



**WACCAMAW REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
d/b/a THE COAST RTA  
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Saturday, December 14, 2024  
1:00 PM**

**Board Present:** Katharine D'Angelo  
Darrell Eickhoff  
Elijah Metherd  
Bernard Silverman  
Nicholas Twigg  
Randal Wallace

**Staff Present:** Brian Piascik, General Manager/CEO  
Ron Prater, CFO  
Lauren Morris, Strategic Communications Manager  
Candace Brown, Senior Planner/Special Projects  
Ann-Martin Buffkin, Staff Accountant/Board Liaison

**Visitors:** None

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the FY2025 meeting schedule was provided to the press at the beginning of the 2025 fiscal 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 12, 2024.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Silverman called the meeting to order at 1:06 PM and welcomed everyone.

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mr. Silverman gave the invocation, then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A voice vote was taken; no nays being heard; the agenda was approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** N/A

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS:** None

**SERVICE/PACC COMMITTEE:** Dr. Twigg mentioned the upcoming North Myrtle Beach stakeholder meeting. He encouraged Board members to attend.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Brian Piascik provided an update on financials. The Authority provided bonuses to all employees in the month of December 2024. Mr. Piascik mentioned that November financials show \$4.5 million dollars in grant revenue which was for the purchase of the Grissom Parkway parcel. The Authority is still awaiting State funding (close to \$325,000 / some of that is for September 2024 operations). The Authority may have to borrow against this money in order to maintain operations. If money is borrowed, the note will be paid off as soon as the grant money is received. The Authority paid \$246,000 for two new cutaways and wraps. Fares are showing above budget as compared to last year. Fixed Route ridership was down this November compared to last. Paratransit ridership is up as always. Mr. Piascik provided and explained a new report – Ridership and Productivity by Route.

**Motion:** Mr. Silverman asked the Board to take a vote today to delegate the finance committee to review the budget. A motion was made by Mr. Silverman and a second by Katharine D'Angelo to delegate to the finance committee to approve the revised FY25 budget. A voice vote was taken; no nays being heard; the motion passes unanimously.

A finance committee meeting was scheduled for January 10<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 10am. Service PACC is scheduled for January 10<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 11:30am

**COMPENSATION COMMITTEE:** Mr. Eickhoff stated Brian Piascik should receive a cost-of-living adjustment of 2.5% retro to October 1, 2024. Katharine D'Angelo made the motion. A voice vote was taken; no nays being heard; the motion passed unanimously.

**AD HOC COMMITTEES:** None

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:** Mr. Piascik announced that on January 22, 2025 there will be a TASC conference in Columbia, SC. This conference will include a workforce summit and the Legislative reception will be held on Thursday of that week. In attendance will be a few employers to talk vanpool. On Saturday of that week, there is a state rodeo that TASC will fund. TASC's agenda will include: #1 giving transit legislation to trespass passengers when need be, #2

increased punishments for driver and employee assaults, looking for additional latitude to press charges, #3 ten time increase in SMTF funding, it's been ¼ of a penny since the 1980's. At that time, there were 7 systems that were eligible for SMTF funding, there are now more than 30.

**OLD BUSINESS:** N/A

**NEW BUSINESS:** N/A

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:** The Authority's Christmas Party will be held on December 21, 2024, beginning at 6pm at the Peanut Warehouse in Conway. All Board members are welcome to attend.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** There was a motion by Mr. Eickhoff and a second by Ms. D'Angelo to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Silverman adjourned the meeting at 1:43 PM.