



Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority
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**Report to the Board
Program Development Committee**

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Opening: The meeting was called to order by Rev. Sellers at 8:42 a.m. in the Executive Briefing Room located at Central Station, 1735 Morris Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama 35203.

Members Present: Andre Petties, Rev. Patrick Sellers

Members Absent: Terri Sharpley

Others Present: Debra Anderson-Burse, Robert Ballard, Peter Behrman, Bing Edwards, Jacquese Gary, Lee Jackson, Barbara Lawson, Chris Leffert, Dr. Jesse Lewis, Julie McMillan, Councilor Kim Rafferty, and Solomon Wilson.

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

Items for Information and/or Discussion:

Procurement Report

Procurement and Governmental Relations Officer Jacquese Gary gave highlights of the procurement report. There were six contracts expiring within the next 120 days. An RFP was let and Buggs Pest Patrol was recommended by the evaluation committee. A notice of intent to terminate services will be sent to Orkin.

For the upcoming solicitations, there are eleven projects. On the priority list is janitorial services because the current provider has asked to be released from the contract. In addition to outside vendors, in-house services may be considered once again. Rev. Sellers commented for the record that he told them so. Another item that has moved up on the priority list is the roof at Central Station, which was not a budgeted item. An RFP for pressure washing Central Station will need to be let because the prices quoted varied too much.

Action Item: Mr. Petties instructed that Central Station be spic and span for the reception planned with the Jefferson County Delegation on January 31, 2012.

Update on Governmental Relations Function

Procurement and Governmental Relations Officer Jacquese Gary announced that invitations to attend the reception with the Jefferson County Delegation have been issued. Invitations have also been extended to members of the City, the County, representatives of the cities that we currently service, or may possibly service in the future, and executive directors from other Alabama transit systems. Staff is working on the legislative agenda for that day and it may include amendments discussed at the board retreat. The event will take place from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m., on January 31, 2012, at Central Station.

According to Mr. Behrman, the Birmingham Business Alliance decided to put transit on their agenda next year when specific legislative recommendations would be known from the SRTP.

Update on APTA Peer Review Implementation

Mr. Petties asked for more information to be included in the status column for clarity when it states that an item has been denied.

Board Retreat Action Items

The attached table of action items was distributed and individually discussed. The following items were discussed at length.

- The proposed changes to the Transit Advisory Committee would require legislative action. Approvals from the board, city, and county would also be required. Legal Counsel Bing Edwards is preparing a proposal that will be ready by the end of this month. **Action Item:** The Committee requested putting all changes on paper for circulation to the board.
- Mr. Petties moved to eliminate the step to obtain authorization to release solicitations from the procurement process, seconded and forwarded to the full board for its consideration.
- For the passenger amenities, Lee Jackson proposed climate-controlled super shelters for the Central Station platform. This will be part of the planning efforts when Mr. Behrman meets the students from Auburn University in two weeks.
- Mr. Behrman reported that there are six routes being redesigned for more efficiency, to decrease headway, and at the request of municipalities. The plan is to bring the new routes before the committees in February. Public hearings will be required before implementation by March 31, 2012. Rev. Sellers remarked that things are moving too slowly, especially service improvements that can be completed while waiting on the SRTP. Mr. Behrman replied that the planning process for the requested changes without additional cost to the municipalities is complicated and requires time and public hearings. Mr. Behrman referred to the DART service and said that the BJCTA had been waiting on the rehab of the trolleys to introduce the new service. The service can be implemented after

public hearings if the board's pleasure is to use the trolleys in their existing state. In response to Councilor Rafferty, Mr. Behrman replied that the Zion City route will also be redesigned, once plans have been made for the existing riders.

Mr. Petties commented that the BJCTA needs to make something visual happen quickly to bring positive attention to the BJCTA. Rev. Sellers asked what routes or service have been changed since September and Mr. Behrman replied only the elimination of Sunday DART service and nothing else. In response to Mr. Petties, Mr. Behrman asked to explain that to decrease the headway would require another bus at \$200,000 or \$300,000 a year or planning efforts so there would be no additional costs to the municipalities. The planning schedule is as tight as it can be.

Mr. Jackson suggested a press release on the repair of wheel chair ramps and other service improvements due to repairs of vehicles and maintenance.

Bus Advertising

Problems reported for using full wraps for advertising are that the wraps pull paint off the buses and customers cannot see out the windows, especially at night.

Mr. Gregg Brogden of Response Advertising reported that 25% of bus advertising revenue comes from full wraps. He distributed the attached designs and proposed that the BJCTA use five buses (Orion or OPUS) for wraps. The current advertising rates are \$1500 per bus per month, gross.

Mr. Petties moved to amend the current BJCTA policy so that wraps are allowed on five of the older buses and that the wraps be removed within five days of their contracted date, seconded, and forwarded to the full board for its consideration.

Resolutions for Consideration & Recommendation –

- A. **Resolution No. 2012-20:** Authorization for the Executive Director to Enter into a Contract with Mr. Buggs Pest Patrol, Inc., was duly made, seconded, and forwarded to the full board for its consideration.

Old Business:

In response to inquiries of Councilor Kim Rafferty, Grants and Procurement Manager Chris Leffert explained that plans for the intermodal facility are on hold until a response is received from the FTA. Since the BJCTA facility has not served its useful life of 40 years, it is possible that the FTA could request a \$3 million refund if the building should be demolished. **Action Item:** The board was asked to be advised in writing regarding any updates of the intermodal facility.

Destination Sign

Action Item: Mr. Behrman instructed Mr. Jackson to change the bus destination sign that reads – “Century Plaza”, per the concern expressed by Councilor Rafferty.

New Business:

Staff was asked to provide a survey of administrative salaries.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Barbara Lawson, Executive Administrative Assistant

Date: _____

Approved by: _____
Rev. Patrick Sellers, Acting Chair