



Minutes

1326th Meeting of the Board of Directors January 24, 2008

Ms. Hewlett called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. Present were:

Directors

Ms. Elizabeth Hewlett
Mr. Chris Zimmerman
Mr. Jim Graham
Mr. Peter Benjamin
Mrs. Catherine Hudgins
Mr. Emeka Moneme

Alternate Directors

Mr. Gordon Linton
Mr. Jeff McKay
Mr. William Euille
Mr. Tony Giancola

Staff

Mr. John Catoe
Mr. Gerald Francis
Ms. Polly Hanson
Ms. Helen Lew

Ms. Carol O'Keeffe
Mr. Chuck Woodruff
Mrs. Leen'da Chambliss

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Benjamin moved, seconded by Mr. Moneme, that the agenda be approved. The agenda was approved as submitted.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the December 13, 2007 meeting were approved as submitted.

**Washington
Metropolitan Area
Transit Authority**

600 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001
202/962-1234

*By Metrorail:
Judiciary Square-Red Line
Gallery Place-Chinatown
Red, Green and
Yellow Lines*

*A District of Columbia,
Maryland and Virginia
Transit Partnership*

Report by Riders' Advisory Council (RAC):

Ms. Iacomini referred to the RAC report submitted to the Board. Ms. Kelsi Bracmort was elected the RAC's First Vice-Chair and Mr. Patrick Sheehan was elected Second Vice-Chair. Ms. Iacomini introduced herself and stated that some of the areas in which she believed the RAC might be helpful are in the development of a customer expectation plan and performance measures, the transition to increased SmarTrip® usage, passenger communications issues, studies such as for the 30s Line bus service, and input on railcar design.

Public Comment Period:

Two persons spoke during the public comment period conducted at this meeting:

1. Mr. Michael Carrington referred the Board to a letter he submitted describing an incident in which his girlfriend was confronted by two Metro police officers for the non-payment of a fare when the fare machine did not read her SmarTrip® card. Mr. Zimmerman requested a report on the incident.
2. Ms. Elizabeth Orlan referred the Board to a letter she submitted on behalf of 11 area universities requesting that WMATA support a college student fare discount.

Report by Chair:

On behalf of the Board, Ms. Hewlett recognized former Board members Ray Briscuso and Charles Deegan for their service to WMATA. She then administered the oath of office to Mr. Jeffrey McKay as an Alternate Director for Virginia and Mrs. Catherine Hudgins as a Principal Director for Virginia.

Report by General Manager:

Mr. Catoe recognized Mr. Robert Johnson, a mechanic with WMATA for over 26 years, who, in addition to his regular duties, distributes maps and directions to customers ensuring they have a smooth trip. Mr. Johnson is so active on the platforms that some have mistaken him for a station manager. Mr. Catoe stated that Mr. Johnson's attention to customer service is an example of what Metro employees can and will accomplish over the coming years.

He then stated that at a hearing earlier in the day he and Mr. Zimmerman assured the FTA Administrator regarding WMATA's ability to operate the Dulles system. On January 23, 2008, the National Transportation Safety Board held hearings on the accidents that took the lives of WMATA employees in 2006. Mr. Catoe stated that

in response to these deaths, WMATA has instituted more than a dozen new procedures to prevent future accidents and has asked to be the first transit agency in the country to participate in a Federal Transit Administration track walker safety pilot program. He also stated that the first half of the platform structural rehabilitation work on the Red Line bridge at the Metro Center station went very well.

Mrs. Hudgins asked what Mr. Catoe's response was to the FTA panel's question of whether or not WMATA was prepared to take on the Dulles extension from both a cost and operations standpoint. Mr. Catoe said he reiterated the importance of the project and assured the congressional delegation of WMATA's financial capacity from an operational and capital standpoint. Mr. Zimmerman reiterated that WMATA, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the Airports Authority are ready for the Dulles extension project.

Report by Customer Service, Operations and Safety Committee

Mr. Benjamin declined to refer the Board to the report by the Customer Service, Operations and Safety Committee.

Report by Finance, Administration and Oversight Committee

A. Request to Change the Process for Selecting External Auditing Services

Mr. Graham referred the Board to the request for approval of a resolution to allow the Office of Inspector General to procure and recommend to the Finance, Administration and Oversight Committee the external auditing firm to conduct the financial statement and Single Audit Act audits.

Mr. Graham moved, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, approval of this action. This motion was unanimously approved.

Ayes: 6 – Ms. Hewlett, Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Graham, Mr. Benjamin, Mrs. Hudgins and Mr. Moneme

A copy of the approved Resolution (2008-01) has been made a part of the official file.

Mr. Graham reported that the General Manager's proposed FY09 operating budget with revenues of \$789 million, expenses of \$1.325 billion, and a jurisdictional subsidy of \$536 million; and the proposed FY09 capital budget totaling \$444.6 million were discussed as information items. Also discussed were the FY08 Monthly Financial Report for October 2007.

Report by Planning, Development and Real Estate Committee

A. Silver Spring Transit Center (Approval of Amended Station Plan and Memorandum of Understanding)

Mr. Zimmerman referred the Board to the request for approval of a resolution on the amendment of the Silver Spring General Plans and the related Memorandum of Understanding with the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission and Montgomery County, Maryland.

Mr. Zimmerman moved, seconded by Mr. Benjamin, approval of this resolution. This motion was unanimously approved.

Ayes: 6 – Ms. Hewlett, Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Graham, Mr. Benjamin, Mrs. Hudgins and Mr. Moneme

A copy of the approved Resolution (2008-02) has been made a part of the official file.

Mr. Zimmerman reported that committee members agreed to move consideration of the Joint Development Guidelines to the February 2008 Planning, Development and Real Estate Committee meeting and that the 7000 Series Railcar Report was discussed as an information item.

Administrative Actions

Other Items

1. Ratification of Free SmarTrip® Bus Rides

Approval ratifying the General Manager's action to provide free rides on Metrobus for SmarTrip® customers beginning at opening of service on Sunday, January 13, 2008 until noon on Monday, January 14, 2008.

Mr. Benjamin moved, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, approval of the ratification. This motion was unanimously approved.

Ayes: 6 – Ms. Hewlett, Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Graham, Mr. Benjamin, Mrs. Hudgins and Mr. Moneme

A copy of the approved Resolution (2008-03) has been made a part of the official file.

2. Approval of Changes to Fare Structure

Approval of a resolution clarifying Resolution 2007-47, adopted by the Board on December 13, 2007, revising the Authority's fare structure.

Mr. Graham moved, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, approval of the motion. This motion was unanimously approved.

Ayes: 6 – Ms. Hewlett, Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Graham, Mr. Benjamin, Mrs. Hudgins and Mr. Moneme

A copy of the approved Resolution (2008-04) has been made a part of the official file.

Remarks of Outgoing Chair:

Ms. Hewlett thanked fellow Board members and WMATA staff for the help she received as Board Chair during her first year on the Board. She noted the challenges faced throughout the past year as well as positive initiatives such as the safety improvement program and improvements to MetroAccess service.

Election of Officers

Ms. Hewlett called for nominations for the Officers of the Board for 2008.

Mrs. Hudgins nominated Mr. Zimmerman as Chairman of the Board for 2008. Mr. Graham seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Ayes: 6 – Ms. Hewlett, Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Graham, Mr. Benjamin, Mrs. Hudgins and Mr. Moneme

Mr. Moneme nominated Mr. Graham as Vice Chair of the Board for 2008. Mr. Benjamin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Ayes: 6 – Ms. Hewlett, Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Graham, Mr. Benjamin, Mrs. Hudgins and Mr. Moneme

Ms. Hewlett nominated Mr. Benjamin as Second Vice Chair of the Board for 2008. Mr. Zimmerman seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Ayes: 6 – Ms. Hewlett, Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Graham, Mr. Benjamin, Mrs. Hudgins and Mr. Moneme

Mr. Zimmerman recognized Ms. Hewlett for her service as Board Chair and spoke briefly regarding WMATA's transition to a goal-oriented, performance-driven organization in the coming year.

Report by D.C.: None

Report by WSTC: None

Report by NVTC: None

Adjournment:

Mr. Zimmerman moved, seconded by Ms. Hewlett, that the Board meet in Executive Session immediately following the meeting to discuss labor and personnel issues. This motion was unanimously approved.

Ayes: 6 – Ms. Hewlett, Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Graham, Mr. Benjamin, Mrs. Hudgins and Mr. Moneme

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.



Leen'da Chambliss, Acting Board Secretary