time Mr. Rollins has determined that it is in Coast's best interest to establish an ad-hoc committee, which has since been done. Members include Mr. Bernard Silverman, Ivory Wilson, Barbara Blain-Olds, and Myers Rollins. In the interest of transparency, Mr. Rollins met with the County Administrator, Mr. Eldridge to request Horry County representation and Mr. Aldridge appointed Anne Wright to the ad-hoc committee. There will be a meeting tomorrow. To discuss: exactly what does "adequate effort to the satisfaction of Council" mean? Also, will more closely examine the South Carolina Regional Transportation Law. We will look at a list of questions asked of Horry County Council that will be provided to the Horry County delegation, which will also be forwarded to the Attorney General's office for an opinion. Will also discuss how this initiative might impact

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other 23 RTAs in South Carolina. Mr. Rollins went to Columbia for the TASC Board of Directors meeting and briefed them on the issue. A transit survey was also prepared that will be disseminated to the other RTAs to see how their Boards are configured, what their Boards do, and who is represented on their respective Boards. We expect 100% participation from the survey. An action register was created, which is a document that lists all the tasks and progress with respect to those tasks, with the goal being to position Coast RTA to allow for more Horry County Council representation. There are probably two approaches to this, one being a change in the law, or trying to work within the confines of the existing statute. We hope to be prepared to provide the Horry County Council with an update that will meet with their approval on August 13th. Mr. Loftus asked Mr. Rollins the status of the RTA surveys, and Mr. Rollins responded that the surveys are in the process of being finalized. Mr. Loftus suggested asking Horry County Council for their input on the surveys. Ms. Blain-Olds will solicit Anne Wright's input at tomorrow's meeting.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS:

Lynette Nobles read the following resolutions into the record:

Res. JUL2013-26. Authorization to Receive FY 2014 Funding From the City of Myrtle Beach. A motion of the Board of the Waccamaw Regional Transportation Authority authorizing the General Manager/Secretary Treasurer to receive FY 2014 funds in the amount of \$300,000 from the City of Myrtle Beach for mass public transportation.

It was properly moved and seconded that this resolution be approved. There being no further questions, a voice vote was taken. No nays being heard, the resolution carried.

Res. JUL2013-27. Authorization to Receive FY 2014 Funding From Georgetown County. A motion of the Board of the Waccamaw Regional Transportation Authority authorizing the General Manager/Secretary Treasurer to receive FY2014 funds in the amount of \$220,000 from Georgetown County Council for mass public transportation.

It was properly moved and seconded that this resolution be approved. There being no further questions, a voice vote was taken. No nays being heard, the resolution carried.

Res. JUL2013-28. Authorization to Receive FY 2014 Funding From Horry County. A motion of the Board of the Waccamaw Regional Transportation Authority authorizing the General Manager/Secretary Treasurer to receive FY2014 funds in the amount of \$1,055,000 from Horry County for mass public transportation services.

Mr. Rollins confirmed that this amount did include the funds that Horry County originally were going to exclude.

It was properly moved and seconded that this resolution be approved. There being no further questions, a voice vote was taken. No nays being heard, the resolution carried.

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Res. JUL2013-29. Authorization to Receive FY 2014 Funding From the City of Conway. A motion of the Board of the Waccamaw Regional Transportation Authority authorizing the General Manager/Secretary Treasurer to receive FY2014 funds in the amount of \$4,000 from the City of Conway for mass public transportation.

It was properly moved and seconded that this resolution be approved. There being no further questions, a voice vote was taken. No nays being heard, the resolution carried.

Res. JUL2013-30. Authorization to Retain Audit Firm. A motion of the Board of the Waccamaw Regional Transportation Authority authorizing the General Manager/Secretary Treasurer to enter into a three year agreement with McGregor and Company, LLP, Certified Public Accountants, to conduct audits of the financial statements of the Authority for the three fiscal years 2013, 2014 and 2015.

It was properly moved and seconded that this resolution be approved. There being no further questions, a voice vote was taken. No nays being heard, the resolution carried.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

Finance and Administration: Mr. Lazzara reported that the committee met that morning and reviewed and accepted the financial report. Discussed the Finance and Administration report on Tuesday, which was reviewed and accepted. Reviewed and accepted the bank reconciliation report as provided.

Operations Committee: Lillie Jean Johnson reported. Thanked Felicia Beaty for the information and update shared with the committee, reporting that Conway, Route #7, is the #1 in ridership. Ongoing discussion with the Myrtle Beach airport to obtain space within the airport for a stand for the Coast ambassador. Received information concerning some advertisement that would be outsourced, and could be a new source of funding. Mr. Rollins reported that for the third year, Coast is #1 in ridership considering all aspects of riders. The airport shuttle is also doing well.

Planning Committee: Professor Twigg reported. Two updated signage schedules were provided. The committee also discussed Task Force metrics. We need to determine a consistent way of measuring different types of routes. Professor Twigg solicited Mr. Rollins's input on a plan for getting new buses. Mr. Rollins reported last month that the formation of a new Board chaired committee for fund development, the single purpose being to brainstorm with staff, identifying outside resources to create new funding streams for Coast RTA. Unfortunately, current funding only allows Coast RTA to remain status quo. To keep up with demand for services, we have determined we need to be creative in partnering with the business community, as well as government agencies, to come up with new ideas.

Bylaws: (none)

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General Manager: Mr. Rollins reported that there are 78 million baby boomers (those born between 1945 and 1965) in the USA. Boomers started retiring about four years ago and will continue retiring for the next 25 years, and 36.95% of those boomers have relocated to the south for a different quality of life. This statistic also comes with illnesses and disabilities, and these people need reliable and affordable public transportation. Also, the 14.5 million tourists who come to the Grand Strand are more than those tourists from Charleston, Columbia, Greenville, and Hilton Head combined. It is critical that we find funds and plan for more rolling stock and be able to serve the baby boomer and tourist populations. Mr. Rollins received a call from Doris Gleason of the AARP, who advised Mr. Rollins that the AARP has been watching Coast RTA closely and wants to partner with Coast RTA to put forth an initiative to identify new funding, support current funding, and to make the funding process less painful to provide quality-of-life services. Mr. Rollins introduced Ms. Gleason, who addressed the Board. Ms. Gleason reported that the AARP has a strong group of volunteers in the area who support Coast RTA and want to see Coast RTA thrive and grow. The AARP volunteers plan to lobby for additional funding. Ms. Gleason stressed that this is in planning stage and will keep Coast RTA abreast of the progress. Mr. Rollins reported that a plan will be presented to the Board in September.

OLD BUSINESS: (none)

NEW BUSINESS: (none)

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (none)

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Loftus reported that Horry County Council is considering a request to be made of all agencies that receive significant funding to video tape their meetings. Director Elekes asked Mr. Loftus if Horry County Council will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act with respect to the video recordings that are provided on the Internet, and supply the technology to those agencies of whom the request is being made. Mr. Loftus advised that he did not know the answer but it would be addressed.

Mr. Silverman advised that there will be quarterly breakfast meetings at Coast RTA for new employees and that everyone is invited. Mr. Silverman will announce the meeting dates in advance. Mr. Silverman also announced that he had asked Professor Twigg to work with Felicia Beaty and Julie Norton-Dew on a new Board member orientation package.

ADJOURNMENT: It was properly moved and seconded that the Board adjourn. A voice vote was taken. No nays being heard, the Board adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

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