

RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF Tuesday, June 28, 2016

Board Members Present: Maureen Martin; Director Peter Alviti; Princess Sirleaf Bomba; Stephanie Ogidan Preston; Wayne Kezirian; Karen Santilli; Joshua Brumberger

Absent: Mark Susa.

Also Present: Raymond Studley, CEO; Benjamin Salzillo, In-House Legal; Christian Capizzo, Outside Counsel; Victoria Catalano, Recording Secretary; and other members of RIPTA's staff, and members of the public.

The meeting is called to order by Maureen Martin as Secretary of the Board. Ms. Martin gives an overview of current status of the board and the need to elect new officers. Introduction is made of two of the three new board members - Joshua Brumberger and Wayne Kezirian.

Agenda Item 1: Election of Chairman *Pro Tempore* and discussion of election of officers and appointment of committee members.

Ms. Martin asks for a motion to elect a Chairman Pro Tempore. Mr. Kezirian moves that Ms. Martin be elected the Chairman Pro Tempore and needing no second, it passes unanimously.

Director Alviti arrives to the meeting.

Ms. Martin asks for clarification by Mr. Capizzo, legal counsel, as to procedures for election of the offices of the chair, vice chair and treasurer. Mr. Capizzo so informs the board.

Ms. Martin asks for a nomination for the office of Chair. Director Alviti nominates Wayne Kezirian as Chairman; and no other nominations are received. Ms. Martin asks for a nomination for the office of Vice Chair. Mr. Brumberger nominates Stephanie Preston Vice-Chair; and no other nominations are received. Mr. Brumberger nominates Karen Santilli as Treasurer; and no other nominations are received.

By acclamation Wayne Kezirian is elected Chairman, Stephanie Preston is elected Vice Chairman and Karen Santilli is elected Treasurer and will also serve as the Chair of the Finance Committee.

Chairman Kezirian introduces himself.

Agenda Item 2: Discussion of appointment of Joint Pension Board members.

Chairman Kezirian states he has reviewed the pension plan and pension trust agreement which states there will be 3 members of the joint pension board who are selected by the Authority.

Chairman Kezirian asks Mr. Capizzo to clarify whether the Board or RIPTA makes the appointment of pension board members. Mr. Capizzo informs the board that there are currently two vacancies that need to be filled by RIPTA on the Joint Pension Board and that according to the documents reviewed the appointment of members may be made by the Chairman of the Board along with the Board or the Authority.

Ms. Preston arrives to the meeting.

Chairman Kezirian asks for a motion to have the Board designate the CEO of RIPTA as the person authorized to appoint members to the Joint Pension Board with the consent of the Chairman of the Board. Director Alviti so moves; the motion is seconded by Mr. Brumberger and it passes unanimously.

Mr. Capizzo states for the record that Stephanie Preston has been elected Vice Chair and Ms. Preston accepts the appointment.

Agenda Item 3: **Approval of the May 23, 2016 Board Minutes**

Chairman Kezirian. He states he was not present for the May 23, 2016 Board meeting and asks for a motion to approve the minutes by a member who was in attendance. Director Alviti makes a motion to approve the May 23, 2016 Board meeting minutes as presented. Ms. Bomba seconds the motion and it passes with Mr. Brumberger and Chairman Kezirian abstaining.

Agenda Item 4: **Public Comment**

Chairman Kezirian states he is aware of the public's need to make comments, but also aware of the time commitment of the Board members, and directs that at this meeting public comment will be limited to 3 minutes per person. He states there will be another mechanism for RIPTA's executive staff and a member of the board to be available prior to future board meetings so members of the public can engage in discussions.

Four individuals spoke about their issues. Mr. William McGee spoke about his dissatisfaction with the implementation of the DOT ferry service, Ms. Ele Felaco spoke on Logisticare and the continuation of the no fare senior/disabled bus pass program. Ms. Felaco presented the Board with a copy of the RI Department of Human Services Transportation Options and it is attached to these minutes, the concern being that Logisticare is not offered as a transportation option. Ms. Lee Ann Burn, Policy Director of the Coalition for the Homeless discussed their involvement in pressing for the allocation of \$900,000 to RIPTA by the legislature to delay the implementation of the senior/disabled bus pass program because their clients cannot afford any amount for a bus pass. Chairman Kezirian asks Ms. Burn to provide him with data and information on what the members of her association charge or are reimbursed for the services they provide to their clients so that RIPTA can determine whether it is on par with what is happening in the non-profit community. Mr. Ray Gagne, Director of the RI Organizing Project, asks if there is a way to make the no fare pass program permanent. Chairman Kezirian asks Mr. Gagne to provide the board with two or three case studies, with the appropriate individual releases, explaining what their actual experience was and why this is a problem. Mr. Brumberger expresses his desire to have these case studies to review.

Discussion is had between board members and Mr. Studley regarding the impact of the delay in the senior/disabled reduced fare program and the \$900,000 subsidy from the state and the impact of Logisticare on RIPTA.

Agenda Item 5: CEO Report

Mr. Studley presents the CEO Report. Mr. Studley states that revenue is lagging; the gas tax yield was about \$540,000 lower because of the reduction in inspection fees losing \$200,000 annually in the budget. Mr. Studley points out some details in the CEO report related to Logisticare, and the UPass program. Mr. Studley states that a security company has been hired to work in Kennedy Plaza starting July 1st. He further states that the requalification of the senior/disabled bus pass program as part of the legislative change has been continuing; and to date there are about 7200 people in the program. Ratios prior to the requalification were 90% disabled to 10% elderly, and the current ratios are 60% disabled to 40% elderly. Board members and Mr. Studley discuss the information contained in the CEO Report.

Karen Santilli arrives to the meeting.

Agenda Item 6: Capital Budget

Chairman Kezirian invites Ms. DiLauro and Mr. Durand to present the Capital Budget. Mr. Durand states this is the capital improvement plan, a grant funded plan not only for capital projects but also out of the operating projects which are all brought together in this document. These budgets are used to grow and invest in the system and repairs to buildings.

Board members questioned Mr. Durand, Ms. DiLauro, Mr. Studley and Ms. Pettine regarding the information contained in the Capital Budget. After discussion, Chairman Kezirian suggests there is the need for further review of the Capital Budget with input from the finance committee and asks for a motion to table. Mr. Brumberger makes a motion to table this item. Ms. Martin seconds and it passes unanimously.

Agenda Item 7: IFB 16-08 Allison Transmission Parts

Mr. Mencarini presents this item to request the award of a contract in the amount of \$75,000 for one year, with the option to renew for an additional four years, to New England Detroit Diesel-Alison to supply and deliver Allison Transmission Parts. Mr. Mencarini answers questions from the board members. After discussion, Director Alviti makes a motion to approve the item as presented; Ms. Martin seconds and it passes unanimously.

Agenda Item 8: IFB 16-23 Cummings Engine Parts

Mr. Mencarini presents this item to request the award of a contract in the amount of \$850,000 for one year, with the option to renew for an additional four years, to Cummings Northeast to supply and deliver Cummins engine parts. Mr. Mencarini answers questions from the board members. After discussion, Director Alviti makes a motion to approve the item as presented, Ms. Martin seconds and it passes unanimously.

Agenda Item 9: **RFP 16-26 Newport Gateway Phase II Architectural & Engineering Services**

Ms. Pettine and Ms. Picchione presented this agenda item to request the award of a contract not to exceed \$580,000 to Northeast Collaborative Architects for Phase II Architectural and Engineering services for exterior repairs and resiliency improvements including services in design development, phasing plans, cost estimating and construction administration at the Newport Gateway Center. Ms. Pettine, Ms. Picchione, and Mr. McGrane answer questions from the board members. After discussion, Director Alviti makes a motion to approve the item as presented, Ms. Bomba seconds and it passes unanimously.

Agenda Item 10: **Service and Fare Equity (“SAFE”) Analysis Policy**

Mr. Salzillo and Ms. Pettine present this agenda item asking the Board to approve the Service and Fare Equity Analysis Policy, which is used to evaluate whether any proposed fare or major service change might have a discriminatory impact to the public based on race, color or national origin. Mr. Salzillo and Ms. Pettine answer questions from the board members. After discussion, Mr. Brumberger makes a motion to approve the item as presented, Director Alviti seconds and it passes unanimously.

Agenda Item 11: **RFP 15-12 RIPTA Fare Study Change Order**

Ms. Pettine and Mr. Nordin present this item to request approval of a change order in the amount of \$99,456 to LTK Engineering which will provide RIPTA with technical specifications and professional support for the procurement of a new fare collection system bringing the entire value of the contract to \$306,402. Ms. Pettine and Mr. Nordin answer questions from the board members. After discussion, Mr. Brumberger makes a motion to approve the item as presented, Director Alviti seconds and it passes unanimously.

Agenda Item 12: **RFP 16-30 RIPTA On-Board Rider Survey**

Ms. Pettine and Ms. Ingle present this agenda item to request the award of a contract in the amount of \$134,401 to Warner Transportation Consulting to conduct an on-board survey of existing RIPTA riders. Ms. Pettine and Ms. Ingle answer questions from the board members. After discussion, Ms. Martin makes a motion to approve the item as presented, Mr. Brumberger seconds and it passes unanimously.

Agenda Item 13: **IRB 16-24 Stanley Powerdrawer II Inspection Maintenance and Repair**

Mr. Chadwick presents this agenda item to request the award of a contract in the amount of \$50,191.76 for five years of inspections and an estimated \$10,000 over the life of the contract for repairs, with the option to renew for an additional four years, to CAPUS Automation Services to provide maintenance inspections and repair services to the Stanley Powerdrawer II storage systems. Mr. Chadwick answers questions from the board members. After discussion, Director

Alviti makes a motion to approve the item as presented, Ms. Martin seconds and it passes unanimously.

Agenda Item : Adjournment

Chairman Kezirian discusses scheduling of future board meetings, meeting minutes, and asks for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Alviti makes the motion to adjourn, Ms. Martin seconds and it passes unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Catalano
Recording Secretary

RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

For Seniors and People with Disabilities on Medical Assistance

Transportation Assistance for Medicaid Recipients

The Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) recognizes that elderly citizens and adults with disabilities receiving Medical Assistance need to have transportation available in order to access medical services. For emergencies you should always call 911.

The use of friends, neighbors, and family members is encouraged. If none of these are available, you may be able to get rides from health centers, community agencies, or volunteer groups in your area. When none of these options are available, there are also a number of transportation options listed below.

Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA)

People with disabilities and elderly enrolled in Medicaid or the RI Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Elderly Program may apply for the "no-fare" program and ride free with a RIPTA Senior/Disabled Buss Pass during all hours on regularly scheduled routes. In limited areas of the state, flex service is also available. Information about flex service can be obtained by calling 1-877-906-FLEX (1-877-906-3539). For application and regular route information call RIPTA at 401-784-9500.

The RIDE Program

RIDE provides door-to-door transportation to people over age sixty (60) and people with disabilities under age sixty (60). Transportation is generally available during weekdays for medical appointments, adult day care, and meal site lunches. Once you have your pass, call RIDE at least two weeks before your appointment at 401-461-9760 or 1-800-479-6902.

Hospital Transportation

If you go to a hospital and cannot take the same transportation home, the hospital staff will help you find appropriate transportation. If the person you see does not know about this program, ask to speak to the social services or emergency department staff.

When None of These Options are Available or Appropriate

EOHHS will help you to arrange suitable non-emergency transportation for services covered by the Medicaid Program. Please call the EOHHS Office of Transportation at 401-462-6352 for assistance.

Medicaid recipients have the right to appeal OHHS decisions regarding provisions of transportation services.