

**New Orleans Regional Transit Authority**

2817 Canal Street ∙ New Orleans, LA 70119

**COMMISSION MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2019 10:00 AM**

**COMMISSIONER PRESENT**: Chairman Flozell Daniels, Commissioner Laura Bryan, Commissioner Mark Raymond, Commissioner Walter Tillery, Commissioner Arthur Walton and Commissioner Sharon Wegner

**COMMISSIONER ABSENT:** Commissioner Fred Neal and Commissioner Mostofa Sarwar

1. **Consideration: Approval of September 24, 2019 minutes**

Deferred

1. **Consideration: RTA Chairman’s Report**
2. **General Comments:**

The Chair thanked the team and everybody who's been involved not only in the day-to-day service but the incredible response to the Hard Rock Hotel collapse. It's been a difficult experience for us as a community and we are particularly happy that none of RTA employees were hurt and would like to take a moment of silence for the loss of lives and for the incredible heroism for the folks involved with this issue.

1. **DBE Report:**

Keziah Lee stated that the RTA awarded $7.8 Million in contracts. $2.0 Million was awarded to DBE firms and of the DBE contracts $1.5 Million was awarded to DBE/SBE Prime Contractors and total DBE participation was 25.56%.

1. **Consideration: RTA General Counsel’s Report**

No Report.

1. **Consideration: RTA Chief Executive Officer’s Report**
2. Alex Wiggins stated that on October 12, 2019 the Hard Rock Hotel collapsed and the streetcar operator was able to safely get his passenger out of the streetcar.

Alex Wiggins stated that the Riverfront Streetcar, Rampart/UPT Streetcar and the Canal Streetcars was all impacted by the collapsed of the hotel.

1. **Temporary Bus Hub:**

Alex Wiggins stated that currently the bus hub is at the Canal Facility but will be moved to Duncan Plaza

Chairman Daniels asked that the process for locating a bus hub should go through the Operations Committee so the Board could be part of the decision making process

Mark Major stated that the Insurance Carrier for the system was notified and the loss of revenue were being tracking for a future claim

1. **APTA Update**

Alex Wiggins stated that Paul Toliver and was inducted into APTA Hall of Fame and he was a trailblazer for transportation.

1. **Consideration: Jefferson Parish Report**

No report.

1. **Consideration: Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA)**

Sam Buckley stated that they were in the process putting together a report regarding the finds of the surveys.

Chairman Daniels asked for a more in-depth report at the next Board Meeting

1. **Consideration: Finance Committee Chairman’s Report**

Commissioner Raymond stated that staff was putting together the 2020 Budget and included in the budget were more options for the riding public

Commissioners Raymond asked that Alex Wiggins put together a report on the Finance Reserve Polity for next month Board Meeting.

Chairman Daniels stated that a Finance Reserve Policy was very important for the agency.

Chairman Daniels stated that the RTA needs a Finance Reserve Policy incase anything happens and the RTA could provide the best approach for riders.

Alex Wiggins ask for 60 days to report back to the Board regarding the Finance Reserve Policy

1. **Consideration: Chief Financial Officer’s Report**
2. Mark Major stated that staff will present the 2020 Budget at next month Finance Committee Meeting.
3. Mark Major stated that the RTA was scheduled to go before the New Orleans City Council at 9:00 am on November 1, 2019 to present the 2020 Operating Budget.
4. Mark Major stated that RTA received a Bond rating of A plus.
5. In response to Chairman Daniels, Mark Major stated as the RTA finances get better the ratings become better.
6. Mark Major stated that the Reserve Balance was $12 Million and the Hotel/Motel funds was $5.9 Million.
7. Mark Major stated that Operating Line Item - Passenger Revenue – Both Passenger Fares and Pass Sales outperformed the budget for the month of September by 1.4% and 3%, respectively and Sales Tax – actual CNO collections received through July are $1.6 million or 3.5% over budget.
8. **Consideration: Financial Statements**
9. Mark Major stated that the Operating Expenses Line Item - Services – Management Service Fees highlight this category of expenses coming in at 4.3% under budget. This is the result of the August reconciliation of billed-to-actual management contract costs over the course of the previous contract period and Materials and Supplies – Bio-diesel fuel prices have been less than projected by an average of $0.30/gallon through September.
10. In response to Chairman Daniels, Mark Major stated that the Causality and Liability Line Item had $477,000 it this line which was the cost of the insurance premium and the estimated cost of the SIR deductible.
11. **Consideration: RTA CY2019 Revised Operating and Capital Budget**
12. Mark Major stated that at the September Board Meeting the budget was presented and there are no changes to the presentation.

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Waiters seconded to approve the **RTA CY2019 Revised Operating Capital Budget**. Resolution No. 19 –075 was adopted unanimously.

1. **Consideration: Procurement Items**
2. **Authorization to award: DBE Consulting Services in response to RFP 2019-020 Metro-Source LLC New Orleans, LA**

**Deferred**

1. **Authorization to award: Axle/Differential Overhauls in response to IFB 2019-029- Brookville Equipment Corp**

Commissioner Waiters moved and Commissioner Raymond seconded to approve the **Authorization to award: Axle/Differential Overhauls in response to IFB 2019-029- Brookville Equipment Corp.** Resolution No. 076 was adopted unanimously.

1. **Authorization to solicit: Midlife Bus Refurbishment for Fixed Route Buses**

Commissioner Wegner moved and Commissioner Raymond seconded to authorization the solicitation for **Midlife Bus Refurbishment for Fixed Route Buses** Motion No. 19-096 was approved unanimously.

1. **Authorization to solicit: DC Traction Motor Rebuilds, SKD-TE026A04, GE-263 and GE-263 Armature Assemblies**

Commissioner Tillery moved and Commissioner Raymond seconded to authorization the solicitation of **DC Traction Motor Rebuilds, SKD-TE026A04, GE-263 and GE-263 Armature Assemblies** for Motion No. 19-097 was approved unanimously.

1. **Consideration: Administration Committee Chairman’s Report**

Deferred

1. **Consideration: Riders Advisor Committee Liaison Report**

Deferred.

1. **Consideration: Transdev Report**

No report.

1. **Consideration: New Business**

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Tillery seconded to add **Bio-Diesel Fuel and Marine Survey** to the agenda. Verbal Motion 19-098 was approved unanimously

1. **Authorization to Extend: Bio-Diesel Fuel**

In response to Commissioner Bryan, Deslie Isidore stated the staff solicited for Bio-Diesel but received no response, so staff was asking to extend the current contract until they resolicit for a new contract.

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Wegner seconded to approve theextension **of the Bio Diesel Fuel Contract.** Resolution No. 077 was adopted unanimously.

1. **Authorization to Solicit and Award Marine Survey**

To allow the project manager to begin survey work on RTA Ferry #1 and RTA Ferry #2 to ensure that they are structured mechanically and electrically sound and staff was asking to approved the work.

Commissioner Raymond move and Commissioner Tillery second to Commissioner Raymond moved to approve the **Marine Survey**. Verbal Motion No. 19 –098 was adopted unanimously.

1. **Consideration: Audience Question and Comments**
2. Faye Faron asked that the RTA honor two ferry workers that was awarded ferry workers of the month
3. Sabrina Hillard ask that the Board take action on signage, cleanness and shelters at the bus hub.
4. Chairman Daniels stated that staff was going to move forward with these requests.
5. Allen Drake stated that the RTA was doing a good job handling the collapse of the Hard Rock Hotel he also asked to have a bus loop downtown.
6. David Peter Allen stated that he is a tourist the rides transit and would like the RTA to continue the great transit service and to rename the streetcars of Von Dullen.
7. Skip Gallagher stated that the ferries are worse than last month with two in dry dock, the other two are in the pier in Chalmette.
8. Chairman Daniels stated nothing of this work has to do with legal action. The RTA has done what the public asked.
9. Skip Gallagher stated that he has Public Record Request that has not been answered and he feels that Transdev is holding back the information he requested.
10. Alex Wiggins stated that the RTA was looking at hiring a project manager for the ferry.
11. Robert Perez stated that he was a marine expert and the Metal Shark delivered the boats with a COI and the coast guards oversaw the construction of the boats which stated that the COI was built to the drawings.
12. Brenda Holmes stated that the RTA was doing a great job with the collapse of the Hard Rock Hotel and don’t forget to put the necessary shelters up at Walmart on Chef.
13. **Consideration: Adjournment**

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Daniels seconded to adjourn the Board Meeting. Verbal Motion No. 19-098 was approved unanimously.