



MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

June 21, 2023

- I. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee (RTA) Executive Committee was held at the Tennessee State Archives & Library, located at 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N., Nashville, TN 37219, on Wednesday, June 21, 2023. A quorum of the Executive Committee was established, and the meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Mayor Randall Hutto

Executive Committee Members in Attendance:

Mayor Randall Hutto, Wilson County, Chair
Mayor Paige Brown – City of Gallatin, Vice-Chair
Ed Cole – Davidson County (Gov. Appt.)
Mayor Ken Moore – City of Franklin
Mayor Rick Bell – City of Lebanon
Mayor Billy Vogle – Robertson County
Kelly Dannenfelter – Williamson County (Gov. Appt.)
Ken Davis – Wilson County (Gov. Appt.)

Others Present:

Mayor Jamie Clary – City of Hendersonville
Jim Kerr – City of Murfreesboro (Alt.)
Ed Elam – Rutherford County (Alt.)
Thad Jablonski – City of Columbia (Alt.)
Matt White – City of Mt. Juliet (Alt.)
Mayor Mike Callis – City of Portland

- II. **Approval of Minutes:**
Mayor Ken Moore made a motion to approve the April 19 and May 17, 2023, meeting minutes, the motion was seconded by Ed Cole and unanimously approved by the Executive Committee.
- III. **Public Comments:**
There were no public comments given at this meeting.
- IV. **Audit Committee Report:** There were no items for the Audit committee this month.
- V. **Finance Committee Report:** Committee Chair Mayor Ken Moore presented the following for discussion and action:
- a. **Monthly Financial Report Compared to Budget (R-D-23-012):** Mayor Ken Moore presented the Monthly Financials for the month of April 2023, compared to the budget and a balance sheet as of April 2023. Shelly McElhaney was available for questions, and there were no additional questions or further discussions.

b. Hamilton Springs Station License Agreement (R-A-23-007): Chief of Staff & Administration Vince Malone presented the following:

A Tennessee development company, Horn Springs Development, Inc. of Lebanon, Tennessee, has expressed a desire to obtain a license to use a portion of the driveway and adjacent land at the Hamilton Springs Station located at 1000 Gaston Park Drive in Lebanon, Tennessee. As the Licensee, Horn Springs Development, Inc will create homes adjacent to the RTA property. The license concerns the driveway area of the RTA property for the purpose of homeowners to the west of Aston Park Drive to access their houses from the sidewalk along Aston Park Drive and to create a curb cut and two crosswalks, one from the alleyway on Licensee's east side property to the west and the other at the corner to allow homeowners to access the sidewalk inside the west property which will connect to the RTA sidewalk. Licensee's use of the license shall not interfere with or disrupt the normal daily business operations of the RTA which shall continue to use the drive on its property.

All construction contemplated by the license agreement shall be at the sole expense of the Licensee and shall conform to plans to be submitted to RTA by Licensee for approval. Licensee shall be responsible for all costs associated with the utilization of the license including but not limited to any paving. Any costs associated with the design, permitting, or construction of improvements within the licensed area shall be at the expense of the Licensee. Additionally, Licensee agrees that it will be responsible for grass-cutting and similar routine maintenance of the RTA property.

Tennessee Code Annotated §64-8-206 provides authority for the RTA additional powers and duties to support transit adjacent development. Staff recommended the Board provide the Chief Executive Officer the authority to enter into a license agreement for the Hamilton Springs Station property with Horn Springs Development, Inc, as the Licensee.

Mayor Ken Moore made a motion to approve the Hamilton Station License Agreement, the motion was seconded by Ed Cole and unanimously approved by the Executive Committee.

c. Fifth-Third Revolving Line of Credit (R-A-23-008): The Finance Committee recommended to the Board to authorize the CEO to enter into the fourth year of a five-year revolving line of credit agreement for up to \$5.0 million with Fifth Third Bank based upon the terms explained above for the period from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024.

Mayor Ken Moore made a motion to approve the Fifth-Third Revolving Line of Credit, the motion was seconded by Ken Davis and unanimously approved by the Executive Committee.

d. RTA-MTA WeGo Ride Program Revenue Sharing Agreement (R-A-23-009): The Finance Committee recommended the Board approve the renewal of the WeGo Ride Program Revenue Sharing Agreement with RTA from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, now including State employee ridership, based upon the formula explained above and that Nashville MTA will continue to be the Master Contractor for the WeGo Ride Program and will share revenues with RTA based upon the calculated formula. Each Board will review the agreement annually to assess if any changes should be made to the agreement in the future.

Mayor Ken Moore made a motion to approve the RTA-MTA WeGo Ride Program Revenue Sharing Agreement, the motion was seconded by Ed Cole and unanimously approved by the Executive Committee.

e. RTA-MTA Bus and Shuttle Contract FY2024 Renewals (R-A-23-010): The Finance Committee recommended the Board approve the renewal of contracts with Nashville MTA consisting of Contract 1 for regional bus services and Contract 2 for connecting bus services

supporting commuter rail. Both contracts are for a period of one year, beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, for the following base amounts:

Contract #1 for a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,671,740 for regional bus service, and Contract #2 for \$270,700 for connecting buses supporting commuter rail.

Mayor Ken Moore made a motion to approve the RTA-MTA Bus and Shuttle Contract FY2024 Renewals, the motion was seconded by Ed Cole and unanimously approved by the Executive Committee.

- f. **WeGo Star Liability Insurance Renewal (R-A-23-011)**: The Finance Committee recommended that the Board approve the insurance policy for \$29 million of train liability insurance coverage (with a \$58 million aggregate) for the policy year from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, to be awarded to Aspen Specialty Insurance and Liberty Surplus Insurance Corporation for a total base annual premium of \$297,177 with the caveat that if the yearly ridership exceeds the benchmark of 180,600 rides, RTA will pay an additional compensation at a rate of \$1.65 per ride given over the benchmark. RTA will maintain the supplemental insurance reserve of \$1 million, making our total liability insurance coverage \$30 million.

Mayor Ken Moore made a motion to approve the WeGo Star Liability Insurance Renewal, the motion was seconded by Mayor Rick Bell and unanimously approved by the Executive Committee.

- g. **FY2024 Proposed Operating Budget (R-A-23-012)**: The Finance Committee recommended that the board adopt the proposed FY2024 budget as presented.

Mayor Ken Moore that the Finance Committee had extensive discussion regarding the proposed operating budget at the Committee's meeting. He made a motion to approve the FY2024 Proposed Operating Budget, the motion was seconded by Ed Cole and was unanimously approved by the Executive Committee.

VI. Operations Committee Report: Committee Chair Mayor Rick Bell presented the following items for discussion:

- a. **Monthly Operating Statistics (R-D-23-013)**: Chief Operating Officer Andy Burke reviewed the RTA Monthly Dashboard Report through the month of April 2023 with the Executive Committee. Andy Burke was available for questions, and there were no additional questions or further discussions.

VII. CEO's Report: CEO Bland provided the following report:

1. Unfortunately, an individual was struck by the Star while walking on the tracks this past Friday evening near Anthes Drive in Nashville. The train was in service headed outbound with afternoon commuters. Riders were transported to their destination by bridge buses. Our thoughts go out to this individual, but also to the train crew, first responders, and passengers who experienced this accident.
2. As previously reported, the Federal Transit Administration has been conducting its Triennial Review of the RTA with respect to compliance with various aspects of the Federal program. In total, 23 areas are examined for compliance in topics ranging from project management to financial management to procurement to safety and many more. Due to the pandemic, this process was delayed a year, so it was the first review we've had since 2019. This year, the FTA had only one finding – down from 5 in 2019. The sole finding came in developing adequate documentation for the certification of medical review officers, substance abuse professionals, and breath alcohol technicians and collectors for our subcontracted service

operators. This finding will be addressed in our corrective action plan, and the FTA will issue a final report to the Board.

3. The RTA is up for legislative renewal in front of the General Assembly again this year. Our Sunset Hearing before the Commerce, Labor, Transportation, and Agriculture Joint Subcommittee of the Government Operations Committee has been scheduled for Thursday, October 19, 2023, beginning at 9:00 a.m., and will be held in House Hearing Room 1, Cordell Hull Building, Nashville, Tennessee. Mr. Bland said that he will be requesting the participation of our Officers in this hearing again, and any interested member is invited to attend.
4. WeGo operated a special train service for one of the concert nights for CMA Fest, carrying a total of 123 passengers. Tickets for the 4th of July are on sale now, and tickets for the Music City Grand Prix will be going on sale shortly.
5. Background work continues on the Donelson Station joint development project. We did receive the appraisal on the property which will form the basis of our financial negotiations. Right now, we're in a bit of a holding pattern as the developer attempts to secure other parcels adjacent to the site.
6. There continues to be advancement on the development of a park-and-ride lot in Murfreesboro and we are waiting for the review appraisal for a potential site adjacent to the City's new transit facility. WeGo's real estate consultants are also looking at potential sites in Franklin.
7. WeGo has been working with Nashville SC to develop a potential regional bus service for their soccer matches. The Club recently completed a survey of its fan base, identifying the highest potential in the Clarksville, Murfreesboro, and Antioch markets. WeGo will continue to advance those conversations in the hope of experimenting with service late in the season that could become part of our service mix next year for the full season.
8. WeGo has received some interim deliverables from Hatch on the Star Strategy Study and is targeting mid-July to kick off the first round of public engagement.
9. CEO Bland reminded everyone that RTA will not meet in July.

CEO Bland concluded his remarks and was available for any questions from the floor.

Mayor Rick Bell asked if the train had to make an emergency stop how long would it take the train to stop. CEO Bland said it depends on how fast the train is going, but we can find out an illustrative stopping distance and present that information back to the board. However, he added that it is safe to say that it takes a considerable distance to stop the train at any appreciable speed, and that the safest approach is simply for people to stay off the tracks at all times.

Ed Cole asked if the choice lanes articulated in the State's Transportation Modernization Act include access by public transit. CEO Bland said that the legislation incorporates specific language saying that transit vehicles are required to have free access to the choice lanes. He said there have been independent conversations with TDOT that as they plan for projects in Middle TN that the RTA be brought into those conversations.

VIII. Chair's Report: Mayor Randall Hutto announced that the Marathon Train raised a little bit over \$12K this year, and the proceeds generated were donated to St. Jude.

In conclusion, Mayor Hutto announced that he had tickets for the Speedway Race that was to take place over the upcoming weekend, and anyone that wanted tickets could come and see him after the meeting.

IX. Adjournment: With no further business, Mayor Ken Moore called for a motion to adjourn, Mayor Billy Vogle made a motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Ed Cole, RTA Secretary &
Davidson County Governor Appointee