



Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority  
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**Report to the Board  
Human Relations Committee**

Thursday, November 18, 2010

**Opening:** The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Ronald Lyas, at 9:02 a.m. in the Executive Briefing Room, located at Central Station, 1735 Morris Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama 35203.

**Members Present:** Joyce Brooks, Guin Robinson, and Ronald Lyas

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Debra Anderson-Burse, Peter Behrman, Anna Brown, William Copling, Butch Ferrell, Jacquese Gary, Barbara Lawson, Dr. Jesse Lewis, and Richard Nardecchia.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** The agenda was adopted by general consent.

**Items for Information and/or Discussion:**

Executive Director Reorganization Plan:

Ronald Lyas led the discussion of tabling the reorganization plan until further information is known regarding the BJCTA finances. Committee members concurred. The Executive Director Peter Behrman also concurred but asked that the Committee consider one item--combining the positions of board support and the executive administrative assistant into one position. Joyce Brooks moved that the two positions be consolidated into one position and the two separate positions be eliminated from the BJCTA; Guin Robinson seconded, and it was recommended to the full Board for its consideration, to be accompanied by a description of the role, a listing of the key responsibilities, and reporting guidelines. The process of filling all BJCTA positions should follow policy.

Mr. Robinson moved to table the overall reorganization plan but requested that it reappear on all future agendas until the timing is appropriate to make a recommendation, seconded by Mrs. Brooks, and tabled by general consent.

Mr. Robinson reported that he had requested a timeline delineating the action items concerning personnel and service cuts. He also requested a copy of the reduction in staff policy. Mr. Behrman responded that the proposed timeline should be ready at the next Board meeting. He is consulting with the BJCTA legal counsel.

**Resolutions for Consideration and/or Approval:**

- A. **Resolution No. 2010-42-A:** Resolution Amending Resolutions 2010-42, 2006-22, 2006-37, and 2007-09, Changing the Composition of the Transit Advisory Committee and Authorizing the Executive Director and the Secretary to Apply to the City of Birmingham and Jefferson County to Adopt Resolutions Approving the Proposed Amendment to BJCTA's Certificate of Incorporation was moved by Mrs. Brooks, seconded by Mr. Robinson and recommended to the full Board for its consideration.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

Dr. Jesse Lewis of the Lewis Group reported that by law, the BJCTA must advertise any service cuts. He stressed the importance of the public understanding that the BJCTA has no other options. A meeting took place on November 17, 2010, with the editorial board of *The Birmingham News* and only facts were given. Mr. Lyas commended Dr. Lewis for his efforts.

Mr. Lyas reported that finding statewide, dedicated funding should be placed on the front burner by the BJCTA Board. Dr. Lewis commented that the BJCTA should be able to use the city/county lobbyist to help find statewide, dedicated funding. He suggested that the Board also assign someone to participate with the organization headed by Councilor Kim Rafferty. Dr. Lewis will provide additional information regarding this matter.

In regards to advertising on buses, Mr. Robinson requested that staff let the Board know when the current contract will expire and investigate whether or not the BJCTA following policy. Mr. Behrman reported that the new buses will not have advertising, at least during the first year.

The City of Birmingham has tabled its ordinance regarding advertising at bus stops/shelters.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Barbara Lawson, Administrative Assistant

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald Lyas, Committee Chairman