



**MINUTES**  
**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**  
**JUNE 20, 2012**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Regional Transportation Authority Board of Directors was held in the meeting room at Music City Central at 400 Charlotte Avenue on June 20, 2012. A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by RTA Board Chair Gallatin Mayor Jo Ann Graves.
  
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Chair Graves entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2012 meeting. Proper motion was made and seconded. The vote of approval was unanimous and the minutes were adopted as presented.
  
- III. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no public comments.
  
- IV. **NORTHEAST CORRIDOR COMMITTEE REPORT:** Committee member Gallatin Mayor Jo Ann Graves reported on the following:
  - a. **Expansion of Service on Northeast Corridor (A-012-008):** Mayor Graves reported that there has been such a good response to the express bus service that we are recommending splitting the service into two separate routes. Gallatin will have an express bus that will stop twice in Gallatin and Hendersonville will have a route that stops twice in Hendersonville. The start-up date is scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup> (2012). Through the CMAQ funding award of \$240,000, combined with a state and local match, RTA can provide \$300,000 of additional service to Sumner County annually for three years. The schedule has been drafted and park and ride sites have been selected. Mayor Graves moved that they adopt the report and adopt the sites. This was seconded and the vote of approval was unanimous.
  
- V. **SOUTHEAST CORRIDOR COMMITTEE REPORT:** Committee member Murfreesboro alternate Dana Richardson reported on the following:
  - a. **Expansion of Service on Southeast Corridor (A-012-009):** Currently 16 trips a day are being run in the southeast corridor and the recommended expansion of service would more than double that. The award of the \$720,000 in CMAQ federal funds will put this at about a \$1.6 million dollar a year operation. Performance measures will be put in place to evaluate this system expansion for these three years to see if this is ultimately what they would want to do. Proper motion was made and seconded. The vote of approval was unanimous.

**VI. REPORT OF MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CORRIDOR:** Franklin Mayor Ken Moore reported on the following:

**a. Expansion of Service on South Corridor (A-012-010):** This opportunity for expansion of service will add one additional round trip to Rt 91X Franklin-Brentwood and one additional round trip to Rt 95X Spring Hill Express. The federal CMAQ funding award for this is \$240,000 annually and this will utilize \$160,000 of that. The start date is October 1, 2012. Proper motion was made and seconded and the vote of approval was unanimous.

**VII. MARKETING REPORT:** Committee Chair Governor Appointee Ed Cole stated that he had four things of note to report. He first reported that ticket sales are going well for the July 4<sup>th</sup> event with less than 250 tickets left to be sold. He commended Ms. Morehead and her staff for this success. Mr. Cole reported that the Clarksville service is underway and that the ridership has been outstanding. Continuing, he reported that the RTA regional services map was now available for use and distribution. In closing, Mr. Cole commented that Mayor Craighead had suggested that the committee relook at possible Music City Star service to the Wilson County Fair. The informal discussion was that the committee would work with staff to make next year a target for Wilson County Fair service.

**VIII. FINANCE AND AUDIT REPORT:** Chair Brentwood Mayor Paul Webb reported on financials for the month ended April 30<sup>th</sup>. For the month to date we are in really good shape trending positive. Our budget year to date numbers through April are a little negative but most of that is a timing difference, waiting on other government payments. We have a healthy balance sheet and the majority of our accounts payable are current. Chair Webb presented the following action items:

**a. FY 2012 Continuation Budget for 2013 (A-012-011):** This is a 60 day continuation of the current FY 2012 operating budget. This gives us the time to confirm all revenue sources for the new budget. The new FY 2013 budget will be presented in the August 2012 Audit and Finance Committee report. Proper motion was made and seconded. There was no discussion and the vote of approval was unanimous.

**b. Music City Star Liability Insurance Renewal (A-12-012):** Chair Webb asked CFO Ed Oliphant to brief the Board on this action item. Mr. Oliphant stated that this insurance is renewed every year and thus goes out to bid every year. Three bids for liability coverage were received; however, only one, Essex/XL, met all the requirements of the bid.

Essex/XL quoted \$29,000,000 coverage, with an aggregate of \$58,000,000 for a total premium of \$468,250. Mr. Oliphant explained that ridership on the train has a direct impact on how the premiums for liability insurance are calculated. Therefore, taking increased ridership into account, last year's premium of \$355,850 would have been \$462,500. Consequently, the effective increase in liability insurance premiums for this contract will be approximately 1% to 2%. Being aware that ridership would affect the premium, an adequate increase was included in the proposed FY 2013 budget to cover this.

Chair Webb made motion for approval and it was seconded. There was no discussion and the vote of approval was unanimous.

- c. **RTA/MTA Contract Renewal for Regional Transit Services (A-012-013):**  
Chair Webb presented the staff recommendation to renew the two contracts for regional transit services provided by MTA. Contract #1 for a not to exceed amount of \$1,632, 920 for regional bus service and Contract #2 for \$150,881 for connecting buses supporting commuter rail. Proper motion was made and seconded. There was no discussion and the vote of approval was unanimous.

**IX. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT:** RTA General Manager Lora Baulsir reported on the following:

- a. **Resolution Accepting Dickson County as Member of RTA (A-012-014):**  
Dickson County has never been a member in the past but has recently expressed an interest in becoming a member of the RTA. Mayor Rial has made the decision to join and would like to immediately begin paying dues to the RTA prior to the end of the fiscal year. As it turned out, he was able to present this resolution to his council two nights prior to this meeting and it was approved. Proper motion was made and the RTA Board adopted the resolution accepting Dickson County as a new member of the RTA and the vote of approval was unanimous.

Continuing her report, Ms. Baulsir noted that last week the CMA event wrapped up. While it is a great event for the city, it does present some challenges for access to the train. This year’s organizers allowed a dedicated lane for the buses which made access to the train connections possible for the ridership. Ms. Baulsir is working with the Convention and Visitors Bureau for arrangements for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event downtown, which will also affect the train station, and she expects that to run smoothly.

Ms. Baulsir reported that a few months ago Kenny Martin with Mt. Juliet came to the Board and asked permission to name their train station for one of their former mayors. That dedication event was last week and is now official. They have also been given permission to do some landscaping there and to build a gazebo on some extra RTA land that is currently not paved. This will be done at their cost; and, they understand that in the future should this space be needed for a paved parking area, they will incur the cost for removal of this.

The Board has a contract with Miller Martin for legal services. There have been some changes in Miller Martin over the last few months and Todd Presnell, who represents RTA, has gone to another firm. Therefore, we will be going out to bid for these services. In the meantime, should there be any emergency needs for legal services; Miller Martin can be used on an emergency basis.

In conclusion, she mentioned an accident that happened at one of the private railroad crossings. One of the employees of the company pulled out in front of a moving train. Thankfully no one was hurt although there was extensive damage to the vehicle. The train was operational within 30 minutes. People from Terry’s company have gone to that company and talked with them about ways that they can make their employees more aware of how important it is to stop at the crossings every time.

**X. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT:** CEO Paul Ballard reported that CMA Festival did go very well this year and this was the first year that MTA was able to keep the downtown service operating. Staff worked well in advance with the new organizers and he commended Lora and staff for what they were able to accomplish. Mr. Ballard then presented to the Board the new RTA System Map. This project involved the collaboration of Ed Cole and the Marketing Committee, Lora Baulsir, and Patricia Harris-Morehead's staff in particular. He thanked all who contributed to this project. In closing, Mr. Ballard reminded everyone that the Board and committees would not meet in July.

**XI. CHAIR'S REPORT:** Chair Graves recognized the new chair of the Mayors' Caucus, Ken Moore, to report on the Mayors' Caucus. Mayor Moore thanked Mayor Jo Ann Graves for her leadership of the Mayors' Caucus over the last year. He noted the Vice-Chairs are Mayor Dean and Mayor McMillan. Mayor Moore reported that at the last meeting there were two separate presentations. Commissioner Susan Whitaker talked about tourism in the state of Tennessee and what they are doing. One thing he noted from her presentation was that communities who are sponsoring events that they would like to highlight have access to the state web site where these events can be posted. The second presenter was Steve Moore, the CEO of the Country Music Association, and his staff. He discussed the CMA event and encouraged the surrounding communities in how they can participate and enjoy the benefit of these CMA people coming into the region.

**XII. OTHER BUSINESS:** Governor Appointee Ed Cole took the opportunity to report that the third class for the Transit Leadership Academy will be convening on August 22nd. They are looking for nominations and several have already been submitted. He also shared that the summer edition of the National Association of Realtors Journal Magazine features the Transit Citizen Leadership Academy from Middle Tennessee. The GNAR (Greater Nashville Association of Realtors) provided some important seed money as this program was established that was a part of a national grant that they had received. This is great publicity.

Additionally, he noted that the work on the East West Connector is picking up speed. What he wished to bring to the RTA Board was that people are better understanding the regional context of the East West Connector. People are interested in what it is going to look like and what it is going to feel like. This will be of great benefit going forward breaking stereotypes. He encouraged regional participation in the public hearings whenever possible because the people of the region are interested.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

Respectfully,

*Ed Cole*

Governor Appointee  
RTA Secretary