



## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

January 17, 2020 | Manatee County Administrative Center 1112 Manatee Ave. W. Bradenton, FL 34205

*Jim Holton called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.*

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jim Holton, Gubernatorial; Commissioner Janet Long, Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA); Commissioner Reggie Bellamy, Manatee County; Commissioner Karen Seel, Pinellas County; Commissioner Pat Kemp, Hillsborough County; Commissioner Kathryn Starkey, Pasco County; Rich McClain, Gubernatorial; Commissioner John Mitten, Hernando County; Secretary David Gwynn, FDOT D7, Secretary L.K. Nandam, FDOT D1

### **BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Mayor Jane Castor, City of Tampa (via phone); Mayor Rick Kriseman, City of St. Petersburg; Cliff Manuel, Jr., Gubernatorial

### **MEETING ATTENDEES:**

David Green, Executive Director; TBARTA staff members; Isabella Sobel, BMO; Debbie Leous, PSTA; members of the public

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

-Bob Henion conveyed about his concern on comments made during both the November and December meetings by Commissioners Bellamy and Long regarding Manatee not being included TBARTA initial plans. He stated that Manatee has different needs than Hillsborough and Pinellas.

-Barbara Toepke submitted a comment via the website: Please do NOT vote to endorse MCORES. It is a waste of taxpayer dollars and could destroy miles of wetlands and wildlife habitat from Naples up to the Florida-Georgia line. In 2007 FDOT said NO to the Heartland Parkway because of the length, environmental concerns, and lack of toll road receipts to justify government financing. Please vote NO to MCORES.

### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEM:**

Approval of December 6, 2019 Board meeting minutes.

➤ **Rich McClain motioned to approve; Commissioner Bellamy seconded. Motion passes 9-0.**

Approval of TBARTA/FDOT 2-year lease agreement for \$0 at the CentrePointe building. The lease term is June 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022 and there is no fiscal impact. TBARTA will save \$101,795 annually based on our current rent.

➤ **Commissioner Long motioned to approve; Commissioner Seel seconded. Motion passes 9-0.**

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

#### **Air Taxi Pilot Program Resolution 2020-02**

The Board recommended approving a motion to adopt a resolution stating that TBARTA would cooperate with

regional stakeholders such as the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority in their efforts to bring air taxis to the Tampa Bay region. This came out of the November Board meeting where it was discussed that Tampa International Airport could be a test site for air taxis. We are currently conducting a feasibility study of hyperloop, aerial gondolas, and air taxis.

➤ **Rich McClain motioned to approve; Commissioner Long seconded. Motion passes 9-0.**

#### **M-CORES Presentation**

The Board discussed some feedback from CAC regarding an M-CORES presentation and requested endorsement. This was scheduled to be presented by the Florida Chamber at an upcoming Board meeting. After some discussion, the Board recommended that FDOT present this instead of the Florida Chamber in February. They requested to hear both the pros and cons. It was also decided that the Board will not take up a resolution.

➤ **Commissioner Seel motioned to approve; Rich McClain seconded. Motion passes 9-0.**

#### **INFORMATION ITEMS:**

##### **Financial Update**

The YTD net surplus was \$510K. We were under budget on revenues for federal funding due to the use of STP and FTA 5307 funds. We were also under budget on state funding due to the timing of the PD&E and technology projects. On the expense side we were under budget across the board. Our year ended with a positive cash balance of \$210k.

##### **Line of Credit**

TBARTA needs a line of credit to ensure timely payment of expenses while grant invoices are being processed. Twice during the last 6 months, we released solicitations for a line of credit and received no responses. On November 18, 2019 we received a proposal for a line of credit of \$300,000 from Pilot Bank. Pilot Bank is a full-service bank in the greater Tampa Bay and Lakeland Florida areas. Chartered by the state of Florida in 1987, it has more than \$300,000 million in assets and is a Qualified Public Depository (QPD). The fiscal impact would be an estimated \$2,325 in pre-closing and closing costs and an annual reaffirmation fee of \$250. Based on a discussion with FDOT, these may be funded from the state operating grant. The recommendation is once the loan documentation is received and approved by General Counsel, a recommendation of approval of the working line of credit not to exceed \$300,000 with Pilot Bank for a term of two years will be made. The Finance Committee also recommended adding stipulations based on only using it for budgeted items, and up to the positive differential of AR to AP. This will come back to the Board at the February meeting for a vote.

##### **Legislative Update/Appropriations**

Ron Pierce from RSA updated the Board on the legislative session that started January 14. Feedback has been generally positive regarding TBARTA's annual appropriation request. The House and Senate budgets will be announced soon, and he anticipates support of \$1.5M in funding for TBARTA operations. At this point it is not known if these funds will be recurring, non-recurring or from the trust fund. No decisions have been made for any additional technology funds at this time.

##### **TBARTA Member Bill**

There are concerns from legislation regarding Board members being able to attend meetings and vote electronically. The option could possibly be made available for committee meetings only but not for Board meetings. There also seems to be support for allowing the mayors to each appoint a designee from city council to attend Board meetings in their absence. There was a general consensus that the designee should be appointed for at least a 1-year term. There have also been discussions around the issue related to our quorum regarding needing seven affirmative votes to move forward with an action. We are hoping to have both bills move in week three. A conversation also came up regarding our attendance policy for the Board. We are currently missing two gubernatorial appointees, and this is being addressed.

## **Envision 2030 Workshop Review**

Bill Ball from Tindale Oliver gave an update on the findings from the Envision 2030 Board Workshop. The draft plan is set to be presented at the March meeting. The goals from the workshop were to review TBARTA's purpose, goals and guiding principles; understand issues that influence how regional transit is defined in TBARTA's service area and provide high-level direction regarding TBARTA's future roles in regional transit planning, funding, operations and branding. The presentation is available here:

<https://bit.ly/2OJf1X7>. Highlights included:

- Focus on commuters and premium transit services and increase coordination with member governments.
- Lead regional transit planning for the five-county area and expand planning responsibilities as TBARTA's role in operations expands.
- Contract regional transit operations to public or private providers, provide regional TD services if needed, and establish standards for regional service.
- Identify dedicated and sustainable funding sources, become a designated recipient for federal funding (in process), and better define value provided to each member county.
- Pursue seamless regional travel with a unified regional transit brand, utilizing co-branding in the near-term and establishing interlocal agreements.

## **State Transit Funding Q&A**

Questions have arisen on how TBARTA will fund the RRT. We have applied to receive FTA funds but will need a match. Ming Gao from FDOT District 7 came to in to discuss the State's role in funding. There are various types of funding, formula and discretionary grants. Under the FDOT New Starts Transit program, FDOT would fund up to 50% of the non-federal share. A question was asked regarding local match and if there are any ways to be proactive to get this funding in place ahead of time? Ming stated that information would have to come from the Legislature.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

After some discussion during the Committee meetings, it was decided that we are interested in holding a regional transit summit. Commissioner Long and FDOT discussed working together to get this organized.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

-Our FTA new grantee packet was submitted on December 20<sup>th</sup>. I could take up to six months for them to review. With this underway, we have moved forward in recruiting for the Procurement and Grants Manager position.

-Some issue have come up with Granicus, our new agenda management system. It was determined that the platform has some bugs in the latest version. We are not able to launch until this gets resolved. We are hoping that the soft launch can happen in February but will update the Committees/Board once we have more information.

-FDOT has arranged a Skyway bridge tour that will take place Tuesday, Jan 21 from 9:00-11:30am. Please RSVP if you are able to attend.

***Adjournment 11:16 am***