



**RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Transportation Conference Room  
269 Melrose Street, Providence  
Minutes of Wednesday, August 18, 2021  
1:30 p.m.

**Members Present:** Normand Benoit, Board Chair; Maureen Martin, Secretary; Peter Alviti; and Robert Kells.

**Absent Members:** Josh Brumberger, Board Vice Chair; Michelle Wilcox, Board Treasurer; Marcy Reyes; and Jose Rosario.

**Also Present:** Scott Avedisian, CEO; Christopher Fragomeni, Board Counsel; Courtney Marciano, Executive Officer; members of RIPTA's staff; and members of the public.

**Call to Order:** Mr. Benoit called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., indicating that quorum was present.

**Agenda Item 1:** **To Consider for Approval the Draft Regular Meeting Minutes of the July 21, 2021.**

Mr. Benoit makes a motion to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2021 meeting. Mr. Kells seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Ms. Martin and Mr. Alviti.

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

- 1) Randall Rose: Would like to see the requirement to sign up for public comment prior a meeting be removed and revert back to the previous rule which did not require signing up.

**Agenda Item 3:** **Request for Approval for New Contract to Begin Engineering and Design of Bus Tunnel Project**

James Canty, Project Manager of RIPTA, presents the request to approve the contract to begin the engineering and design of the bus tunnel project.

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

**Agenda Item 4:** **Request for Approval of CARES Act Plan 5<sup>th</sup> Application Resolution**

Chris Durand, Director of Finance of RIPTA, presents the request for funding allocation of the

CARES Act Plan.

Mr. Benoit makes a motion to amend section one by adding the additional language: "... The Board hereby ratifies the prior actions of the CEO and the Executive Director of Finance and Budget consistent with this resolution." Mr. Alviti seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Ms. Martin and Mr. Kells.

**Agenda Item 5:      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) ... and to consider legal claims.**

Upon motion by Mr. Benoit, which was seconded by Ms. Martin, the following vote was adopted and passed with favorable votes by Mr. Alviti and Mr. Kells.

**Voted:** To enter into Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws section §42-46-5(a)(2) to pending litigation and legal claims.

**The Board, staff, and counsel entered into executive session at 01:45 p.m.**

**The Board, staff, and counsel entered public session at 03:02 p.m.**

Attorney Fragomeni reports out that pursuant to R.I. Gen. laws § 42-46-4(b), the Board unanimously voted to keep all votes taken in Executive Session, except for the vote to adjourn executive session, sealed so as to not jeopardize any strategy or negotiation.

Mr. Benoit makes a motion to seal the minutes of the executive session. Mr. Alviti seconds and the motion passes with favorable votes by Ms. Martin and Mr. Kells.

**Agenda Item 6:      Change Order #10 – DTC Project Management for WSP**

Greg Nordin, Chief of Strategic Advancement of RIPTA, presents the request for Change Order #10.

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

**Agenda Item 10:      Adjournment 3:11 p.m.**

Ms. Martin makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Alviti seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Benoit and Mr. Kells.

Respectfully submitted,

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Maureen Martin, Secretary