



**September Board Meeting**  
**Friday, September 24, 2021 – 10:00 AM**  
**Hillsborough County Center - Civil Service Conference Room**  
**601 E. Kennedy Blvd., 18<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Tampa, FL 33602**

***NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING***

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PRESENT**

Cliff Manuel, Jr.  
Commissioner Janet Long  
John Dingfelder (alternate for Mayor Castor)  
Mayor Rick Kriseman  
Commissioner Pat Kemp  
Commissioner Kathryn Starkey  
Commissioner René Flowers  
Commissioner Jeff Holcomb  
FDOT Secretary David Gwynn  
FDOT Secretary L.K. Nandam  
Legal Counsel Jennifer Cowan  
Executive Director David Green  
TBARTA staff

**WELCOME COMMISSIONER JEFF HOLCOMB – HERNANDO COUNTY**

The Governing Board welcomed Commissioner Jeff Holcomb as the new Hernando County Board member.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**Approve August Board Meeting Minutes**

Motion made by Commissioner Holcomb, Seconded by Commissioner Starkey.  
Voting Yea: Cliff Manuel, Jr, Commissioner Long, John Dingfelder, Mayor Kriseman, Commissioner Kemp, Commissioner Starkey, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Holcomb.

Motion passes 8-0.

**DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS**

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT – BILL ROBERTS**

The CAC enjoyed a presentation on AVA. They received an update on the Board's choice for the locally preferred alternative for the RRT, which they are in support of. Committee member Josh Frank raised the possibility of using the HART plan for a Florida/Nebraska avenue local RRT as a potential pathway. The Committee also heard updates regarding the TBARTA bylaws, and provided their continued support for TD funding projects.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT – COMMISSIONER RENE FLOWERS**

### RSA State Advocacy Services Contract (David Green)

The Governing Board unanimously awarded a three-year agreement to RSA Consulting Group, LLC for a total contract amount not to exceed \$180,000. On October 26, 2018, the Governing Board approved piggybacking from PSTA's State Advocacy Services agreement with RSA Consulting Group. The Board subsequently awarded one-year agreements in each of the following two years. These services will expire on October 25, 2021, however, PSTA recently awarded a new agreement to RSA Consulting Group to continue services. TBARTA needed to secure services to continue state advocacy activities beyond October 25, 2021. The new negotiated fee is \$5,000 per month, which is a 41% reduction from the current fee of \$8,500 per month. This expense is included in the approved FY2022 operating budget. In addition, the Board asked to be briefed from Alan Suskey in the future.

Motion made by Commissioner Flowers, Seconded by Mayor Kriseman.

Voting Yea: Cliff Manuel, Jr, Commissioner Long, John Dingfelder, Mayor Kriseman, Commissioner Kemp, Commissioner Starkey, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Holcomb.

Motion passes 8-0.

### August Financials (Melonie Williams)

Year to date through the month of August the net surplus of \$264,000 was \$4,000 over the budget of \$257,000. On the revenue and expense side we were \$2.6 million under budget due to the timing of the PD&E and technology studies. At the end of August there was approximately \$490,000 in the bank. In addition, we have \$8.4 million in unspent grants funds.

### FY 2023 Financial Projection (Melonie Williams)

Melonie Williams presented the financial forecast for FY 2023, which considers how long TBARTA can operate without additional state funds. The forecast assumes current staffing levels remain in place and includes twelve months of rent expenses. Projected revenue is \$2,848,281 with projected expenses of \$2,751,546. This results in a projected surplus of \$96,735. At year end, the federal 5307 grant will have a remaining balance of \$2.1 million, and the CAP grant \$31,000. This analysis projects that TBARTA can operate through FY 2023 but will need additional funds to continue operating beyond that.

## **POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT – COMMISSIONER KATHRYN STARKEY**

### FY 2022 Legislative Agenda

The Governing Board unanimously approved requesting a FY 2022 appropriation for operating funds. RSA plans to go meet with President Simpson and the Governor's office to discuss this. A recommendation was also made to leverage local dollars by developing language that DOT would match contributions made by local governments. Ideally, this would come from State general revenues. There was also a suggestion to discuss how local partners financially support TBARTA, and whether that commitment should be memorialized in a MOU. Staff will work with RSA on possible options.

Motion made by Commissioner Starkey, Seconded by Commissioner Long.

Voting Yea: Cliff Manuel, Jr, Commissioner Long, John Dingfelder, Mayor Kriseman, Commissioner Kemp, Commissioner Starkey, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Holcomb.

Motion passes 8-0.

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

In previous Board meetings there was an idea to have a joint Regional Planning Council/TBARTA meeting. After meeting with the RPC director, it was decided that it is not a good fit.

The TMA leadership group is interested in hosting a regional transportation workshop to discuss the CSX rail corridors. David will meet with the MPO directors next week for planning. The tentative date for this meeting is December 10th.

The 4th annual Gulf Coast Safe Street summit will take place on November 2nd to the 4th. It will focus on safety and safety efforts in the region. This will be held in coordination with the annual 2021 Bike/Walk Tampa Bay virtual summit that TBARTA is co-sponsoring.

This is Jennifer's last Board meeting. She has been with TBARTA for over two and a half years and has been instrumental in moving the agency forward. We wish her the best of luck. We are recruiting for her replacement and hope to have someone on board in the next couple of weeks.

We want to thank everyone at Hillsborough county for providing this meeting space. We also want to thank the staff that was involved as well.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### FDOT SIS Plan Update (Chris Leffert, FDOT)

The Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) is Florida's high priority network of transportation facilities important to moving people and freight, linking Florida's regions, and investing in strategic transportation facilities. The Florida Department of Transportation is updating the SIS Policy Plan, which sets the policy direction for designating, planning, and implementing the SIS. It is developed in consultation with statewide, regional, and local partners. FDOT provided a video explaining the process for updating the SIS Policy Plan; its various components; emerging trends and focus areas including safety, resilience, technology & innovation, urban mobility & connectivity, and rural mobility & connectivity; and the initial thoughts for potential changes in this plan. A policy plan FAQ was provided to the Board, and they are accepting comments through various means.

NASA Model Demonstration/Results (Kapil Sheth, NASA)

One of the recommendations from the Innovative Transit Technology study was to collaborate with NASA on work they are doing with air taxi vertiports. NASA has developed a GIS model that helps state and local government agencies identify the best locations for placing air taxi vertiports through heat mapping. TBARTA and the Hillsborough TPO worked with Dr. Kapil Sheth from NASA on customizing this GIS model for Hillsborough County. This work is 99.9% complete and the Hillsborough TPO has taken ownership of the model. The cost of this project was fully funded by NASA. TBARTA and the Hillsborough TPO provided staff time and labor. The regional modeling tool considers regional parameters, zoning, environmental impact, intermodal systems, location suggestions and vertiport selection. In addition, they also have a regional simulation tool, vertiport assessment, and mobility operations system (VAMOS!), which can assess the feasibility of flights, route structure between locations, simulate vehicle flight, the impact on environment, etc. Through data provided by the TPO Dr. Sheth was able to create a heat map of Hillsborough County with eleven locations chosen for analysis. Some examples noted were near the airport, Amalie Arena, and the Convention Center. NASA currently has a patent pending for this work.

**\*\*NEXT BOARD MEETING\*\*****October 22, 2021 – 10:00 AM****PSTA Board Room****3201 Scherer Drive****St. Petersburg, FL 33716**

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