

Minutes
Finance, Administration and Oversight Committee
September 11, 2008

Mr. Euille called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. Present were:

Committee Members

Mr. William D. Euille, Vice Chair
Mr. Jim Graham
Ms. Catherine Hudgins
Ms. Elizabeth Hewlett
Mr. Gordon Linton
Mr. Jeff McKay

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Minutes

The minutes of July 10, 2008 were approved as submitted.

Action Items

A. Amend the FY2009 Budget to Extend Experimental Metrobus Route N22 Service by Six Months to March 2009; and Authorize Public Hearings to Discontinue Routes N22 and 98

Staff requested Board approval to amend the FY2009 budget to extend experimental Metrobus route N22 by six months through March 2009. In March 2008, new evening and weekend service was implemented for a six-month experimental period in conjunction with the opening of Nationals Park. The District of Columbia assumed the full cost of the additional service. The District desires to extend the evening and weekend service another six months until it replaces this regional route with DC Circulator service.

The District has also advised WMATA that it intends to transfer non-regional route 98 to the DC Circulator effective March 2009. Therefore, staff requested approval to authorize a public hearing to discontinue Metrobus service on routes N22 and 98.

Mr. Linton moved approval, Mr. Graham seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Information Items

A. FY2008 Monthly Financial Report (June 2008)

Mr. Harcum reviewed the June 2008 financial report and stated that through the end of June the un-audited actual financial results were \$13 million favorable when compared to budget. Revenues for the year were approximately one percent higher than budget and expenses were approximately one percent under budget. In accordance with Board policy, an amount up to one percent of the annual budget will be set aside in an operating reserve. Mr. Linton requested a review of the effectiveness of WMATA's Wellness Program.

Mr. Harcum also reviewed Metrorail, Metrobus and MetroAccess ridership for FY2008. Metrorail ridership grew almost four percent when compared to FY2007, fueled partly by dramatic increases in evening and weekend ridership. Bus ridership for the year grew one percent over the previous year, while MetroAccess ridership grew 16 percent. Mr. Graham requested a review of late night ridership trends.

B. FY2010 Budget Review Schedule

Staff presented a timeline for the development, review and approval of the General Manager's FY2010 budget. Mr. Euille noted that the current increases in ridership and revenue should be reflected in the FY2010 budget projections and requested that staff keep the jurisdictions abreast of financial developments. Mr. Catoe stated that as part of the FY2010 budget process he will be recommending changes and reductions in all areas and functions in the Authority that are not critical for operation or safety concerns.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.