



CATS Board of Commissioners Monthly Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 17, 2024
4:30 pm

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the CATS Board of Commissioners Meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m. by President deGeneres.

2. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Carolyn Coleman	Member at Large	Present
Melissa deGeneres	President	Present
Michelle Dennis	Secretary	Present
Patrick Downs	Member	Present
Johnathan Hill	Vice-President	Present
Antoinette Pierre	Member	Present
Tremaine Sterling	Member	Absent
Frederick Thomas	Member	Present
John Vukovics	Treasurer	Present

3. Public Comment

Yvette Rhines
Stanley Smalls
George Decuir
Dante Jackson

4. APPROVAL November 17, 2024, Monthly Board Minutes

RESULT: ACCEPTED

MOVER: deGeneres

SECONDER: Downs

YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Hill, Pierre, Thomas, Vukovics

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Sterling

5. President's Announcements

- a. President deGeneres thanked Commissioner Pierre for 11 years of service on behalf of the Board of Commissioners and Staff.
- 6. **Administrative Matters**
 - a. CEO Update - Theo Richards
 - Budget amendment presented 12/17/24.
 - November Financials
- 7. **Committee Reports**
 - a. Finance & Executive: Ms. Melissa deGeneres
 - b. Technical, Policies & Practices: did not meet
 - c. Audit: did not meet
 - d. Community Relations & Planning: Mr. Johnathan Hill & Mr. Patrick Downs
- 8. **New Business**
 - a) **Consideration and approval of the CATS 2024 Budget Amendment**
MOVER: deGeneres
SECONDER: Downs
YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Hill, Pierre, Thomas, Vukovics
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: Sterling
 - b) **Consideration and approval of the 2025 CATS Proposed Budget**
MOVER: deGeneres
SECONDER: Downs
YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Hill, Pierre, Thomas, Vukovics
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: Sterling
 - c) **Consideration and approval of Baton Rouge Police Department Contract Renewal**
MOVER: deGeneres
SECONDER: Downs
YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Hill, Pierre, Vukovics
NAYS: Thomas
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: Sterling
 - d) **Consideration and approval of Carr, Riggs & Ingram Contract Amendment**
MOVER: deGeneres
SECONDER: Vukovics
YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Hill, Pierre, Thomas, Vukovics
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: Sterling
 - e) **Consideration and approval of Build Construction North Transit Center Change Order**

MOVER: deGeneres
SECONDER: Downs
YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Hill, Pierre, Vukovics
NAYS: Thomas
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: Sterling

f) Consideration and approval of Chief of Minds Contract Amendment

MOVER: deGeneres
SECONDER: Vukovics
YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Hill, Pierre, Thomas, Vukovics
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: Sterling

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION - These matters may be discussed in Executive Session

- a. **For discussion of the character, professional capabilities, and physical and mental health of CATS' CEO, Theo Richards. Notice of the right to public discussion has been issued.**
- b. **Litigation update in the matter entitled "*Jessica Washington vs. CATS*" Suit No. 24-06342 on the docket of the Office of Workers Compensation.**
- c. **Strategy and status regarding collective bargaining negotiations for a renewed contract with ATU Local 1546.**
- d. **Review of CATS Safety Assessment**

10. Consideration and approval to move into Executive Session at 5:23 p.m.

RESULT: ACCEPTED
MOVER: deGeneres
SECONDER: Vukovics
YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Hill, Pierre, Thomas, Vukovics
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: Sterling

11. Consideration and approval to exit Executive Session at 6:14 p.m.

RESULT: ACCEPTED
MOVER: deGeneres
SECONDER: Thomas
YEAS: Coleman, deGeneres, Dennis, Downs, Hill, Pierre, Thomas
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: Sterling, Vukovics

12. Adjournment

deGeneres/Coleman