



**MINUTES**  
**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**  
**APRIL 17, 2013**

- 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 April 17, 2013. A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by RTA Chair Karl Dean, Mayor Metro Nashville & Davidson County. General Manager Lora Baulsir introduced new member Rick Graham, Mayor Elect of Spring Hill, and also introduced visitor Beverly Totty, Mayor of Fairview.
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Chair Dean entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2013 meeting. Proper motion was made and seconded. The vote of approval was unanimous and the minutes were adopted as presented.
- III. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Margot Chambers of Nashville, Tennessee addressed the Board. She asked that the city produce copies of any reports that this city sends to the federal government on behalf of the East/West Connector. She has received a copy through a Freedom of Information Act request about a report that the MTA had given to the FTA in February 2012 that has significant hard traffic data in it that states car traffic would be significantly impacted. Ms. Chambers would like that report to be posted on the MTA web site in order to compare that data with the more recent report of last week that stated there was no significant car impact.
- IV. **MARKETING REPORT:** Committee Chair and Governor Appointee Kelly Dannenfelser reported that the committee met last week and continued their discussion about future marketing activities. She stated that we are rebranding the RTA services so that we can move away from the Relax and Ride brand that was established by the former management team. She thanked the committee and staff for their continued support.
- V. **OPERATIONS REPORT:** Committee Chair and Portland Mayor Ken Wilber reported that ridership is up. In the year to date comparisons, he noted that February of last year had one more day of service than this year. Overall it was a good report and staff continues to do a good job.
- VI. **FINANCE AND AUDIT REPORT:** Committee Chair Paul Webb reported the line of credit is currently \$70,000. The financial statements look very good in the year to date report through February. Balances are all favorable except for a small unfavorable budget variance of \$22,000 based on revenue being \$36,000. The balance sheet looks good. With the exception of one anomaly, the accounts payable are within 30 days of aging.

- a. **SunTrust Revolving Line of Credit Renewal (A-13-004):** RTA has an operating line of credit through SunTrust Bank in the amount of \$1.5 million for general borrowings to cash flow expenses for the Music City Star. The maturity date for the line of credit is April 20, 2013. The current balance of the line of credit is \$70,000. There is a ½% renewal fee which was included in the annual budget.

Any borrowings are paid back through federal 5307 formula grants when the grant funding becomes available. The general line of credit is only utilized to pay for expenses incurred for the train that are reimbursable by a federal grant. Motion was made to approve the authorization of the CEO to sign a one-year extension of the SunTrust Bank revolving credit agreement for \$1.5 million and the vote of approval was unanimous.

**VII. CHAIR'S REPORT:** Chair Karl Dean reported that today, March 20<sup>th</sup>, is the grand opening of the Korean Veterans Blvd., the new thoroughfare behind the convention center that will provide a new way to get from East Nashville to Downtown Nashville.

**VIII. CEO'S REPORT:** CEO Paul Ballard reported the new regional services map, which has updated information on all the routes, were now available. He invited all members to take a supply with them.

**IX. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:** RTA General Manager Lora Baulsir reminded the Board of the recent award of some capital money that RTA had received. She will be coming before the Board in May with an item related to some track rehabilitation work that has been needed, including tie replacement and smoothing of the rail.

Continuing, Ms. Baulsir noted that community meetings were held in both Sumner and Rutherford Counties to talk with business leaders about the future of transit in their regions. There were very positive discussions with good input and suggestions from the participants. Williamson County's community meeting will be held in the middle of May.

Ms. Baulsir also noted that all of the representatives from Williamson County rode transit into the meeting today. They used Franklin Transit service, RTA Express bus, and will be riding in a Van Star for their return trip. She and staff had an opportunity to meet with the members after their trip and answer questions they had. Franklin Mayor Moore asked that they look into the possibility for a reverse commute option on the Williamson County service.

In closing, Ms. Baulsir mentioned that tomorrow there would be a planning meeting for a mock disaster drill with the Music City Star. This is done every couple of years to give emergency responders an opportunity to test their processes. This year it will be a mock derailment with several injuries and will be held in September.

- X. **OTHER BUSINESS:** Dickson County Mayor Bob Rial commented that he was impressed with the level of service we provided to the region and would like to pursue Express Bus service to his county. There was no other business.
- XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

Respectfully,

*Paula Mansfield*

Governor Appointee  
RTA Secretary