

**RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
Cisco WebEX Conference  
Minutes of Wednesday, May 19, 2021  
1:30 p.m.

**Board Members**

**Present:**

Normand Benoit, Board Chair; Joshua Brumberger, Board Vice Chair; Michelle Wilcox, Board Treasurer; Marcy Reyes; Robert Kells; and Director Peter Alviti.

**Absent:**

Maureen Martin, Board Secretary; and Jose Rosario.

**Also Present:**

Scott Avedisian, Chief Executive Officer; Christopher Fragomeni, Board Counsel; Elizabeth Silvestre, Executive Assistant; Roy Rivers, Paralegal; members of RIPTA's staff; and members of the public.

**Call to order:**

Mr. Benoit called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m., indicating that a quorum was present.

**Agenda Item 1:**

**To Consider for Approval the Draft regular Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2021 and Draft Executive Meeting Minutes of August 19, 2020 and April 21, 2021.**

Mr. Kells makes a motion to approve the draft public session meeting minutes of March 17, 2021. Ms. Reyes seconds, and a motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, and Ms. Wilcox. Mr. Brumberger abstained.

Director Alviti entered the meeting.

Ms. Wilcox makes a motion to approve the draft executive session meeting minutes of April 21, 2021. Mr. Kells seconds and a motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Ms. Reyes, and Mr. Alviti. Mr. Brumberger abstained.

Ms. Wilcox makes a motion to approve the draft executive session meeting minutes of April 21, 2021. Mr. Kells seconds and a motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, and Ms. Reyes. Mr. Brumberger and Director Alviti abstained.

**Agenda Item 2:**      **Public Comment.**

Barry Schiller thanks the Board for Resolution of Congratulations for Grow Smart Award. Comments on bus air conditioning and keeping windows open; RIPTA's work on West Bay Route reconstruction; Transportation Climate Initiative Bills; Electric Buses; and rebuilding ridership.

**Agenda Item 3:**      **CEO Report.**

Mr. Avedisian provides a monthly update on finances; provides an update to the Transportation to Vaccination program; discusses the Fall River Event; and the Government Finance Officers Association Award.

**Agenda Item 4:**      **Board resolution of Congratulations.**

The Board presents a resolution of congratulations to Barry Schiller for receiving an award from Grow Smart Rhode Island as one of this year's Outstanding Smart Growth Leaders.

Mr. Brumberger makes a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Kells seconds, and a motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Ms. Wilcox, Ms. Reyes, and Director Alviti.

**Agenda Item 5:**      **Request for Approval of Financing Resolution.**

Christopher Durand, Executive Director of Finance of RIPTA, presents a request to renew the line of credit with Webster Bank.

Mr. Kells makes a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Brumberger seconds, and a motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Ms. Wilcox, Ms. Reyes, and Director Alviti.

**Agenda Item 6:**      **Request for Approval of Tire Leasing Contract.**

John Chadwick, Director of Procurement and Inventory, presents a request to award a five-year contract to Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations to provide tire leasing services to RIPTA.

Mr. Brumberger makes a motion to approve the request. Mr. Kells seconds, and a motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Ms. Wilcox, Ms. Reyes, and Director Alviti.

**Agenda Item 7:**      **Request for Approval of Paratransit Van Purchases.**

John Chadwick, Director of Procurement and Inventory, presents a request to award a contract to DATTCO, Inc. to provide Paratransit and Flex Van purchasing by RIPTA.

Ms. Wilcox makes a motion to approve the request. Mr. Kells seconds, and a motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Mr. Brumberger, Ms. Reyes, and Director Alviti.

**Agenda Item 8:**      **Request for Approval of Renewed Printing Contract.**

Greg Nordin, Chief of Strategic Planning, presents a request to award the first annual renewal option with Cogen's Inc. to provide printing services to RIPTA.

Ms. Wilcox makes a motion to approve the request. Mr. Kells seconds, and a motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Mr. Brumberger, Ms. Reyes, and Director Alviti.

**Agenda Item 9:**      **Request for Approval of Laptops Purchase.**

Gary Jarvis, Chief Technology Officer, and Matthew Salisbury, Executive Director of Information Technology, present a request to purchase replacement hybrid mobile computer equipment and vehicle mounting hardware for Street Supervision staff.

Mr. Brumberger makes a motion to approve the request. Ms. Wilcox seconds, and a motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Mr. Kells, Ms. Reyes, and Director Alviti.

**Agenda Item 10:**      **Executive Session to consider, discuss and act upon such matters as may be closed to the public pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a)(2) regarding an extension of an employment contract.\***

Upon motion by Mr. Kells, which was seconded by Ms. Wilcox the following vote was adopted and passed with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Mr. Brumberger, Ms. Reyes, and Director Alviti:

**Voted:**      To enter into Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws section §42-46-5(a)(2) to discuss an extension of an employment contract.

**The Board, Staff and Counsel entered into Executive Session at 2:20 p.m.**

**The Board, Staff and Counsel entered into Public Session at 2:48 p.m.**

Attorney Fragomeni reports that two votes were taken during Executive Session. The first, to approve an employment contract extension and the second to adjourn the Executive Session.

**Agenda Item 11:**      **Adjournment. 2:49 p.m.**

Ms. Wilcox moves to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Reyes seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit, Mr. Brumberger, Mr. Kells, and Director Alviti.

Respectfully submitted,

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Maureen Martin, Secretary