

WACCAMAW REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
d/b/a THE COAST RTA
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2019
9:30 AM

Board Present: Dr. Rob Sheehan
Darrell Eickhoff
Joseph Lazzara
Bernard Silverman
Ivory Wilson
Katharine D'Angelo
Lillie Jean Johnson
Randal Wallace
Dr. Marvin Keene

Staff Present: Brian Piascik, General Manager/CEO
Lynette Nobles, Executive Assistant/Board Liaison
Ron Prater, Chief Financial Officer
Michelle Cantey, Via Go-To-Meeting

Visitors: Charles Perry, Horry Independent
Jonathan Brockman, new driver

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the 2018 meeting schedule was provided to the press at the beginning of the 2018 calendar year, stating the date, time and location. In addition, notice of this meeting was provided to the press and stakeholders, stating the date, time, and location on February 25, 2019.

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Sheehan called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM and welcomed everyone.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Dr. Sheehan gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS: Charles Perry, Horry Independent

PUBLIC COMMENT: (3-minute limit): None

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION: Our internal Roadeo was held over the weekend and the following drivers will be representing us in the state roadeo in Clemson: Jonathan Brockman and Gary Queen (40'); Keisha Hemingway and Beneshe Julius (Cut-Away).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: There was a motion and a second to approve the agenda. A voice vote was taken; no nays being heard, the agenda was approved

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: There was a motion and a second to approve the minutes from the January board meeting. Ms. Nobles apologized that the name of the guest was incorrect and would make that correction (from “Steve” to “Charles”). A motion and a second were made to accept the corrected minutes. A voice vote was taken; no nays being heard, the minutes were approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SERVICE/PAC COMMITTEE: Ms. Johnson reported that in 2019, the Entertainment Shuttle will operate on the same schedule as 2018 and we’ll be using the same vehicles. Projected income for ads on the buses is \$70,000, which Mr. Piascik said we should exceed. AECOM will begin placing 14 signs on Route 10; they are working on the stop here at the terminal today. Mr. Piascik has a meeting with SCDOT tomorrow regarding Highway 501 stops. Ecolane went into service February 1, 2019. We made it a little more complicated by adding Loris and Bucksport. The system recognizes that we put nine (9) vehicles on the road a couple of times a week. It automatically calculates capacity. The system has the ADA regulations imbedded into it so as soon as they make a reservation, it will predict when we will be picking you up, within 15 minutes either way. Passengers tell us their appointment time and the system tells us what time we will pick them up. Bucksport and Loris routes will be changed to flex route (route deviation). We will be holding public meetings to see how passengers like the service, what changes they would like to see, etc. Mr. Eickhoff requested to be informed as to when the public meetings are held as he would like to attend.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: We had three (3) major pieces (Budget, Audit and Financials). There were a few budget items that possible needed to be moved around. We may have a budget revision in April or May. We are still concerned about cash. We’re still trying to rope in what our labor costs are. That’s the biggest hitter as it relates to cash. The FMO finding, as it relates to the Internationals, Mr. Piascik will be getting a letter out regarding buying two (2) new medium-duty cutaways. They look a lot like our paratransit vehicles except they are longer and have heavier-duty suspension. They are \$85,000 - \$90,000 each and we will have to purchase those with all local funds. We will not be able to pull the entire amount of federal interest because the federal interest is \$107,000; one is 100% and one is 98%. We’ll use the proceeds from the disposal of the International buses to send a check to FTA for the remaining interest. We will apply for 5310 funds to replace the two (2) vehicles we purchased from state surplus. Regarding fare boxes, we have had a problem with the probe, which has been fixed. We had exorbitant free rides in January. We now do not take a bus out of service if a fare box goes down.

Our insurance premiums (Insurance Reserve Fund) have increased about \$28,000, spending the money that we saved last year. Mr. Piascik has asked for private insurance to replace it, but they aren’t able to. He will be speaking with Mr. Luke Rankin and others regarding insurance.

The audit is moving along. They’re waiting on information regarding pension. There are still no issues. We should be close to moving out of “high risk”, depending on repeat findings.

Telephone expenses, some of the amount is due to setting up to record calls, the Transfer Center has been put on their own system, and the tablets that are on the buses. We will check with Spirit and with HTC regarding expenses.

Cash Requirements get a little scary in April. We're expecting \$515,000 from Horry County in April which could be higher or lower. Horry County pays quarterly and Georgetown County has requested to pay us monthly. We paid \$15,000 to Conway National Bank in both January and February.

Bus 1504 is back in service!!

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Piascik reported that our 5310 application is in and we are on schedule for December arrival for the two (2) New Flyers. Mr. Burda will be going to Minnesota in December to inspect the two (2) new buses. He expressed his thanks to everyone who helped with the local rodeo. TASC Conference is coming up in March. It was decided to cancel Service/PAC Committee and move Finance Committee to 8:15 AM the same day as the board meeting. Mr. Piascik and Mr. Eickhoff will be going to Columbia after the board meeting to meet with legislators. There is a Transportation Committee meeting coming up in March. Mr. Piascik will be attending that meeting.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: There was a motion and a second that the board go into Executive Session at 10:30 AM to discuss a personnel matter. A voice vote was taken; no nays being heard, the motion passed. There was a motion and a second to come out of Executive Session at 11:02 AM. A voice vote was taken; no nays being heard, the motion passed. During Executive Session, no votes were taken and no decisions were made.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There was a motion and a second that the meeting be adjourned. A voice vote was taken. No nays being heard, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 A.M.