

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

The Board of Directors of the Regional Transportation Authority met in public session on **Thursday, August 20, 2015** in Suite 1650, 175 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois pursuant to notice.

Chairman Dillard called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

**ROLL CALL**

**Board members present (15):** Buchanan, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

**Board members absent (1):** Anderson

**Approval of minutes from the meetings held on July 16, 2015**

Director Ross moved, and Director Frega seconded that the minutes from the meetings held on July 16, 2015 be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

**15 Ayes:** Buchanan, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

**1 Absent:** Anderson

**Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Leanne Redden began by reporting that the State of Illinois owes the RTA \$283.9 million as of July.

Ms. Redden then gave an account of a press conference held by Mayor Emanuel earlier in the week. In attendance were Chairman Dillard, CTA President Carter and CDOT Commissioner Scheinfield. It was held at a CTA bus garage to promote CTA's plans for faster bus service on Ashland and Western Avenues. The CTA plans to reintroduce rush hour express service on both routes, which will save an estimated 22 minutes on trips. The mayor twice thanked the RTA for its help in securing a \$36 million CMAQ grant and a \$4 million local match to fund the TSP program.

The budget impasse in Springfield continues as the state is without a state fiscal year 2016 budget. The RTA continues to receive its PTF state match money and recently received the first \$34 million installment of SCIP bond reimbursement for state fiscal year 2015. Also, Ms. Redden informed the Board, that the RTA will be receiving the first payments of SFY 2015 Reduced Fare Reimbursement and ADA funding.

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2015**

Also in Springfield, the Governor signed House Bill 2685, a bi-partisan bill that was an initiative of the RTA. It extends the sunset on the RTA's \$400 million short-term borrowing authority from 2016 to 2018.

Ms. Redden then moved on to the federal front and discussed the quick passage of the DRIVE Act in the Senate. It was a surprise to many and indicates that senior members in both chambers want to pass a long-term bill before the end of the year. The \$341 billion 6-year bill is funded for three years and increases public transportation funding by 12.7% higher than the current fiscal year. The House is going to draft a surface transportation bill during August and September.

Ms. Redden then gave an update on planned Union Station capital improvements. The City of Chicago developed the *Chicago Union Station Master Plan* jointly with Amtrak, Metra and RTA, from 2009 – 2012. Each stakeholder has pledged financial support and are now ready to begin the first phase. At this point, the RTA will provide 25% of funding, Metra will provide 16.67% and The City of Chicago will also contribute.

Finally, Ms. Redden discussed the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disability Act from late July. The RTA got quite a bit of media coverage about the accessibility of the region's transit system, including a Letter to the Editor by the Chairman in the Daily Herald and interviews with Michael VanDekreke on WBEZ Radio and WCIU-TV.

### **Consent Items**

Director Melvin moved, and Director Lewis seconded that the items below be adopted as submitted.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 2015-32<br>2015-33<br>2015-34<br>2015-35<br>2015-36 | These resolutions certify the operating financial results for each Service Board and the region as a whole, through the Second Quarter of 2015. Based on data available to date, staff expects that the system-generated revenue recovery ratio, the Service Board recovery ratios, and the operating deficits at the CTA, Metra, Pace Suburban Service, and Regional ADA Paratransit will be substantially in accordance with the adopted budgets.                          |
| 2015-37   | This ordinance sets the 2016-2018 operations funding amounts and the required 2016 system-generated revenue recovery ratios for the three Service Boards. The operating funding amounts establish the funding levels that each Service Board can expect to receive from the RTA. Section 4.11(b)(1) of the RTA Act provides that the Service Board budgets and two-year financial plans shall not project or assume receipt of revenues from the RTA in amounts greater than |

those set forth in these estimates. This ordinance also provides each Service Board with preliminary estimates of funds available for the development of the 2016-2020 Capital Program. These preliminary capital estimates include federal formula funds, other federal funds, RTA bond proceeds, and Service Board funding. The capital estimates are subject to change prior to adoption of the 2016-2020 capital program depending on release of updated federal funding amounts, whereas the operating funding amounts, once established, will be used by the Service Boards to develop their 2016 budgets and 2017-2018 financial plans.

The motion carried on the following leave for last unanimous roll call vote:

**15 Ayes:** Buchanan, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

**1 Absent:** Anderson

#### **Contract Items**

The item originally for consideration, an ordinance authorizing a contract for Interagency Signage Engineering and Construction Management was deferred to a future meeting pending additional information requested by the Board.

#### **Special Action Items - Resolution in support of the Union Station Redevelopment project**

Director Melvin first commented that Union Station is a beautiful building and this is an exciting project. He then asked who else is paying into the \$6million for this project. Ms. Redden responded that Amtrak is contributing \$3 million, Metra is contributing \$1 million and the City of Chicago \$0.5 million. Director Melvin also asked what the future expenses associated with Union Station would be. Ms. Redden responded that she will need to come back with a more detailed financial plan at some point but that this immediate project focuses on preliminary design for improvements to the transit facilities, and is an opportunity to involved the RTA from the beginning. Director Frega wanted to understand what the plans were for Union Station. Ms. Redden offered to circulate the Union Station Master plan, and to keep the Board apprised as the project moves forward. Chairman Dillard commented that investment in Union Station could be a catalyst for economic development in the whole west loop area.

Director Fuentes moved, and Director Pang seconded that this item be adopted as submitted.

2015-38      This resolution establishes the RTA's support of the much needed proposed Union Station redevelopment plan and subject to appropriation, the RTA hereby pledges to support the Union Station redevelopment with 2016 funding in the amount of \$1.5 million.

The motion carried on the following leave for last unanimous roll call vote:

**15 Ayes:** Buchanan, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard  
**1 Absent:** Anderson

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the public portion of the meeting of the Board of Directors, Director Coulson moved, and Director Totten seconded that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried on the following voice vote:

**15 Ayes:** Buchanan, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard  
**1 Absent:** Anderson

The meeting ended at 10:30 a.m.

*Audrey Macleannan*

---

AUDREY MACLENNAN

Secretary of the Authority