



***BOARD MEETING***

Wednesday, December 12, 2007, 10:00 a.m.  
1101 Kermit Drive, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Nashville, Tennessee

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERSHIP PRESENT**

Scott Foster - Chairman	Mayor, Hendersonville
Paul Ballard - Secretary	Governor Appointee
Howard Bradley	Mayor, Robertson County
Tom Brashear	Alternate, Wilson County
Ernest Burgess	Mayor, Rutherford County
Angie Carrier	Alternate, City of White House
Betsy Crossley	Alternate, City of Brentwood
Eddie Davidson	Alt., Metro Nashville/ Davidson Co.
Roger Farley	Governor Appointee
Don Fox	Mayor, City of Lebanon
Jay Johnson	Alternate, City of Franklin
Jo Ann Graves	Mayor, City of Gallatin
Joe Horne	Alternate, Williamson County
Mike Moulton	Alternate, Sumner County
Bill Orange	Mayor, Cheatham County
Randy Robertson	Alternate, City of Mt. Juliet
Kenneth Wilber	Mayor, City of Portland

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:**

Terry Bebout	TSG
Tauna Blaisdell	GNRC Staff
Greer Broemel	GNRC Staff
Patty Cavanah	GNRC Staff
Erin Collier	RTA Staff
Sam Edwards	GNRC Staff
Glenda Griggs	RTA Staff
Tanisha Hall	GNRC Staff
Jovia King	GNRC Staff
Jeff Pancirov	GNRC Staff
Lucreacia Points	RTA Staff
Brenda Porter	TDOT
Diane Thorne	RTA Staff

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Scott Foster called the Board meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m., on Wednesday, December 12, 2007, in Nashville, Tennessee.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Foster asked for the approval of the November 17, 2007, Board meeting minutes. Mayor Don Fox made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Betsy Crossley, City of Brentwood, seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Foster called for comments from the public. There were no public comments.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**Item 4, Mt. Juliet Station Property Lease Update by Mr. Paul Ballard.** Mr. Ballard reported that on December 11, 2007 the ECOC had a joint meeting with the Finance Committee regarding proposals for the Mt. Juliet Station Property Lease. Mr. Ballard stated the lease proposal for the Mt. Juliet Station was first introduced to the East Corridor Oversight Committee / Operations Oversight Committee in July 2007. Following that meeting, the ECOC reviewed several proposals from developers but no lease was finalized due to continuing negotiations regarding revenue. In addition, revisions to the RTA proposed lease should include: revising the proposed lease term to 20 years with first right of renewal; adjusting the lease rate every year based on CPI or inflation; the RTA having final approval of the development plan and negotiating market rate for the property based on information received from various sources.

Mr. Ballard recommended the Board reject the proposal from the developer and authorize staff to resubmit a request for proposal.

Randy Robertson stated that he and Mrs. Thorne have discussed this issue and in the best interest of the RTA, the market rate for the property should be received.

Mayor Graves made the motion to authorize RTA Staff to reject the current offer and prepare a new request for proposal for developing the Mt. Juliet Station property. Mayor Orange seconded and the motion was approved.

**Item 5, Resolution to Accept Property Transfer of Advertising Benches from MTA was presented by Mr. Ballard.** Mr. Ballard stated that on April 18, 2007 the RTA Board approved a motion for the RTA to accept all responsibilities for the advertising on the benches at the Music City Star train stations and inside the train cars. This work was previously contracted to MTA. RTA accepted this responsibility in August 2007. The MTA is transferring the property (benches) to the RTA via Federal Transit Administration processes. The RTA Board needs to adopt a resolution accepting this property. Mr. Ballard stated that the transfer cost for the 20 benches will be approximately \$18,000; RTA currently has capital funds available for the transfer cost.

Mr. Ballard stated that due to his obligation to MTA he would refrain from voting.

Mayor Graves made the motion to accept transfer of benches from MTA and Mayor Ernest Burgess seconded. The motion was approved.

**Item 6, Nominating Committee for 2008 RTA Board Officers was presented by Mayor Scott Foster.** Mayor Foster proposed the Nominating Committee be Angie Carrier, Tom Brashear, and Mayor Ernest Burgess. There were no objections. The nominating committee will bring a slate of officers for 2008 to the January meeting for Board consideration.

**Item 7, Ridership Report, was presented by Diane Thorne.** Mrs. Thorne stated that on Friday, December 7, 2007 the Music City Star brought 383 people, to the Riverfront Station, to attend the Nashville evening Christmas Parade. The MCS made its regular stops along the eastern corridor to the parade downtown and set a new record high for Friday evening service. Mrs. Thorne also stated that the Titans games are doing well and that a private party has arranged to charter a train car at the charter price. The charter cost for a car is \$3,000 assuming there are 100 people per car. Mrs. Thorne also reported that the Relax and Ride express bus ridership is expanding and many commuters are standing. The RTA has applied for funds that will assist in purchasing vehicles. Furthermore, ridership studies will be conducted to determine where transportation is needed.

Mrs. Griggs reported that the rideshare program has been working closely with several National Guard locations and that there are demands for vans in many other areas as well. Mrs. Griggs stated that four vans have been placed and a fifth van will soon be placed at the National Guard.

Mayor Orange stated Clarksville, Ashland City and other surrounding areas are in need of transportation. He requested studies to be conducted in that region.

**Item 8, Budget Amendment was presented by Diane Thorne.** Mrs. Thorne stated that the last Finance Committee meeting was a working session that will continue to work until some issues are resolved. The primary focus of the working session was the Commuter Rail and its financial support. Mrs. Thorne stated that at this time there is no final report; however, there will be a report to come.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Edwards stated that RTA administrative staff has decided to combine the remaining budgeted salaries of the Fiscal Officer and Marketing Coordinator positions to fund the new position of Director of Communication and Public Outreach. Mr. Edwards stated that eventually a fiscal position would need to be filled but the GNRC staff will handle the RTA's fiscal work until the position is filled. Chairman Foster requested that resolution be in the Board packet along with other jobs description and contract amendment.

Mrs. Thorne requested that city and county websites link to the RTA website. Mrs. Thorne stated that this will enable current or potential commuters to have direct access to the RTA Newsletter and other information about the RTA and the areas it serves. Mrs. Thorne also stated that as a token of appreciation, the Board, along with the Music City Star riders, will be presented with Christmas ornaments that will hopefully be the first of a series.

Mr. Eddie Davidson was introduced to the Board as the designated alternate for Metro Nashville Mayor Karl Dean.

**Item 10, Executive Session, was presented by Mr. Sam Edwards.** Mr. Edwards informed the Board that if there were questions the Board desired to address confidentially, then an Executive Session would take place; otherwise the meeting could proceed.

With no further business, Chairman Foster made a motion to adjourn. County Executive Thompson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully,

*Paul J. Ballard*

Paul J. Ballard  
RTA Secretary