

**Georgia Regional Transportation Authority  
245 Peachtree Center Avenue, NE, Suite 900  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-1223**

**GRTA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
April 8, 2009**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sonny Deriso, Chairman  
Caric Martin  
Jeanie Thomas  
Alton Knight  
J. T. Williams  
Al Nash  
Dwight Evans  
Charlotte Nash  
Narender Reddy  
John Sibley  
Bob Voyles  
Lara Hodgson  
Jerry Bowman  
James Stephenson

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mike Byrd

All notice having been duly given, the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority Board/Governor's Development Council Board was held at the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority office, 245 Peachtree Center Avenue, Suite 900, Atlanta, Georgia.

Sonny Deriso called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 11, 2009 MEETING**

Minutes for the meeting of March 11, 2009 were reviewed and approved as circulated.

**APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL 8, 2009 MEETING**

The agenda for the April 8, 2009 meeting has been circulated. The agenda was approved as circulated.

**Executive Director Report**

**Legislative Update**

Mr. Anderson reported that the legislative update would be dispensed with. A discussion was held at the lunch hour.

**Move Team Update**

Todd Long reported that the move team has been diligently working. The move will take place on April 17. Mr. Long stated that the goal is to have a seamless transition.

**TAQC Committee Report**

Charlotte Nash reported that there were two new members from Newton and Paulding County. Many of the topics at TAQC had been covered by the reports presented at the Board committee meetings. The proposed truck route study was discussed by ARC at the meeting, and planning for that area will be addressed.

### **ELUC Committee Report**

Narender Reddy reported that a regional snapshot was presented and 18,000 acres of agricultural and forest land were converted to mainly residential uses. Mr. Reddy stated that DRI processing is down and that the local governments still have the power to do what they wish because ARC cannot dictate to local governments.

### **Employee Recognition**

Mr. Anderson announced that Dave Cassell has been selected by the Governor's office to receive an award for customer service. The recognition ceremony is April 23. The other GRTA employee nominated for the award was Roger Henze.

### **Land Development Committee Report**

Bob Voyles reported that the number of DRIs continues to dwindle. A customer survey will be conducted in June. The regional access management initiative meeting will be held to approve policies. Land Use is looking at a 2040 kickoff plan. A presentation was given by the Livable Coalition Communities, and each member was presented with the publication.

### **Operations and Finance Committee**

Alton Knight reported that the monthly ridership figures are down about 10%. The figures may have been aggressive due to gas prices last year. Ridership is up approximately 20% from last year. Revenues are on point, and expenses are better than goal. The recovery ratio is 37.1%.

### **Monthly Financial Report**

Fund balance remains sound. Operating expenses will be changed going forward and adjusted by the end of the fiscal year. State health benefits was overstated, and personal services was over budgeted.

### **Stimulus Project Grants Resolution**

#### **Formal Action**

Four counties were unable to use funds and ARC directed that the funds be distributed to GRTA for park and ride maintenance. A motion was made that the Board adopt Resolution 09-04-01 Authorizing The Filing Of Applications, Annual Certifications And Assurances, And The Execution Of Grant And Cooperative Agreements With The Federal Transit Administration For Federal Transportation Assistance Administered By The Federal Transit Administration In Connection With The American Reinvestment And Recovery Act to allow the Executive Director and the Deputy Director be authorized to submit and execute the grant applications on behalf of GRTA. As a Committee recommendation no second was required. The motion passed unanimously.

### **General Engineering Service Contract Approval**

#### **Formal Action**

There was a discussion about the General Engineering Services Contract. The Committee recommendation authorized the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a contract not to exceed \$5,000,000 for five years. Mr. Stephenson raised the issue of whether there should be more than one contract, assuming there was more than one qualified contractor. There was considerable discussion and consensus that since the contracts are task order based it would give more flexibility and result in better deliverables. No contractor would be guaranteed a task order. Mr. Stephenson said that he made the same motion for the last GEC. The Committee Chair allowed a substitute in place of the recommendation. A motion was made by Mr. Stephenson that the Board authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute up to three GEC contracts with qualified vendors, each contract in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 and for a period of five years. The motion seconded by Charlotte Nash. The vote was unanimous.

### **Projects and Planning Committee Report**

J. T. Williams reported that the development of the 2040 plan will be ready for action in approximately two years. Rob Goodwin reported in the non-attainment areas in metro-Atlanta have moved up to 20 counties. A TIP and stimulus update was provided by Kirk Fjelstul, ARC and GDOT. A TIP amendment will be required, and the final consideration will be in June. A framework agreement was presented for passenger rail in downtown Atlanta.

### **Formal Action**

A framework agreement for passenger rail was presented to the Board. The agreement represents an agreement of all metro Atlanta planning parties to cooperate in future planning efforts for rail lines. As a Committee recommendation no second was required. The motion passed unanimously.

A Smart Corridor report was given by Valentin Vulov with information regarding improve traffic signal operations.

Sonny Deriso adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

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**Walter Deriso, Chairman**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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**Kirk R Fjelstul, Chief Counsel**

**ATTEST:**

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**Donna Canterbury, Recording Secretary**