



Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: June 16, 2022, 6:30-9:00pm

Members: Eric Mahler (Chair), Mike Allemang (Treasurer), Jesse Miller (Secretary), Rich Chang, Raymond Hess, Ryan Hunter, Kathleen Mozak, Susan Pollay, Kyra Sims

Staff: Matt Carpenter, Dina Reed, Bryan Smith, Forest Yang, Rosa-Maria Njuki, Deborah Holt

Location: Ann Arbor District Library
Virtual attendance available [via Zoom](#)
Passcode: 983308

Chair Eric Mahler called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm

Agenda Item

1. OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Approve Agenda

Mr. Carpenter requested a Juneteenth Resolution be added to the agenda for board consideration as item 1.3.2 and after item.

Ms. Mozak motioned to approve the agenda with suggested addition, seconded by Ms. Pollay.

All in favor of the accepted agenda:

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes (attending virtually)
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Raymond Hess: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Mozak: Yes
Ms. Pollay: Yes
Chairman Mahler: Yes

The vote passed unanimously.

1.2 Public Comment

Michelle Barney shared that she is hearing concerns about tax increases and a general lack of public education about the millage. She also expressed concern that the stereotype of poor or minority public transportation riders may negatively impact voting. She encouraged broader marketing to combat these stereotypes.

Robert Pawlowski shared that he attended the recent Green Fair and used it as an opportunity to discuss the millage. He encouraged the organization to use other regional

public events to education and promote the millage. He thanked the organization for acknowledging and promoting Juneteenth to the community.

1.3 General Announcements

1.3.1 Roger Hewitt – Board Service Recognition

Mr. Mahler presented board member Roger Hewitt for a plaque in honor of his 6 years of board service and leadership as he is stepping down from the board. He thanked him for his years of dedication and contribution with moving the board and the organization forward in a positive direction.

Mr. Hewitt thanked the board and staff and shared it was a difficult decision to step down. He has treasured his years with the organization and is proud of the ongoing work that is being done

1.3.2 Juneteenth Resolution Consideration

Mr. Carpenter introduced a draft resolution in support and commemoration of Juneteenth for the board's consideration. He noted that in recognition of Juneteenth, TheRide has provided drivers special shirts to wear throughout the month and on June 20th the BTC and YTC will be providing coffee and donuts and educational information about the holiday. [A brief video](#) was shared outlining the history of Juneteenth.

Mr. Mahler read the [resolution](#) (pg. 68) to the board. Mr. Hess commented and expressed support, yet also a concern that the resolution had been sent just prior to the meeting. He requested items not be rushed onto future agenda for the sake of transparency.

With no other comments, the resolution passed unanimously.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2.1 Board Meeting Minutes May 19, 2022

2.2 Committee Meeting Summaries

2.3 FY 2023 Board Meeting Dates

Ms. Mozak motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Change.

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes (attending virtually)

Mr. Rich Chang: Yes

Mr. Raymond Hess: Yes

Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes

Ms. Mozak: Yes

Ms. Pollay: Yes

Chairman Mahler: Yes

The Consent Agenda was accepted as presented.

3. POLICY MONITORING & DEVELOPMENT

3.1 Board Retreat Planning

Mr. Mahler shared that the Governance Committee was suggesting two half day retreats in the fall and winter. The board discussed priorities for retreat agenda topics – capital projects along and the Propulsion Study were a priority.

Ms. Mozak expressed a strong desire for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training to be focused on addressing transportation inequities of which other board members were in agreement.

Further discussion and planning will occur at the committee level.

3.2 Monitoring Improvements

Mr. Allemang shared the taskforce is planning to test new survey formatting on the upcoming survey for Policy 2.7 Asset Protection. The results will be shared at the July board meeting.

3.3 2.10 Communication and Support to the Board

Mr. Carpenter shared several important points pertaining to the monitoring report – noting first the inclusion of a color-coded table within the report that would now be included to provide reference on historical compliance data. He then outlined each of the areas within the report that was not in compliance and explained why/how it would be addressed.

Mr. Allemang thanked him for his honesty in explaining the non-compliance details and how many were related to the lingering impact of the cyber-attack. He expressed concern that the board survey participation was low and that while the new monitoring improvements will improve the process, they won't necessarily be less time-consuming.

Ms. Mozak asked if the board might consider reviewing the monitoring schedule and separating longer policies.

With no other input on the report, Ms. Mozak moved to accept the report as B – in compliance except for items noted.

All in favor of accepting the report as B – in compliance except for items noted:

Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes (attending virtually)
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Mr. Raymond Hess: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Mozak: Yes
Ms. Pollay: Yes
Chairman Mahler: Yes

The vote passed unanimously.

4. STRATEGY UPDATES: CEO

4.1 Long-Range Plan Update

Mr. Yang introduced Yuval Grinspun of Left Turn, Right Turn, Long-Range Plan consultants. Mr. Grinspun presented the board a [draft version](#) (pg. 69) of the Long-Range Plan. He shared the background of the LRP and community input and recommendations that went into the planning process.

**Ms. Sims joined the board meeting at 7:22pm virtually*

After the presentation, Mr. Grinspun welcomed board input and discussion. Mr. Hess asked for clarification on specific dates used for propulsion targets. Mr. Carpenter answered that the LRP and parallel propulsion study are in alignment with one another and the dates provided are related to the timing of fleet turnover.

Mr. Miller sought more input on coverage for low index opportunity areas and service routes of which Mr. Grinspun responded that specific details on routes was not included as it relates to funding partnerships. They also discussed recommendations for transit center locations included in the report.

Mr. Miller and Ms. Mozak discussed fare revenue projects and ridership increases which have been based on research models. Mr. Grinspun and Mr. Yang spoke of the pandemic impact and how that was reflected within the report.

Board members discussed the merits of moving ahead with voting on the LRP draft or if that should wait until after the August election. Mr. Mahler noted the public has provided positive input and the board should fully study the draft and move forward with a July vote.

4.2 Corporate Business Plan

Ms. Njuki presented the board with a draft of the Corporate Business Plan. The goal of the plan was to increase transparency with major organizational initiatives and streamline the budget process. She asked the board for feedback prior to the July board meeting which will be incorporated in a finalized draft.

Mr. Carpenter added that the business planning process is linked to the annual goal setting and budget process. He stressed that board input is important to the planning process and encouraged feedback.

4.3 Budget Timeline Update (Verbal)

Ms. Reed shared an updated budget timeline draft process with the board. She noted the areas of staff, board and community involvement during the process along with opportunities for each to preview different phases of the budget planning with the public. Ms. Mozak asked how the public will be notified of public engagement opportunities and Ms. Reed shared she was in contact with the Communications Dept to schedule those opportunities.

Ms. Reed also provided an update on inflationary factors that are being monitored – specifically, rising fuel costs. This will be addressed in the budget process for FY 2023 but also, projections will be included for future fiscal years.

5. OPERATIONAL UPDATES

5.1 CEO Report

Mr. Carpenter shared information with the board from the MPTA regarding the state gas tax holiday being proposed and the potential negative impact it may have on transportation funding. He is planning to share this information with state legislators.

Ms. Mozak requested that more information or meeting links be included in the CEO report under the LAC, Transportation Commission and WATS policy committee updates.

Mr. Allemang expressed concern on the short term and long-term impacts of a gas tax holiday. Mr. Carpenter noted that this was a good time for the board to consider a legislative agenda and plan a trip to visit legislators in Lansing.

6. EMERGENT ITEMS

Mr. Chang asked if the board might consider moving any of the monitoring reports off upcoming agendas – he is concerned about the amount of time involved with the LRP and business plan reviews.

Board members discussed potential options and agenda priorities and Mr. Mahler concluded the discussion by saying he would discuss further in the upcoming Governance Committee meeting.

7. CLOSING ITEMS

7.1 Topics for Next Meetings

LRP
2.2 Treatment of Staff

7.2 Public Comment

Robert Pawlowski thanked the staff for their work on the Corporate Business Plan presentation and that he is looking forward to providing public input on the budget. He also spoke positively of the recent reports to the LAC and the good work that is being done for the community. He attends RTA meetings and commends the organization for their good service in the community.

7.3 Adjournment

Ms. Pollay motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Mozak.

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 pm