

CAPITAL METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
2910 East Fifth Street Austin, TX 78702

~ Minutes ~

Board Liaison Ed Easton
512-369-6040

Monday, October 26, 2020
12:00 PM

12:10 PM Meeting Called to Order
1:07 PM Meeting Adjourned

I. Public Comment:

Zenobia Joseph, citizen, mentioned that she had recently sent a complaint about Hatch Act violations to John-Michael Cortez, who is a special assistant to Mayor Adler. She also feels that a recent Capital Metro ad on KAZI radio is false when it says that the Project Connect plan is more equitable than previous transit plans. There is no transit service between Apple and Samsung and FM 734 is a federally-funded roadway -- there are thousands of apartments in the Parmer/Dessau area. She is also opposed to the Customer Service Advisory Committee resolution in support of Project Connect and asks for the removal of the Chair and the gentleman who put forward the resolution because it does not recognize the poor service north of US 183.

II. Advisory Committee Updates:

1. Customer Service Advisory Committee (CSAC)

Community Involvement Specialist Yannis Banks presented the monthly meeting report. This month CSAC heard an update on Project Connect from Program Officer Dave Couch; an update on Pickup Service and new zones; a presentation on the new fare capping program; and the formation of a new Diversity and Inclusion council for the agency.

There was also discussion of a passing a new resolution related to Project Connect support, but Yannis relayed that the wording had not been finalized and no resolution was passed.

Board member Stratton asked about current vacancies on the committee. Yannis said that there are currently three vacancies and he has applications to pass along to fill those.

2. Access Advisory Committee

Community Involvement Specialist Yannis Banks presented the monthly summary. This month Access members heard an update on Project Connect; an update on the MetroAccess eligibility process during the pandemic; and informational presentations on the new fare capping program and forming of a new Diversity and Inclusion council for the agency.

III. Board Committee Updates:

1. Operations, Planning and Safety Committee

Chair Travillion reported that the committee met on October 14th and considered three Action Items -- one was approved by the committee; one is on the Consent agenda today; and the OPS Committee Charter, which is on the agenda for action today.

2. Finance, Audit and Administration Committee

Chair Mitchell was not present, so no report was given.

3. CAMPO update

Chair Mitchell was not present and no report was given.

IV. Consent Items

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Delia Garza, Vice Chair
SECONDER:	Sabino Renteria, Board Member
AYES:	Cooper, Garza, Renteria, Travillion, Stratton
ABSENT:	Mitchell, Kitchen, Hill

1. Approval of minutes from the September 16, 2020 Public Hearing and September 28, 2020 Board Meeting.
2. Approval of a resolution adopting a revised Charter Statement for the Finance, Audit and Administration Committee.
3. Approval of a resolution affirming the Internal Audit Charter.
4. Approval of a resolution adopting the FY2021 Internal Audit Services Plan.
5. Approval of a resolution authorizing the President & CEO, or his designee, to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Austin for the purpose of participating in cooperative procurement opportunities via the Texas Interlocal Purchasing Cooperative.

V. Action Items:

1. Approval of a resolution adopting a revised Charter Statement for the Operations, Planning and Safety Committee.

Staff Attorney Ayeola Williams presented this item.

These changes were presented earlier in the month to the Operations, Planning, and Safety Committee, and at that time there were some discrepancies between the redline and clean versions of the document. Those issues have been resolved, and Ayeola presented a summary of the changes being proposed to the full board. The substantive changes being proposed are to reiterate that the Operations, Planning and Safety Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the board to comply with all applicable laws and regulations, not just ones in the FAST Act; and the addition of a section dealing with committee membership.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Eric Stratton, Board Secretary
SECONDER:	Jeffrey Travillion, Board Member
AYES:	Cooper, Garza, Renteria, Travillion, Stratton
ABSENT:	Mitchell, Kitchen, Hill

2. Approval by the Board of Directors of Capital Metro's Investment Policy and revision of the investment committee composition.

Controller Susan Renshaw presented this item.

This item is the annual approval of the agency's Investment Policy. There are two changes being proposed to the policy at this time: clarifying language has been added to Section 1(b) under Scope, referencing transportation authorities being able to invest according to the investment act; and a change designating Susan and CFO Reinet Marneweck as Investment Committee Officers and allowing for additional committee members. Donna Simmons and Illyse Niland would be replaced as officers of the committee, but continue to serve as members.

Board Member Stratton asked for some additional clarification on the role of the committee officers.

Zenobia Joseph, citizen, spoke prior to the vote on this item. Her comments were related to the Finance Committee Charter and this Investment Policy where language specifies "demonstrates integrity", compliance with federal law, and ethics in general. Her take on the agency's 2017 financial plan is that when the agency made route changes in 2018 the Board did not comply with standards according to ridership data provided to the public, and there was also financial information that was not adhered to. Accordingly, the Board is not following the 2018 board-approved Code of Ethics and needs to demonstrate greater honesty and integrity.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Eric Stratton, Board Secretary
SECONDER:	Delia Garza, Vice Chair
AYES:	Cooper, Garza, Renteria, Travillion, Stratton
ABSENT:	Mitchell, Kitchen, Hill

VI. Presentations:

1. Project Connect Update

Program Officer Dave Couch kicked off the monthly update.

Dave reported that we have begun the NEPA processes for both the proposed Orange and Blue lines, and entered project development on the Expo and Pleasant Valley MetroRapid Lines. Dave further summarized project progress on the Blue Line and presented artist renderings for the station at ABIA.

Vice President of Planning and Development Sharmila Mukherjee then presented slides on recent Red Line progress. Broadmoor Station is advancing as we prepare for construction, and Sharmila also presented a rendering of the new McKalla Station at the Austin FC stadium as design begins. Sharmila also quickly reviewed other infrastructure improvements along other segments of the line.

Chief Customer Officer and COO Dottie Watkins then gave an update on the current bus procurement process. Future transit bus purchases are planned to be all electric, and we are exploring the replacement of other types of vehicles (coach buses, paratransit) with electric as well. Currently the agency is in the process of preparing a procurement for electric bus purchases over a 5-year period.

Finally CFO Reineta Marneweck presented a Customer Technology Update as we transition our payment systems to be both app- and account-based. Customers will soon be able to use cash at an extensive retail network to load funds onto the Capital Metro app. We are also rolling out a pilot program to enable fare capping, ensuring that when a customer reaches the cost of a monthly pass with daily rides their fare is capped for the rest of the month at that price.

VII. Reports:

1. President's Report

President Clarke gave his monthly report.

This month's highlights included the recent openings of both the new electric charging facility at the North Ops location and the new Downtown Station. President Clarke thanked the teams and staff members involved in both projects and highlighted some of the improvements that both facilities will bring. He also mentioned a recent award the agency received from the Transportation Research Board for community engagement for a quick pivot on Project Connect community meetings as the pandemic hit earlier this year.

VIII. Items for Future Discussion:

IX. Adjournment

ADA Compliance

Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications are provided upon request. Please call (512) 369-6040 or email ed.easton@capmetro.org if you need more information.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Wade Cooper, Chair; Delia Garza, Vice Chair; Eric Stratton, Secretary; Terry Mitchell; Troy Hill; Ann Kitchen, Jeffrey Travillion and Pio Renteria.

The Board of Directors may go into closed session under the Texas Open Meetings Act. In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 551.071, consultation with attorney for any legal issues, under Section 551.072 for real property issues; under Section 551.074 for personnel matters, or under Section 551.076, for deliberation regarding the deployment or implementation of security personnel or devices; arising regarding any item listed on this agenda.