



**WACCAMAW REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
d/b/a THE COAST RTA
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Saturday, December 4, 2021
12:00 PM**

Board Present: Darrell Eickhoff
Marvin Keene
Joseph Lazzara
Bernard Silverman
Rob Sheehan
Randall Wallace
Katharine D'Angelo
Lillie Jean Johnson

Staff Present: Brian Piascik, General Manager/CEO
Ron Prater, Chief Financial Officer
Lauren Morris, PIO
Eileen Soisson, Sunshine Service

Visitors: None

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the 2021 meeting schedule was provided to the press at the beginning of the 2021 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 December 4, 2021.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Keene called the meeting to order at 9:50 AM and welcomed everyone.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Dr. Keene gave the invocation, then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL/ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUORUM: Roll call was taken. A quorum was present. The Board Chairman and Past Board Chairman asked that those absent from board meetings be recognized as "Excused", only if that board member informs the Board Liaison, in advance, that they are unable to attend. Board members who do not attend the meeting and do not inform the Board Liaison that they will be absent will be recognized as "Absent".

APPROVAL OF AMENDED AGENDA – There was a motion by Dr. Sheehan and a second by Mr. Eickhoff that the agenda be approved. The agenda was amended by the Board where a resolution was added to the agenda. A voice vote was taken; no nays being heard the agenda was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AMENDED MINUTES – There was a motion by Mr. Eickhoff and a second by Dr. Sheehan to approve the October minutes. A voice vote was taken; no nays being heard, the motion passed unanimously.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS: No visitors were present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Dr. Keene summarized the November Finance Committee meeting where the Committee reviewed October Financials, discussed the County's American Rescue Plan program, and received updates on political movement regarding the Road Use Fee, the Authority's CDL Training Program and the impacts of the federal Infrastructure Bill.

Significant highlights from the financials included:

- Substantial overage in facility maintenance because parking lot repairs were delayed and will be incurred during FY 22 rather than FY21. It should be assumed that the facility maintenance line item will be \$38K over budget until addressed within a budget revision.
- Transit and paratransit ridership numbers continue to exceed monthly levels from two years ago, as a result of additional service. Ridership recovery is estimated to be about 90% of pre-COVID levels.

There was not much of an update on Road Use Fees except to say that the Local Delegation does not expect the State Legislature to address changes in the next legislative session. Horry County is expecting Coast RTA to look into alternative forms of funding, including the possibility of a referendum for property taxes.

Coast RTA has trained four drivers and assisted them in obtaining their CDLs, with four more in the process.

The federal infrastructure bill should include a modest increase in federal formula funding (5307, 5310, 5311, & 5339). There will also be ample opportunities for capital project funding for facilities and buses.

OLD BUSINESS: The Board discussed regular meeting times and Committee representation. Beginning in CY22, Committees will be held on the third Thursday and regular Board meetings will be held on the fourth Thursday of each month. Full Board meetings will start at 12PM, while the committees may be adjusting times based on their respective Chair availability.

Road Use fee update was tabled for the retreat proceedings.

NEW BUSINESS: No New Business was introduced.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT: GM report was tabled for retreat discussion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Silverman mentioned that he had received additional data from Sarah Brailer, CCU Professor, regarding transportation issues cited in her homelessness surveys. Survey respondents cited fewer issues with transportation from previous surveys, attributed potentially to increased transit service and reduced/no fares.

ADJOURNMENT:

There was a motion by Dr. Sheehan and a second by Mr. Eickhoff to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken; no nays being heard the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM.