



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

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

**Opening:** The meeting was called to order by the Committee Chairman Rev. Patrick Sellers, at 8:30 a.m. in the BJCTA 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, located at 3105 Rev. Abraham Woods, Jr., Blvd, Birmingham, Alabama 35203.

**Members Present:** Doris Powell and Rev. Patrick Sellers

**Members Absent:** Walter Jones

**Others Present:** Debra Anderson-Burse, Peter Behrman, Bing Edwards, Martin Edwards-Clark, Jacquese Gary, Lee Jackson, Barbara Lawson, Chris Leffert, Richard Nardecchia, Kevin Palmer, and Nicholas Porterfield.

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

Southwest Corridor Study Presented by Brandon Wilson, RPC

This study is about finding ways to improve transit services in the southwest corridor of Birmingham along the Bessemer Super Highway Corridor. The study area runs 22 miles to the southwest from downtown Birmingham, through Bessemer and past I-459 to the Tuscaloosa County Line, and through six municipalities. There is a 2 mile radius on either side of the corridor. The next phase will include a focus group of riders. Approximately 375 students from Lawson State-Bessemer and Miles College will give input on how they use transit services.

Ms. Powell requested that Mr. Wilson present the study to the full board.

Procurement Report

Procurement Officer Jacquese Gary gave an overview of the procurement highlights. Twenty-six (26) paratransit vans have been delivered to date. There were ten (10) respondents to the IT RFP and a recommendation will be made to the Board in April. The RFP for a Benefits Coordinator, who will perform a review to see if the BJCTA is on the right track, was let on February 18, 2011. The RFP for the tire lease will be let this month so that it can be presented to the Board in May 2011.

### Update on Lipscomb and Brighton

A letter was sent to the City of Lipscomb to inform the mayor that the Board rejected the proposed payment plan. A counter of \$2,939.33 per month for current services and an additional \$1,000 per month for past due amounts was proposed. Commissioner Sandra Little Brown was also contacted to see if Jefferson County could intervene on behalf of Lipscomb. There have been no responses of telephone calls or letters from the City of Brighton. Planning Manager Martin Edwards-Clark and Brandon Wilson of the RPC are planning an informal meeting with Mayor Angelo Hinkle of Brighton.

### Montgomery Advocacy Strategy

Executive Director Peter Behrman reported that he had met with Alabama State Representative Rod Scott who advised that a meeting in Birmingham with the Jefferson County delegation would be more productive than making a trip to Montgomery. Also, at the Transit Summit hosted by Commissioner Sandra Brown, Mr. Behrman was advised by consultants to work through the Alabama Transit Association. He has since contacted Vice President John Sorrell of the Association for a joint project meeting.

### Update on ADA Compliance – Eastern Health Clinic

The BJCTA is still waiting for the pad to be installed. Director of Maintenance Lee Jackson will get with the Birmingham city contractor for the shelter.

Grants and Revenue Officer Chris Leffert reported that there are 41 small shelters and 4 large shelters in storage.

### APTA Peer Review Implementation

Mr. Behrman referred to page 28 and 29 of the committee packet. Similar recommendations were combined and added to the chart. Ms. Powell requested to see how this report would compare with the triennial review for an overall view of helping improve service.

### **Resolutions for Consideration and/or Recommendation:**

- A. **Resolution No. 2011-19:** Authorization for the Executive Director to Implement a Half-fare Program on the *dart* Service was moved by Rev. Sellers, seconded by Ms. Powell, and recommended to the full Board for its consideration to raise the fare on dart to \$.50, making the half-fare \$.25.
- B. **Resolution No. 2011-22:** Authorization to Release Solicitations was moved by Rev. Sellers, seconded by Ms. Powell, and recommended to the full Board for its consideration.

*Discussion:* Ms. Powell requested brief summaries and estimates to be included in future staff summaries of solicitations to be considered.

- C. **Resolution No. 2011-23:** Authorization for the Executive Director to Enter Into Contract with Volkert, Inc. for an Additional Sixty-Seven (67) Hours to Provide Program Management Services to the BJCTA was moved by Rev. Sellers,

seconded by Ms. Powell, and recommended to the full Board for its consideration.

- D. **Resolution No. 2011-26:** Authorization to Exercise a One (1) Year Renewal Option to the Contract with VentureNet, LLC to Provide T-1 and Internet Services was moved by Rev. Sellers, seconded by Ms. Powell, and recommended to the full Board for its consideration.

**Old Business:**

Cash Flow

Mr. Behrman reported that the BJCTA did not have a commitment from the City of Birmingham beyond March 2011. Legal Counsel Bing Edwards advised that there is a federal law that provides for a 60 day notice. A couple of tests would be: 1) if a layoff includes at least 50 employees and the number of employees laid off is at least 1/3 of the workforce; and 2) if the layoff is expected to be for more than 6 months. He will continue to look at both steps.

**New Business:** None

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Barbara Lawson, Executive Administrative Assistant

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

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rev. Patrick Sellers, Committee Chairman