

PITTSBURGH REGIONAL TRANSIT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT) was held on Friday, June 28, 2024, at PRT's Administration Offices, 345 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15222-2527, pursuant to due public notice given as required by law.

The Interim Chair, Jennifer Liptak, introduced PRT's new Board members, Emma Shoucair and Tia McClenney.

The following Board members were in attendance in person: Jennifer Liptak, Interim Chair, Emma Shoucair, Tia McClenney, Ann Ogoreuc, Lori Mizgorski, John Tague, Stephanie Turman and Joe Totten. The following member participated by via TEAMS: Ali Doyle. Board Solicitor Sandy Garfinkel attended in person.

The Chair called the Regular Meeting to order and asked the audience to stand for the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of reflection.

A recommendation was made for approval of the minutes of the May 24, 2024 Regular Meeting. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed.

The Chair called on Pittsburgh Regional Transit CEO Katharine Kelleman for a report.

CEO Kelleman first requested a moment of the silence for the following retired employees who passed away since we last met: Operators David Caddies, Lawrence Fisher, Patrick Haddock, Nathan Mayle, James Racan, Dennis Smith, Jeffery Staudt, and Charles Wiggins; Automotive Mechanic Joseph Vargo; Bus Assignment Shifter Kenneth Pollard; Body Repairperson Robert Ziegler and Serviceperson Kenneth Winwood.

CEO Kelleman also welcomed our newest board members, Emma Shoucair and Tia McClenney, and thanked our outgoing Board Chair Jeff Letwin and board member Michelle Zmijanec for their many, many years of dedicated service to this board and to our region. She noted that serving on the board of a public transit agency requires a remarkable level of dedication and a significant investment of time and energy. "Their commitment to improving public transit directly impacts the quality of life for all of us who rely on public transit every day."

Next CEO Kelleman wished Mike Heidkamp, our chief transportation officer, a very happy retirement. Mike began his career at PRT as an operator in 1993 and worked his way up the ranks to instructor, manager, director, deputy chief, and finally chief over the last 30 years. CEO Kelleman presented Mike with a plaque and wished him a healthy and relaxing well deserved retirement.

Next CEO Kelleman recognized 10 operators who received the most commendations in 2023.

CEO Kelleman said that "The operators here today represent the best of us. They're empathetic, caring, kind, and patient. So many of our employees do an amazing job, and it's a privilege to be able to recognize them publicly."

The operators included James Bonner from the Ross Division; Monique Wynn, Monica Staples, Don Miguel Watson-Ellis Sr., and Mark Prunty from the West Mifflin Division; Donna Gandy, Tiffany Lawson, and Kevin Pollard from the East Liberty Division; Kemal Smith from the Collier Division and from South Hills Village Vernon Hucks.

CEO Kelleman announced that starting July 1, PRT will be extending its Digital Customer Service Department hours by two hours every weekday and an hour on Saturdays and Sundays. During these hours, PRT's Customer Service representatives will post service alerts on social media and TrueTime and respond to inquiries via the chat on PRT's website. She noted that PRT Digital Customer Service will continue to expand its hours in phases throughout the year.

CEO Kelleman added that "The way we reach our riders and how they reach us has evolved a lot over the years, and we're excited to be able to provide additional information when and how our riders want it. By expanding our Digital Customer Service Department hours, we can equip transit riders across Allegheny County with more information so they can be more confident and capable of getting to their destinations. Riders can manually check @pghtransitalerts on X (formerly Twitter) or sign up for push notifications. To sign up, visit truetime.rideprt.org and click the 'Subscribe' button."

Finally, CEO Kelleman was excited to announce that the Mon Incline will be free all day on July 4. "It's the biggest day of the year for the Mt. Washington neighborhood and we want to support our neighbors in the community."

That concluded the report of the Chief Executive Officer.

The Chair thanked Ms. Kelleman for her report and congratulated the operators honored here today.

The Chair called on Lori Mizgorski, member of the Performance Oversight Committee, for a report.

Member Mizgorski reported that the Performance Oversight Committee met last week and had three resolutions for the Board's consideration.

The Committee first reviewed four procurement items, including a contract to furnish and deliver ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel to PRT's operating locations for use in its bus fleet over a one-year period, and determined the bids to be in accordance with PRT's procurement policies and procedures and prices to be fair and reasonable.

The Performance Oversight Committee recommended the award of bids listed in the resolution for the total amount of \$18,600,170.96.

On behalf of the Performance Oversight Committee, Member Mizgorski respectfully requested approval of the resolution. It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed that the resolution be approved as presented.

The next resolution presented sought to extend and amend an agreement with AON Risk Services Central, Inc., to provide property and casualty risk management services.

It was reported at the meeting that in June 2021, PRT entered into an agreement with AON to perform these services for an initial term of three years for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$285,000, to be allocated on an as-needed basis through task specific work orders.

The agreement also contains two option years to be exercised by PRT in its sole discretion.

To date, services performed by AON have been satisfactory and in compliance with the Agreement.

The Performance Oversight Committee recommended extending the agreement for the first option year to September 30, 2025, and to increase the total not-to-exceed amount for the agreement by \$95,000.

On behalf of the Performance Oversight Committee, Member Mizgorski respectfully requested approval of the resolution. It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed that the resolution be approved as presented.

Member Mizgorski presented the final resolution seeking authorization to award a construction contract for the Parking Lot Paving and Site Improvements project at the South Hills Junction.

To perform the work for the contract, bid documents were prepared and publicly advertised and three bids were received.

The Performance Oversight Committee recommended that a contract be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, Mele & Mele & Sons, Inc., in the amount of \$6,333,737.00, subject to completing all pre-award requirements.

On behalf of the Performance Oversight Committee, Member Mizgorski respectfully requested approval of the resolution. It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed that the resolution be approved as presented.

That concluded the report of the Performance Oversight Committee.

The Chair then called on John Tague, Chair of the Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee, for a report.

Chair Tague reported that the Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee met last week and had a few items for the Board.

First at the meeting, staff presented the Quarterly update on the University Line BRT project. It was reported that construction of Phase I began in September of 2023 in the downtown area. Most station elements should be in place by the end of 2024, but the bus lane installation and painting will likely go into the spring of 2025. Currently, crews are at seven locations downtown.

It was reported that Phase II will then proceed to the Uptown and Oakland neighborhoods, with construction set to begin in spring 2025. Construction is expected to be 24 months on that phase, ending in 2027.

The total project will cost approximately \$291 million, which was funded using federal grants, some matching funds from the city and county, and PRT funding.

Along with the Director of ACCESS, Karen Hoesch, staff gave an ACCESS overview presentation. Sponsored by PRT, and working with other community partners, ACCESS helps connect eligible

individuals with disabilities and seniors with trips to events, shopping, medical services and more with door-to-door, shared ride paratransit service. Four providers with 250 vehicles provide service and are funded by several partnering sources which are managed by Transdev, serving as the broker under contract to PRT.

It was reported that ACCESS is dealing with many of the same challenges as PRT. In 2023, ridership was only 79 percent of pre-pandemic. However, 2024 has seen a five percent increase over 2023. Driver recruitment and retention, ridership return, vehicle availability and price have all offered challenges. However, with an on-time performance of 93 percent, the services exceed ADA minimums for service area, days and hours of service, fares, and door-to-door or hand-to-hand interactions.

It was noted that same day service is a new offering and ACCESS can accommodate about half of the requests.

Next Chair Tague gave an update on the Allegheny County Transit Council and the Committee for Accessible Transportation. ACTC met on June 26 and staff provided an overview of the Customer Service Department. ACTC's next scheduled meeting is July 24.

The CAT Committee met on June 18. Mr. Tague explained that this was a special meeting scheduled by PRT to discuss the Bus Line Redesign project. The Bus Line Redesign team provided the Committee with an update on the project and sought their feedback on the status of the project. The CAT Committee's next scheduled meeting is July 11.

That concluded the report of the Planning and Stakeholder Relations Committee.

The Chair called on Ann Ogoreuc, Chair of the Finance Committee for a report.

Chair Ogoreuc reported that the Finance Committee met on Thursday, June 20, and had three items, including two resolutions, to report.

The first resolution sought authorization to adopt Collective Bargaining Agreements with Port Authority Transit Police Association covering transit police officers and sergeants and lieutenants. The current agreement covering transit police officers expires on July 31, 2024 and the current agreement covering sergeants and lieutenants expires on July 31, 2025.

Over the past several months, representatives from PRT and the Police Association have been engaged in good faith bargaining in an effort to reach new agreements.

PRT and the Police Association have agreed on the proposed terms and conditions of both agreements as summarized on Exhibit A and Exhibit B attached to the resolution.

Chair Ogoreuc noted that it was reported at the meeting that the Police Association has recently ratified the proposed terms of both amended agreements.

The Finance Committee recommended approving and ratifying both the amended rank and file agreement and the amended supervisors' agreement as outlined in the resolution.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Chair Ogoreuc respectfully requested approval of the resolution. It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed that the resolution be approved as presented.

The next resolution sought authorization to establish the third year budget with Transdev Services, Inc., for providing professional services to coordinate and administer paratransit services for individuals with disabilities and older adults in Allegheny County, also known as ACCESS.

In April 2022, PRT's Board authorized the award of a five-year agreement with Transdev Services, Inc., to provide the services. The agreement specifies that a not-to-exceed budget be established by the Board each fiscal year.

The Finance Committee recommends a proposed not-to-exceed amount for the agreement's third contract year, covering the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, in the total amount of \$2,546,000.00.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Chair Ogoreuc respectfully requested approval of the resolution. It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed that the resolution be approved as presented.

Chair Ogoreuc concluded her remarks by reviewing the May financial results presented at last week's meeting.

It was reported that Total Operating Income for the month of May was under budget by \$500,000 due to lower Passenger Revenue, Access Shared Ride Revenue and Advertising. Total Expenses for the month of May were below budget by \$300,000 due to lower Wages and Benefits and Purchased Services expense.

Total Operating Income is \$7.2 million higher than last fiscal year through May due to higher Passenger Revenue, Access Shared Ride Revenue and Interest Income. Total Expenses through May are \$20 million higher than last fiscal year due to higher expenses in every category.

Total Subsidy is \$5.2 million higher than last fiscal year due to higher State assistance and Preventative Maintenance.

As of May 2024, the total remaining federal stimulus balance is \$27.1 million of CRRSAA funds.

Finally, PRT ended the month of May with approximately \$395.5 million in operating reserves.

That concluded the report of the Finance Committee.

Committee Chair Liptak gave the report of the Technology Committee.

The Technology Committee met on June 20, and there were two resolutions to present.

The first resolution, under the awarding of bids portion of the meeting, includes two purchase requests. The first, Cisco Networking Equipment & Licensing, for the provision of equipment and maintenance for purposes of PRT's internal network monitoring, is being recommended for contract award to DISYS Solutions, Inc., in the estimated total of \$1,172,655.70. The second item would utilize the COSTARS State Schedule for the purchase of IGEL Software Licenses, Training Module and associated Training Support Services in the amount of \$113,383.21.

The Committee concluded that the equipment and services are needed and that the prices are fair and reasonable and recommended that the Board vote in favor of the resolution to authorize the award of these bids.

On behalf of the Technology Committee, Chair Liptak respectfully requested approval of the resolution. It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed that the resolution be approved as presented.

The second resolution presented was a sole source software support and maintenance agreement for existing GIRO Inc. software which is integral to numerous PRT systems. This agreement is being recommended for three years at a total not to exceed amount of \$2,121,540. The Committee concluded that these services are needed and that the prices are fair and reasonable, and recommended that the Board vote in favor of the resolution to authorize this contract.

On behalf of the Technology Committee, Chair Liptak respectfully requested approval of the resolution. It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed that the resolution be approved as presented.

That concluded the report of the Technology Committee.

There was no New Business before the Board.

The Chair moved onto public comment and called on the first speaker, Joy Dore.

Joy addressed the Board regarding the new stroller policy that went into effect recently. She stated it is very difficult take public transportation in a wheelchair and it has become more difficult with strollers in the area reserved for the disabled, older adults and wheelchairs and scooters. Unfortunately, the new policy has been displacing individuals with disabilities and senior citizens.

Joy urged the Board and staff to take another look at the new stroller policy and put it back to how it was prior to the change.

The next speaker was Andrew Hussein. First Andrew thanked the outgoing members for their time at PRT and hopes the new members will continue to lead in a positive direction.

Andrew addressed the Board regarding the problems with the bus and rail shuttles put in place during the Red Line construction. Andrew added that PRT told people at a public meeting in Beechview unequivocally that there would be phased service over the summer and that they would eventually extend the shuttles back to Potomac Station once the hillside that's preventing the train from going beyond Dormont is remedied. However, the schedule that is out there now implies that this is not the case, as both the phase one and phase two red line short shuttle train schedules are showing that the shuttle is only going to Dormont.

Andrew concluded his remarks by saying that he applauds PRT for working with DHS and Pittsburghers for Public Transit and other groups making the Allegheny County GO program available. Andrew's only disappointment is that the program offers half fare and not free fare.

The next speaker was Amy Zeiss. Amy started her remarks by saying that she is very pleased to have seen the outreach around the major closure of the Red Line service. The public meeting was well attended and well done by the leadership team of PRT.

Amy also said that she is pleased to see the physical signage and maps that have been made available to riders. Stating that she's seen PRT employees out during commuting hours, speaking with riders to remind them of the service changes.

Amy next thanked PRT for quickly addressing the problem with the Potomac 42 shuttle where the buses often didn't have a place to lay over between runs.

Next, Amy remarked that the two shuttles being used during construction of the Redline Project are really less than ideal with timing, physical distance and also the nature of the stops having no shade. She said thank you for everything you've done and for being responsive to riders' concerns, but there is still more work to do.

Next Amy thanked PRT for expanding Customer Service. It has been a constant drum beat she has spoken about at Board meetings and it's very, very much needed, and she looks forward to seeing continual improvements.

Amy concluded her remarks by urging the leadership to do communication and outreach about the TrueTime service for which she has been subscribed to SMS messages for over a year and a half. Of course, TrueTime SMS alerts have gotten remarkably improved over the last year, and she would hope and assume that with the digital services expansion, they will continue to improve. Amy also urged PRT to make a communication effort to riders so they know how to sign up because it's a very great service.

The next speaker, Lorena Pena said that she right now is just listening, but added that she is really grateful that the Board and PRT are listening to us and PRT is working with the community. She feels that some things need improvement but thinks PRT is doing a great job.

The final speaker, Evelyn Ulysse shared her experiences with riding our services this week. Although there have been some delays, they are not extreme delays. Evelyn thanked PRT for caring.

That ended the public comment period of the meeting.

Before adjourning the meeting, the Interim Chair gave outgoing members, Ann Ogoreuc and John Tague an opportunity to say any final closing remarks.

Ms. Ogoreuc said that she moved to Pittsburgh as a young person 24 years ago to work in the Planning Department of PRT, so she has always had a very soft spot for the organization and the great work that is done here and how it enables mobility in Allegheny County. She added that she was pleased to have worked here and now served on the Board. Work continues, however, and because she works at Allegheny County, she will still be around. Ann said that she was very pleased to have been on such a dedicated board working with such dedicated leadership here at PRT.

John Tague said that his time on the PRT board is coming to an end and for him it's been an interesting ride. He first thanked former County Executive Rich Fitzgerald for appointing him to the PRT board. He's had an opportunity to work with some good and outstanding board chairs, i.e., Jack

Brooks, Bob Hurley and especially Jeff Letwin. The staff has changed during his time on the board and PRT continues to move forward. John said, "I'm not going to mention individual staff members that I've worked with over years because I'm sure to miss somebody, but hopefully I'll be able to continue conversations with them over the years because I, like Ann, am not going anywhere."

John did acknowledge Joel Lennon, PRT's longtime general counsel who passed away in 2022, noting that he was really a good advisor to him.

He also said that he is pleased with the selection of Tom Burgunder to the Board. He has known Tom for a number of years and actually went to high school with his older brother in Brookline. John believes that Tom is going to be a great addition to the board. Tom is a good communicator and he's reasonable on how he approaches things.

The Interim Chair adjourned the meeting by thanking the outgoing members on behalf of the Board, and once again welcomed our new members. The Board is very excited to get to know you and thanked everyone for being here.

The Chair announced the next Regular meeting of the Board will be Friday, July 26, 2024.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.