

**New Orleans Regional Transit Authority**

2817 Canal Street ∙ New Orleans, LA 70119

**COMMISSION MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2019 10:00 AM**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**: Chairman Flozell Daniels, Commissioner Fred Neal, Jr, Commissioner Mark Raymond, Commissioner Mostofa Sarwar, Commissioner Walter Tillery and Commissioner Sharon Wegner

**COMMISSIONER ABSENT:**  Commissioner Laura Bryan and Commissioner Arthur Walton

1. **Consideration: RTA Chairman’s Report**

No Report

1. **Consideration: Jefferson Parish Report**

Commissioner Wegner stated that the Airport Bus Line has two more legs takes the passengers downtown.

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

No Report.

1. **Consideration: RTA Chief Executive Officer’s Report**

Alex Wiggins introduced Bacarra Mauldin, Director of Policy and Innovation.

1. **Consideration: DBE Report**
* Keziah Lee stated that the DBE wanted to exceed the RTA previous goal of 30%, by a minimum of five percent, preferably 10%.
* Keziah Lee stated that $7.8 Million was award in contracts - $2.0 Million was awarded to DBE firms – of the DBE Contracts $1.5 Million was awarded to DBE/SBE Prime Contracts and the Total DBE participation was 25.56%.
* Chairman Daniels stated that he would like the RTA to set the standard for the State of Louisiana for DBE Goals.
1. **Consideration: Ferry Report**
2. **Update – Ferry Terminal**

Alex Wiggins stated that the Ferry Terminal – 90% design for CSFT

1. **Update – Ferry Vessels**
* Alex Wiggins stated that the current vessels still have challenges and have gone through repeated repairs.
* Alex Wiggins stated that Elliot Bay conducted the marine inspection and no design flaws were reported.
* In response to Chairman Daniels, Alex Wiggins stated that by the end of the year or the beginning of next year the ferry should be operable.
* Alex Wiggins stated that Duncan Plaza is the central hub and the RTA has been working with the City to resolve some issues – lighting has been installed in that area – was working with DBE to install temporary restrooms and also working to install temporary shelters.
* Alex Wiggins stated that the plan to be at Duncan Plaza is for 6-12 months or when the Hard Rock Hotel is imploded.
1. **Consideration: Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA)**
* Sam Buckely stated that the team held its initial scenarios workshop and it should that more time was needed to put the scenario in development and the timeline extended to June 2020.
* Sam Buckley stated that more time was needed to adequate finish the COA of the project.
* Sam Buckley stated that more time was needed to review the WSP report that was provided
* Chairman Daniels stated that he public can attend the next Operations and Administration Committee hear more about the plan.

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

No Report

1. **Consideration: RTA CY2019 Revised Operating and Capital Budget**

Mark Major stated that detailed presentation was given at the November Finance Committee Meeting and the Budget need to be adopted by December 31, 2020 meeting to be adopted and no action was needed at this meeting.

1. **Consideration: Financial Statements**
* Mark Major stated that staff was tracking the decline of revenue on each line that the Hard Rock Motel collapse effected.
* In response to Chairman Daniels, Mark Major stated that staff was also tracking the decline in Sales Tax Revenue.
* Mark Major stated that the Passenger Revenue – Passenger Fares kept pace with the budget for the month of October with a slight increase of 0.4% while Pass Sales outperformed the budget by 5.7%.
* Mark Major stated that the Sales Tax – actual CNO collections received through August are $1.2 million or 2.4% over budget.
* Mark Major stated that Services – Management Service Fees highlight this category of expenses coming in at 3.9% under budget. Primarily, this is the result of the August reconciliation of billed-to-actual management contract costs over the course of the previous contract period.
* Mark Major stated that Materials and Supplies – Bio-diesel fuel prices were less than projected by an average of $0.31/gal. for the month of October but only $0.07/gal. under budget year-to date.
1. **Consideration: Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Wegner seconded to adopt the Consent Agenda Items. Resolution No. 19-078 was adopted unanimously.

1. **DC Traction Power Feeder Cable IFB 2019-031**

**Blackstar Diversified Enterprises**

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Tillery seconded to adopt **DC Traction Power Feeder Cable IFB 2019-031 - Blackstar Diversified Enterprises**

Resolution No. 19-079 was adopted unanimously.

1. **Audit & Financial Oversight Services – RFQ 2019-021**

**Carr, Riggs & Ingram**

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Tillery seconded to adopt the **Audit & Financial Oversight Services – RFQ 2019-021**

**Carr, Riggs & Ingram.** Resolution No. 19-080 was adopted unanimously.

1. **Ten (10) Axle/Differentials Overhauls for Canal and Riverfront Streetcars**

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Tillery seconded to adopt the **Ten (10) Axle/Differentials Overhauls for Canal and Riverfront Streetcars**

Resolution No. 19-081 was adopted unanimously.

1. **Bio/Diesel Fuel**

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Tillery seconded to adopt the **Bio/Diesel Fuel.** Resolution No. 19-081 was adopted unanimously.

1. **Preconstruction on Canal Street Ferry Terminal Project**

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Tillery seconded to adopt the. **Preconstruction on Canal Street Ferry Terminal Project.** Resolution No. 19-082 was adopted unanimously.

1. **Professional A&E On-Call Services – Small Business – Infinity Engineering Consultants, LLC – Algiers Ferry Terminal Rehabilitation and Modernization**

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Tillery seconded to adopt the **Professional A&E On-Call Services – Small Business – Infinity Engineering Consultants, LLC – Algiers Ferry Terminal Rehabilitation and Modernization.** Resolution No. 19-083 was adopted

1. **Safety and Compliance Consultant**

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Tillery seconded to adopt the **Safety and Compliance Consultant.** Resolution No. 19-084was adopted unanimously.

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

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Tillery seconded to adopt the **: DBE Consulting Services in response to RFP 2019-020 Metro-Source LLC.**

Resolution No. 19-085 was adopted unanimously.

1. **Authorization to award: Financial Management Services in response to RFQ 2019-025 Frasca & Associates, LLC**

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Tillery seconded to adopt the **Financial Management Services in response to RFQ 2019-025 Frasca & Associates, LLC.** Resolution No. 19-085 was adopted unanimously

1. **Considerations and Administration Committee Chairman’s Report**
2. **Riders Advisor Committee Liaison Report**
* Fred Neal stated that the next meeting will be held on December 4, 2020.
* Fred Neal stated that the Hard Rock Hotel and Duncan Plaza was discussed.
* Fred Neal stated that RTA needs to do better with communications and signage.
* Chairman Daniels stated that he wants to thank the riding public for staying engaged with the RTA and letting the RTA know what can be done better.
1. **Consideration: New Business**
2. Commissioner Neal moved and Commissioner Wegner seconded to add **Infinity -Additional Engineering Services– Canal Street Ferry Terminal.** Verbal Motion 19-100 was approved unanimously.
3. **To Amend:**

Additional Engineering Services – Canal Street Ferry Terminal

Commissioner Raymond moved and Commissioner Tillery seconded to approve theamend **Infinity -** **Additional Engineering Services – Canal Street Ferry Terminal.** Resolution No. 087 was adopted unanimously.

1. **Consideration: Audience Questions and Comments**
2. Chris Guidro stated that buses seats at the bus stop idle and this was bad for the environment.
3. Allen Drake would like to reroute the streetcars to Duncan Plaza and this would improve mobility and free up traffic,
4. Brenda Holmes stated that a bus shelter was placed on St. Louis and Basin and with vehicles coming around the curve someone was going to run into the shelter and was still waiting for the shelter at Walmart.
5. Chairman Daniels stated that the shelters was being looked at from an equity perceptive.
6. Valerie Jefferson stated that the union was working with the Operations dealing with the passengers with respect.

Valerie Jefferson stated that if the RTA can’t take care of its local riders how are the RTA are going to take care of the tourist,

1. Irvin Foray stated that the airport need to make transit a priority.
2. Loraine Washington stated that the there is a Transit Center on Bullard and the Duncan Plaza is also not a great bus hub.
3. Loraine Washington stated that people in New Orleans East are experience longer wait times and longer routes and no one is willing to fix the issues.
4. Loraine Washington stated that the buses need to go back to Canal and Basin.
5. James Guilbeau stated that 19 benches can seat 6 people and some of those benches should be brought to Duncan Plaza and the Riverfront Streetcar need to run to Carondelet.
6. John Taylor Jr. stated that the RTA need to look into ways to protect the operators while on the buses.
7. Commissioner Neal thanked Terri Wright for help running the Riders Advisory Committee.
8. **Consideration: Executive Session (2/3 Rds Vote to Consider)**

Commissioner Neal moved and Commissioner Wegner seconded to go into Executive Session on the matter of

* **Regional Transit Authority v. Marina Kahn, et al Civil District Court No.: 99-11874 Div. “F-7”.**

Verbal Motion 19-101 was approved unanimously.

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Raymond seconded to come out of Executive Session. Verbal Motion No. 19-102 was approved unanimously.

1. **Consideration: Adjournment**

Commissioner Wegner moved and Commissioner Raymond seconded to adjourn the Board Meeting of November 19, 2019. Verbal Motion No. 19-103 was approved unanimously**.**