



The Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation
Board of Trustees

Meeting Date: May 12, 2021

Agenda Item No. IV

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Action Requested:

Consideration of Meeting Minutes

Summary of Information:

Attachments yes X no

The April 14, 2021 meeting minutes are enclosed for PART Board review and approval.

Board Vote: Motion by: Mark Richardson Second by: Sharon HighTower

Vote: For 15-Yes Against 0-No



MEETING MINUTES

Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation Board of Trustees

April 14, 2021

Board Members Present:

Abuzuaiter, Marikay – City of Greensboro TAC
Austin, Kevin - Yadkin County
Butler, Jim – City of Burlington
Carter, Steve – Alamance County
Coleman, Carolyn – Guilford County
El-Amin, Fleming – Forsyth County
Frye, Darrell – Randolph County
Fox, Mike – NCDOT Board of Transportation
Grimes, Neal – TAC High Point
Hightower, Sharon – City of Greensboro
Holms, Michael – City of High Point
Horn, Mike – Winston Salem/Forsyth TAC
Mengert, Paul – PTAA
Morris, Rick – Stokes County
Mundy, Kevin – City of Winston Salem
Perkins, Andrew – NCDOT Board of Transportation
Richardson, Mark – Rockingham County
Truell, Don – Davidson County
Williams, Leonard – Burlington-Graham

Others Present:

Terry Anderson, PART; Connie Conklin, PART; Sabrina Glenn, PART; Pat Ivey, NCDOT; Mark Kirstner, PART; Toneq` McCullough, City of Winston Salem; Scott Rhine, PART; Tom Terrell Jr., Fox Rothschild; Tammy Turner, PART; Bonita Wellington, PART; Donna Woodson, Transit Manager, WSTA.

D) Call to Order: Roll Call of Teleconferencing.

A roll call was taken, and a quorum established with 19 members of the PART Board in attendance.

A. Consideration of Resolution for Teleconference and Electronic meeting for April 14, 2021

II) Chair Abuzuaiter explained the virtual meeting conducted with the authority that the General Assembly has provided under Statutes §160A-639 and §160A-639(22) with regards to the current state of emergency due to COVID-19. With our voting today, Board members who are in attendance please state if you are a no or an abstain vote, otherwise all of those included on the call today will be considered a yes. A Resolution is presented to acknowledge the virtual meeting format. Only those that have responded present during the roll call, count as voting yes. The vote was Unanimous: 19-Yes

III) Public Speakers registered via contactus@partnc.org

Scott Rhine indicated there was no public speakers. Chair Abuzuaiter asked if anyone on call requested to speak, there were no speakers.

IV) Consideration of Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2021 PART Board of Trustees meeting minutes were accepted without revisions.

Motion to accept the March 10, 2021 meeting minutes: Sharon Hightower

Second: Carolyn Coleman

Discussion: None

Vote: 19-Yes / 0-No / 0-Abstain

V) Report from Board Committee – Operations & Planning Committee

Neal Grime stated: Staff presented an overview of service delivery and ridership impacts due to COVID19. They highlighted how PART had been responsive to changing conditions. While ridership has improved staff feels it will be 6 to 12 months before the new trend is revealed. The Surry Route 6, Davidson Route 9, and Randolph Route 10 are being closely monitored due to ridership struggles (above and beyond the decreases related to COVID). Alamance-Burlington Route 4 is expected to go back to regular pre-COVID service levels in August 2021 when UNC re-opens at full capacity for work and student activity. Staff is working with the University to understand the plans for return in the fall. The Amtrak Connector will continue with a demand response basis, but ridership and train usage is being monitored.

Staff also updated the committee on the Regional Transportation Demand Management Initiative and the plan under development.

VI) Consideration of PART Board Business Items

A. New Business

1. Consideration of FY2020-21 Audit Service Contract

Scott Rhine stated: PART is the final year of a three-year contract with Dixon Hughes Goodman which includes annual auditing and financial assessment services. PART Board authorization is requested to approve Dixon Hughes Goodman for the annual auditing services for FY2020-21 before the auditors start their work.

Motion to approve FY2020-21 Audit Services contract with Dixon Hughes Goodman, LLP: Darrell Frye

Second: Fleming El-Amin

Discussion: None

Vote: 19-Yes / 0-No / 0-Abstain

2. Consideration of NCDOT Funding Agreements

NCDOT - PTRM 5 Year Program Agreement

Scott Rhine stated: PART works directly with its member agencies to enhance mobility for each of our citizens through regional cooperation and taking the responsibility to assist in transportation planning from NCDOT and the MPO's by serving as the Model Custodian for the Piedmont Triad Regional Model (PTRM). NCDOT funding in support of PTRM uses Federal SPR funds and is subject to annual review and commitment from NCDOT per the annual PTRM work plan and budget agreement between NCDOT and PART for a five-year period. This program agreement between PART and NCDOT is a renewal of the existing funding and support for an additional five-year period beginning July 1, 2021.

Motion to approve the NCDOT/PTRM 5 Year Program Agreement: Kevin Mundy

Second: Kevin Austin

Discussion: None

Vote: 19-Yes / 0-No / 0- Abstain

NCDOT - IMD Grant Agreements

Scott Rhine stated: The Integrated Mobility Division, previously named Public Transit Division, requires local governments to confirm that local funds are available for grant funds provided by NCDOT. For PART this is applicable grant funding that PART may receive that includes SMAP funds, Rideshare/TDM, and Capital match funds. Board approval is needed for renewal with NCDOT for state financial participation.

Motion to accept renewal of NCDOT Public Transportation Programs FY2022: Michael Holms

Second: Fleming El-Amin

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes-19 / 0-No / 0-Abstain

NCDOT-IMD Cost Allocation Plan Resolution (CAP)

Scott Rhine stated: This is a new requirement having a governing body approved CAP allocation related to the Transportation Demand Management Program, this was added to the agenda due to time constraints of a grant opportunity in the next fiscal year. The Commuter Resources Fund uses resources such as office supplies, utilities, and janitorial services which are allocated based on headcount. This is standard business practice of allocated expense by department, associated staff and general service expense recognized as allowable costs for eligibility for the Commuter Resources cost allocation plan.

Motion to accept Commuter Resources Fund Cost Allocation Plan (CAP): Darrell Frye

Second: Kevin Mundy

Discussion: None

Vote: 19-Yes/ 0-No / 0-Abstain

3. Consideration of Fast Charge Station Contract

Scott Rhine stated: PART was awarded VW settlement funds in July 2020 for the purchase and installation of a Fast Charge electrical vehicle charging station at our Graham Park and Ride facility. The funding award was \$70,138.00 and is 100% reimbursed to PART from the VW settlement funds managed by the NC Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

The full amount of cost associated with capital purchase, electrical and infrastructure expense from the selected vendor on state contract is \$66,689.00. This is an item we have included in our current year budget. We are trying to complete this project this fiscal year as planned, but it may carry over into next fiscal year depending on the electrical power to the site from Duke Energy. PART Board action is requested authorizing the PART Executive Director to enter into a contract with National Car Charging LLC for the purchase, installation, data monitoring, maintenance and warranty of the Level 2 fast charge electric vehicle charging station. Kevin Mundy asked if these charging stations were for the individual riders. And is there a fee associated with using these electrical charging stations or is it complimentary? Mr. Rhine answered yes, they are for anyone utilizing our park and ride location with no fee associated for use at this time, but we are monitoring the use to see if that needs to be passed along to users. Sharon Hightower: how many park and ride lots do we have and are you trying to install electric charging stations on all the lots? Mr. Rhine stated we have around 17 lots throughout the entire region, with some being sold. Presently there are no plans to install electric charging stations in all the lots.

Motion to approve entering into a contract with National Car Charging, LLC for the purchase installation, data monitoring and maintenance of electric vehicle charging station at the Graham park and ride lot: Carolyn Coleman.

Second: Kevin Mundy

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes-19 / 0-No / 0-Abstain

B) Old Business – None

VI) Departmental Staff Reports

Executive Director Report

Scott Rhine stated: there are a few items for update in the package with regards to our existing funds for the upcoming year. Finance Committee meets today, and we will communicate that information to the PART Board at our May meeting. Ms. Hightower asked if PART received any monies allocated from the Recovery Act. Mr. Rhine stated the way the federal funding flows with regards to the allocation and for allocation purposes this would be applicable to section 5307 funds. Those funds go to the direct recipient. For our purposes that represents the City of Greensboro and the City of Winston Salem are direct recipients. NCDOT is the direct recipient for High Point, and the Burlington-Graham areas. We have received correspondence, and from High Point on the Recovery Act funds to be distributed to PART. This includes funding they will maintain in High Point and shared with Davidson County. We have not finalized distribution of these funds. Ms. Hightower stated, the money we receive 56 million which will not be distributed all at once, will come to PART, and in the rescue plan, is there something written for PART or transportation? Next, you must go to the municipality to receive funds. Is that correct? Mr. Rhine yes that is correct we must have conversations with all parties in the urbanized area and city staff will take the lead on coordinating. The Recovery Act funds of 15.3 million allocated to Greensboro has not been finalized, and PART's allocation of these funds will be received after coordination with the eligible transit providers.

Departmental Reports

Mr. Rhine stated, we have received six of the ten Buses and the other four on order are on schedule. Greensboro Transit Authority and Hi Tran is on schedule to go live with their customers on mobile faring. Triad Mobility Transportation Demand Management plan continues to be worked on and we will bring that back to you later. Mike Horn asked if the new buses were hybrids? Mr. Rhine stated No, they are low sulfur diesel for our fleet vehicles. Kevin Mundy asked what our plans are for converting to more carbon neutral vehicles? Mr. Rhine stated, with regards to our industry, we have reviewed the technology advancements on the propulsion systems, I share and take the stance that the cost effectiveness you have with hybrid technology and the emissions reduction you see, is not something that makes business sense for the PART agency. Hybrid technology works off the braking system which generates the battery power, and from PART's standpoint we are a Commuter Express system, technically we do not brake as much as a city system. The hybrid cost difference is around 300,000 per vehicle. When you talk about emissions and fuel saving in the life of that vehicle, that technology is not a cost recovery or emissions benefit for our type of system. For some agencies it makes sense but for PART it does not make good business sense.

XI) Chairperson Report

Madame Chair Abuzuaiter stated, there is consideration about meeting in person for our May and June Board meetings. Scott will be conducting a poll to seek input from board members and consider the CDC recommendations, guidelines, protocols. Congratulations to Mark Kirstner as he received the NC Public Transportation Association Transit Advocate Award. This is in appreciation for his leadership and dedication to transit in North Carolina.

Motion to adjourn 9:26am: Carolyn Coleman.

Second: Fleming El-Amin

Vote: 19-Yes / 0-No / 0-Abstain