



**Board of Directors
Board Room
269 Melrose Street, Providence, RI
Minutes of Wednesday, April 13, 2022 Meeting
1:30 p.m.**

Members Present: Normand Benoit, Board Chair; Robert Kells, Board Vice Chair; Michelle Wilcox, Board Treasurer; Maureen Martin, Board Secretary

Absent Members: Marcy Reyes; Peter Alviti, and Jose Rosario.

Also Present: Scott Avedisian, CEO; Christopher Fragomeni, Esq., Board Counsel; Courtney Marciano, Senior Executive Officer; Chris Durand, Chief Financial Officer; Jamie Pereira, Chief of Security; Kathy Nadeau, Chief of Human Resources; members of RIPTA's staff; and members of the public.

Call to Order: Mr. Benoit called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m., indicating that quorum was present.

Agenda Item 1: **To Consider for Approval the Draft Regular Meeting Minutes of the March 16, 2021**

Ms. Martin makes a motion to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2022 meeting. Ms. Wilcox seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Kells and Mr. Benoit.

Agenda Item 2: **Public Comment**

- 1.) Barry Schiller: Addressed transportation and climate change.
 - a. Believes transportation has the ability to help with climate change.
 - b. He would like to a larger push to see ridership improve, which he believes will also help with climate issues.
 - c. Hopes that Earth Day helps addresses climate issues.
- 2.) John Flaherty: From GrowSmart RI.
 - a. Thanked RIPTA for their participation in Transit Equity Day.
 - b. Addresses two bills currently at the State House:
 - i. House Bill 7851: investing more in transit will help reduce fuel emissions.
 - ii. House Bill: 8112: Bond referendum set to invest in RI's Transit Master Plan.

- iii. Would also like to see the Rosa Parks statue come to fruition.
- 3.) Grant Dulgarian: Attended service improvements/enhancements meeting.
- a. Shocked that the Rt. 49 bus is set to be eliminated.
 - b. Challenge RIPTA staff to push to get more ridership on the Rt49 route.
 - c. Does not agree with Kennedy Plaza moving to Dorrance Street.
 - d. IT on the scrolling data boards aren't up-to-date. Clocks are wrong, bus timing is off. Someone needs to take a look. Three panels in KP's scrolling board are also not functioning.

Agenda Item 3: CEO Report

- Mr. Avedisian reviews the new format and layout of the updated CEO report. Topics included in his update were:
 - 1. RIPTA At a Glance
 - 2. RIPTA In The News
 - 3. Commendations

Agenda Item 4: Request for Approval of Election of Board of Directors Officials

Mr. Benoit asks board members if they have any opinions or recommendations for changing board roles. No members have any suggestions.

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

Agenda Item 5: Request for Approval of Updated Board of Directors Meeting Dates for May, July and August 2022.

Item was covered in the CEO report.

No vote needed.

Agenda Item 6: Request for Contract Approval to Vector Media for Bus and Shelter Advertising.

Dan Bannister, Marketing Manager for RIPTA, presents the request.

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

Agenda Item 7: Update: Marketing Initiatives Overview.

Item was held.

Agenda Item 8: Request for Approval CARES Act Plan – 6th Application Resolution.

Chris Durand, Chief of Finance for RIPTA, presents the request.

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

Agenda Item 9: Request for Approval for Cyber Liability Insurance Policy.

James O'Brien, Claims Director for RIPTA, present the request.

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

Agenda Item 10: Request for Approval for Umbrella Liability Insurance Policy.

Item was held.

Agenda Item 11: Request for Approval for Paratransit Fueling Station Construction.

James Canty, Director of Project Management for RIPTA, and Matt Quidder, Project Manager for RIPTA, present the request.

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

Agenda Item 12: Request for Approval for Electric Bus Depot Charger Installation to Nolin Electric, Inc. for 269 Melrose Street (transportation Building).

Maribeth Pacillo, Project Manager for RIPTA, presents the request.

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

Agenda Item 13: Request for Approval for Service Changes/Enhancements for Summer 2022.

Ed Brown, Director of Service Planning and Scheduling for RIPTA, presents the request.

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

Agenda Item 14: 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 claims.

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

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

The Board, staff, and counsel entered into executive session at 2:36 p.m.

The Board, staff, and counsel entered public session at 03:11 p.m.

Attorney Fragomeni reports out that only a vote to adjourn executive session was taken.

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

Agenda Item 15: Adjournment – 3:13 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Martin, Secretary