



Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority
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CALL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 9, 2009

Opening: The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Chris Lewis, at 9:50 a.m. in the Public Meeting Room, located at Central Station, 1735 Morris Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama 35203.

Members Present: Frank C. Galloway, Jr., Johnnye P. Lassiter, Chris Lewis, Doris Powell, and Rev. Patrick Sellers

Members Absent: Brian Hamilton, Walter Jones, Ronald Lyas, Doris Powell, and Guin Robinson

Others Present: Debra Anderson-Burse, L. A. Moss, Jacquese Gary, Kenneth Simon, and Barbara Lawson

Invocation was given by Rev. Patrick Sellers.

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

Human Relations Committee Report

Frank Galloway reported that the Human Relations committee met and interviewed candidates for the Assistant to the Board of Directors. The recommendation is that an offer is extended to Barbara Lawson. Ms. Lawson previously worked for a division of the University of Alabama at Birmingham for nineteen (19) years until the division downsized.

Ms. Lawson stated that she served as an Office Manager at UAB, providing support to ten (10) to fifteen (15) staff personnel. She also supervised five (5) clerical personnel. She has worked with preparing budgets, monitoring grants, and clerical office work.

Mr. Galloway made a motion that Ms. Lawson be offered the position of Administrative Assistant to the Board of Directors at a salary of \$35,000 annually. It was seconded by Johnnye P. Lassiter and approved by general consent.

Mr. Galloway questioned when Ms. Lawson would begin. Debra Anderson-Burse reported that it could take approximately two (2) weeks to get all paperwork prepared and orientation completed.

Old Business - None

New Business

Mr. Lewis stated that there has been talk in the media of a \$100 million earmark for transit. He and Charles Ball, Regional Planning Commission, RPC, interviewed with a news station explaining that the RPC nor the BJCTA staff or Board were aware of any additional monies earmarked for transit. Additionally, Mr. Lewis stated that he has requested that RPC prepare a rendering to be presented at the next committee meeting, which will show the SuperStops, Commuter Rail, and the In-Town Transit Project.

Mr. Lewis stated that transit is moving in the right direction:

- The wording issues with the contract between the BJCTA and the City of Birmingham has been rectified through the work of Legal Counsel and Mr. Galloway. The contract will allow for the purchase of 30 new Paratransit vehicles.
- The Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds will allow for overhaul of 47 Compressed Natural Gas vehicles over a two (2) year period.
- Of the \$8,600,000 being received from the Economic Recovery Package, Mr. Lewis has requested that Mr. Copling present to the Board a plan for
 - acquiring 14 new buses;
 - using \$1,500,000 for SuperStops (one-half of total cost to be paid by individual municipalities);
 - \$1,000,000 to do necessary updates to the Operations and Maintenance Facility
 - \$1,425,000 Voice Annunciated System(a system that will allow for each stop to be announced)

Public Comment - None

The **Meeting Adjourned** at 9:59 a.m.

Minutes submitted by: Jacques A. Gary, Executive Administrative Assistant

Date: _____

Approved by: _____
Chris Lewis, Chairman

Attest: _____
Rev. Patrick Sellers, Secretary/Treasurer