

RALEIGH TRANSIT AUTHORITY
JUNE 14, 2018
MINUTES

The Raleigh Transit Authority met on Thursday, June 14, 2018 at 3:30 p.m in the Council Chamber, Raleigh Municipal Building, 222 W. Hargett Street, with the following present:

Jason Horne, presiding
Chris Jones
Ray Magsanoc
Tony Pecoraro
Karen Rindge
Nathan Spencer
Michael Stevenson
Linda Wire

Staff present: David Eatman, David Walker, Marie Parker

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Horne.

The following items were discussed with actions taken as shown:

AGENDA – APPROVED AS AMENDED

Mr. Horne reported there would be add on items to the agenda. There are 3 contracts that haven't gotten to the Finance & Policy Committee first. He noted the Authority will not be meeting in July. There will be information on Dump the Pump event and a recognition. Mr. Stevenson stated he would like an update on the Bus Shelter that won the competition.

Without objection, the agenda was approved as amended.

DRIVER RECOGNITION – MONROE WATSON

Ms. Parker introduced Monroe Watson who has been a driver for over 37 years and had driven 3 million miles accident free. This is an elite status and noted Mr. Watson had kept his passengers safe for all these miles. He received applause from the Authority Members.

MINUTES – MAY 10, 2018 – APPROVED

Members received copies of the May 10, 2018 meeting minutes prior to the meeting. Mr. Stevenson moved approval of the minutes. His motion was seconded by Mr. Pecoraro, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

ACTION ITEMS

WAKE TECH CONTRACT FOR SERVICES – APPROVED

Mr. Eatman reported GoRaleigh provides express service for Wake Tech students from GoRaleigh Station to Garner and on to Wake Tech South campus. Mr. Walker explained GoRaleigh has operated this service for more than 10 years and this is a continuation of the contract we have in place and is effective July 1, 2018. In response to a question from Mr. Pecoraro, Mr. Walker noted this is a route we operate on behalf of Wake Tech and they pay 100%. Anyone can board the bus but students are free. Ms. Rindge asked if Wake Tech has asked for items such as increased frequency with Mr. Walker stating they have not requested changes. Mr. Eatman stated there are improvements on the 401 Corridor to Fuquay and some potential changes in the future with the Wake Transit Plan. Mr. Walker indicated the Fuquay Express route will add a stop at Wake Tech.

Mr. Pecoraro moved approval of the contract for services with Wake Tech. His motion was seconded by Mr. Stevenson, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

MEETING DATE – JULY MEETING CANCELLED

Historically the Authority has taken the month of July off. If the Authority feels a meeting is needed, Mr. Eatman suggested holding the meeting the 3rd week of July and would be held at the Poole Road Maintenance Facility. It was noted this is the City Council vacation as well and there would be no items from the Authority that could go before the Council prior to August 21. Ms. Wire moved cancellation of the July Authority meeting. Her motion was seconded by Mr. Stevenson, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

REMIX SCHEDULING CONTRACT 2018 – APPROVED

Members were provided with a proposed Contract for Services with REMIX. Purpose of the contract is to develop a software solution for run cutting options for Raleigh's growing transportation system. Mr. Walker reviewed the benefit of having this software which is more efficient and much faster. The contract is for 5 years at a cost of \$230,000. It was pointed out what this software will eliminate is the requirement to do these runs manually and is a way to optimize and increase efficiency. Mr. Walker stated this will complement the existing contract for

planning. Mr. Spencer agreed going from scratch and adding a number of routes in the next few years would require months to do manually at a cost of 1 or 2 people and felt this contract is a steal in terms of cost. Mr. Walker explained different variables can be entered and answers are provided quickly. There will be unlimited licenses and is all web based with training of staff provided. Mr. Pecoraro asked what is trying to be accomplished. Mr. Walker explained you have to determine how to bill services into a run cut and is felt this would save money. The objective is to integrate new service and create efficiency. Mr. Eatman stated this is about efficiency and making attractive runs and scheduling for employees. Ms. Rindge moved approval of the contract. Her motion was seconded by Mr. Stevenson, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

No one asked to be heard.

DUMP THE PUMP DAY – APPROVED

This event will occur on June 21, 2018. Many municipalities are doing this across the country. A Proclamation was read outlining the advantages of riding the bus as opposed to private vehicles. This will be the 13th Annual Dump the Pump Day. It stresses riding the bus saves \$10,000 per year for riders and saves 4.2 billion gallons of gas annually. The City will join others on June 21 and will be encouraging citizens to ride public transportation that day. Mr. Pecoraro asked if there will be special promotions. It was noted this will be on Facebook and will be advertised at the GoRaleigh Station. Drivers will also have stickers announcing the event. Mr. Eatman stated a comparison will be made relating to average ridership and stressed this is about awareness. Ms. Rindge felt this is an excellent way to make riders aware of advantages of public transportation. Mr. Pecoraro moved approval of participating in this effort. His motion was seconded by Ms. Rindge, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

BUS SHELTER UPDATE – RECEIVED

Mr. Walker reported approval has been received from NCDOT for placement in DOT right-of-way the competition winning bus shelters. We will now begin working on the scope we can add to the RFP to get a manufacturer which hopefully will be done in 60 days. Mr. Stevenson indicated it has taken over 2 years to go through the process and it is a milestone we are getting closer to implementing. Ms. Rindge asked if there is a plan for how to identify which stops will have these new shelters. Mr. Walker indicated it will not be a huge benefit placing them in neighborhoods and would be better in high frequency areas such as New Bern Avenue, Capital Boulevard, etc. Ms. Rindge suggested that selection of locations be brought to the Marketing Committee for input.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ROUTE COMMITTEE – REPORT RECEIVED

Mr. Magsanoc reported the Route Committee met on June 5 and referred out the following items:

Low No Grant Request:

Mr. Magsanoc indicated this relates to a request for up to 5 busses and funds for charging stations. Mr. Eatman explained this involves purchasing 5 electric busses. Funding would be for replacing diesel busses for electric busses and funding would be from the Wake Transit Plan. This funding would come from federal, Wake Transit and Duke Energy. He further reviewed the benefits. Replacement busses are \$550,000 each and would take that \$550,000 as base match. Use of that would require \$300,000 in no low grant funding to pay for the entire electric vehicle technology. We could collect data with 3 services but would like 5 the grant encourages a scalable grant request so that could go down to 3. Staff asked for approval to move forward with replacement of diesel busses to electric technology. In response to questioning from Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Eatman indicated there are 17 CNG vehicles on order that will come in this fall. This would be from the FY 19 allocation for replacements we have programmed. Mr. Stevenson asked if the technology has improved to the point the busses can go a full route without being charged. Mr. Eatman indicated this is a new generation bus. It will not be quick charge vehicles but will be overnight charges and their range could be approximately 275 miles. They have variables depending on environment and types of equipment on the bus. He noted we want to learn with technology and want an appropriate number of vehicles so we can understand range and better understand how we can program additional vehicles in the future. There are many different missions for a bus and this will help us learn and will be tested on fixed routes. It is assumed the grant would come out in FY 19, purchase would take place in late FY 19 to early FY 20 with an 8 month delivery. Ms. Rindge noted GoTriangle is also applying for electric busses and questioned if Durham or Cary are applying. Mr. Eatman indicated he is not sure and staff worked with GoTriangle on their application. In response to a question from Mr. Pecoraro, Mr. Eatman stated the grant does not cover long term maintenance.

Mr. Magsanoc moved approval of the grant submission. His motion was seconded by Ms. Wire, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

Poole Road at Coke Shelter Site:

Mr. Magsanoc reported the committee is referring this location and site for construction to the authority for approval. Mr. Eatman explained we generally follow standard policy for shelters and wanted the authority to be aware of these before going to Council and get verification that yes, we would like the Council to approve the shelter. If we are not successful for easement negotiation or acquisition. The items have to go the Council to be resolved. Staff has been unsuccessful in acquiring the easement from the property owner. Real Estate Division has been working on this easement and will follow up and let the property owners know the Authority has reviewed this and would like to move forward. Mr. Magsanoc noted this shelter is warranted and this is the needed location.

Mr. Magsanoc moved approval of this location for a stop as outlined in information provided in the backup information. His motion was seconded by Mr. Spencer, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE – REPORT RECEIVED

Mr. Pecoraro reported the Finance and Policy Committee Committee met on June 6, 2018 and made the following recommendations:

GoTriangle Contract for Services – Operations:

Mr. Pecoraro reported this involves 26,000 hours of route service provided with the same provisions as the Wake Tech contract.

Mr. Pecoraro moved approval of the contract. His motion was seconded by Mr. Stevenson, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

MARKETING COMMITTEE – REPORT RECEIVED

Ms. Rindge reported the Marketing Committee met on June 7, 2018 and made the following recommendations:

RTA Name Change:

Ms. Rindge explained the committee voted to change the name of this body from Raleigh Transit Authority to GoRaleigh Transit Authority. She stated they would like to see the name of this board reflect the name of the transit system which GoRaleigh. It is felt this is a great time to change the name and there is also a Chamber organization with the same name. Mr. Spencer indicated the

committee had good conversation about this and was excited about this proposed change. Mr. Stevenson asked if the word “transit” is necessary. Mr. Spencer indicated he felt transit is necessary particularly as we grow and become multimodal. Chairman Horne indicated the Council needs be consulted on the name change.

Mayor Pro Tem Branch indicated he was a member of the Authority when the name changed from CAT to GoRaleigh. He felt the Council needs to consider this and noted the Council names every board. Mr. Eatman indicated staff will write something up and provide information on the existing code and any other implications of a name change.

It was agreed to hold this item in the Marketing Committee.

Together Raleigh Shelter Art:

Members received information at the meeting providing the proposed bus stops for artwork and finalists and alternates. This project is private funding to create public art on a limited number of bus shelters. The Arts Commission has taken charge of selecting 12 artworks. After the RFP went out for wraps on bus shelters, the commission selected 12. The Marketing Committee voted on which bus shelters they should go on. Mr. Eatman indicated there is 1 artwork by Powell and there was unanimous approved for this to go to Site 6. Other than that one, there was no other consensus. He reviewed options for choosing which works go on which site and noted staff could work with the Commission to determine locations for the art or whatever is requested by the authority.

Ms. Rindge moved that staff work with the Arts Commission to finalize locations for these wraps. Her motion was seconded by Mr. Magsanoc, unanimously passed. Chairman Horne ruled the motion adopted.

PERFORMANCE REPORTS – RECEIVED

Members received in their agenda packets the following staff reports:

1. Statement of Income (April 2018)
2. Variance Analysis (April 2018)
3. Go PASS Ridership Summary (April 2018)
4. Go PASS Ridership by Agency (April 2018)
5. Accessible Raleigh Transportation Summary (April 2018)
6. Operating Statistics (April 2018)
7. Route Statistics (April 2018)
8. Ridership Percentage by Time Period (April 2018)
9. Evaluation by Route (April 2018)
10. Advertising Update (April 2018)
11. On time Performance Report (April 2018)

12. Monthly Talking Points (April 2018)

CONCLUDING REMARKS – RECEIVED

Ms. Rindge reported she and Chairman Horne had been invited to Pittsburg next week to attend a training program for members to further educate and empower members of transit boards. She indicated they have their eyes on Raleigh as an important area. She noted since authority members are citizens who are not professional transit administrators, they want to educate how members can be effective.

Mr. Eatman reported staff will be installing new GoRaleigh stop signs starting on Capital Boulevard in the coming weeks. These will be flag mounted signs with information on both sides. They should be a great addition and staff is being strategic with placement.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Hunt