

# DELAWARE COUNTY TRANSIT BOARD

## BOARD MEETING

### MINUTES OF January 16th, 2013

#### 1) The DCTB Chair called the meeting to order and the roll was taken as follows: (13-01-01)

  X   Tom Jones- Chair  
  X   Boots Sheets- Vice Chair  
  X   Roger VanSickle- Secretary  
  X   Erwin Dugasz  
  AB  Tim Dodge  
  AB  Ed Helvey  
  X   Traci Cromwell

#### Staff present for the meeting:

  X   Denny Schooley- Executive Director  
  X   Crystal James- Operations Director  
  X   Ginny Berry- Marketing and Public Relations Specialist  
  AB  Richelle Tirado- Controller  
  X   Tonya James- Mobility Manager  
  AB  Grant Bias- Operations Supervisor  
  X   Tina Smith-Financial Clerk  
  X   Ed Pierson-IT Specialist

#### a) Approval of Absences (13-01-01)

It was moved by Roger and seconded by Erwin to excuse member absences.

#### 2) Public Comment

No public present.

#### 3) Approval of Consent Agenda (13-01-02)

- a) Agenda for January 16, 2013
- b) Minutes of December 19, 2012

It was moved by Boots and seconded by Erwin to approve the Consent Agenda (13-01-02). Motion passed.

#### 4) Reports

##### a) Board Committees

##### i. Finance

none

##### ii. Legislative

Denny explained that OPTA is taking up the car seat issue again. He doesn't feel it is possible for us to follow the law the way it is. He is waiting to hear back from Rick.

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Denny, Traci, and Roger are meeting with the Prosecutors Tuesday to discuss the contract with Marion Transit and the opinion of the Attorney General on township funding.

### b) **Executive Director**

(Deferred to 6b)

### c) **Departments**

Crystal explained needing to make an exception in regards to the Cancellation and No Show Policy. We currently have a Heritage client with short term memory loss who often misses the bus. Should she be suspended when she cannot be held responsible for forgetting? Erwin explained that he felt there was discretion written into the policy for specific cases such as these, and the passenger should not be suspended. It was decided that a motion would be added to next month's agenda to revise the wording of the appeal process in the policy to include a representative or guardian, as well as a passenger.

## 5) **Financial Status for month ending December 31, 2012 (13-01-03)**

Denny explained that our numbers came out well for 2012, and we are moving forward with revenues and accounts payable.

It was moved by Boots and seconded by Traci to approve the financial status for the month ending December 31, 2012. Motion passed.

## 6) **Unfinished Business**

### a) **Discussion of Agreement with A&E Firm**

Denny explained that the Prosecutor sent back the revised contract, and Erwin has reviewed it. It will now go to ODOT, and then be brought to the Board for approval next month.

### b) **Discussion of Funding, Services, MAP-21 and Affordable Healthcare**

Denny made a presentation to the Board detailing the Affordable Healthcare Act and its impact on DATA. The ACA, or ObamaCare, will become effective Jan. 2014. It includes an individual mandate and a large employer mandate. Healthcare must be affordable, and there will be penalties for employers who do not provide healthcare. A large employer is one with 50 or more full-time employees, and a full-time employee is one that works 30 or more hours per week. Healthcare is considered affordable if it is less than or equal to 9.5% of the employee's household income for single coverage. Currently DATA has 41 employees, and plans to have 66 by year end. This currently includes 13 full-time and 29 part-time employees. Fifteen of the part-time employees average more than 30 hours per week. The Board currently offers healthcare through the county. Denny described how the current cost of coverage for county employees is higher than the cost of coverage for a new hire in 2014. Public employment retirees will be forced to take healthcare, or reduce their hours. DATA may need to change its definition of full time and part time. Employees will need to work either 40 hours, or less than 30 hours per week. Denny explained that affordable healthcare for family coverage is yet to be determined. Employees will be able to opt out of healthcare if they are covered elsewhere. DATA not offering healthcare and paying the \$2,000 penalty is also an option. He posed the question of whether we should adopt the county's method rather than adjusting our current premium rate. He also suggested looking at our wage status because the last update was in 2005. It is very expensive to hire a new employee, and then have

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them leave. Our employment policy needs to change to attract and maintain good employees. Denny explained that we do compare our pay rates with those of other transit agencies. He also clarified that all our information regarding the ACA has come from the county, but they are still trying to figure out all the pieces. He welcomed any questions or comments from the Board, and the chairman requested that Denny include this issue on the agenda for every meeting to come.

Denny made a presentation to the Board detailing the changes in funding and services for 2014. He explained the definitions of FFY, MAP-21, and SAFETEA-LU, as well as the policy of “Old Money, Old Rules” and New Money, New Rules.” Federal programs under SAFETEA-LU include 5311, 5316, and 5317, which we currently have, as well as 5307 and 5310, which we are not eligible for. Federal programs under MAP-21 include 5307, future funding for fixed routes in urbanized areas only, 5311, 5316, and 5317, which we are not eligible, and 5310, in which our eligibility is in question. Our current local match for federal funding includes the commissioner grant, COA grant, DD grant, and our contracts.

Denny explained that COTA has no plans to expand into Delaware. They are the designated grantee for the Columbus Urbanized Area, so we will need to come to an agreement with them on how to distribute the funds. COTA is not interested in trading local money for federal money. COTA will assist us with NTD and TEAM training and reporting. Denny showed and explained the FTA Table 3-A that shows 6 months of funding based on population only. Other information that will be provided that will increase the allocation significantly. Our 2014 funding will be based on 2012.

Denny explained that the ODOT/MORPC meeting confirmed that 5307 funds can be used for fixed routes only, urbanized area only, up to 75% of allocation, and require a 50% match. We are not eligible for 5310 funds in this current round, and it is uncertain if we will be eligible in the next round. We need more information from ODOT and the FTA.

Denny displayed the map of the urbanized area and the areas we currently service. He explained that in 2014, there will be no federal funding for non-urbanized areas or for demand response in the urbanized area. JARC and New Freedom will be non-existent, and there will be new reporting requirements and audits. For 2014, state funding remains the same. E & D funding remains the same. 5310 funding is in question for the non-urbanized area. The buffer/reporting between the Board and the FTA will be eliminated.

Denny shared questions he still has for ODOT and the FTA that have not been answered yet, as well as the questions he has for the Board. He requested any available input from the Board on the funding issues, and what we do next.

### **7) New Business**

No Action Items

### **8) Other Business-Open Comments**

Erwin explained that DATA broke 70,000 in ridership for 2012. Denny said this has a lot to do with adding the fixed routes.

Denny informed the Board that the commissioners gave us \$42,500, and we had requested \$150,000.

### **9) Adjourn**

It was moved by Boots and seconded by Roger to adjourn. There being no further business to transact, the Chairman adjourned the meeting.

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