

**Georgia Regional Transportation Authority  
245 Peachtree Center Avenue, NE, Suite 800  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-1223**

**GRTA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
February 10, 2010**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Sonny Deriso, Chairman  
Alton Knight  
J. T. Williams  
Al Nash  
John Sibley  
Narender Reddy  
Caric Martin  
Charlotte Nash  
Jerry Bowman  
Mike Byrd  
Lara Hodgson  
Dwight Evans

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

James Stephenson  
Bob Voyles

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 800, Atlanta, Georgia.

Sonny Deriso called the meeting to order at 1:42 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 10, 2010 MEETING**

Minutes for the meeting of February 10, 2010 were reviewed and approved as circulated.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA FOR THE MARCH 10, 2010 MEETING**

The agenda for the March 10, 2010 meeting agenda was reviewed and approved as circulated.

**Public Comment**

There was no request for public comment.

**Executive Director's Report**

The construction program and service delivery continues. The Xpress team has a solid track record. All of the work for the last 18 to 20 months in the planning arena continues to compliment the community, and implementation of IT3 continues.

**Faithful Service Award**

Dick Anderson, Executive Director, presented a fifteen year service award to Kim Bass. Ms. Bass started her government career at Perimeter College. She was one of the first people hired at GRTA and became the front door. Ms. Bass continued in her career and was promoted to Administrative Assistant for the Xpress team. Mr. Ritchey added that Kim's smile translates through the telephone, and turns negative calls into a positive experience.

**ARC Committee Report**

**TAQC**

Charlotte Nash presented the TAQC report. Ms. Nash stated that Tad Leithead chaired the meeting and would be leaving that position, and Mr. Leithead will be leaving to chair ARC. David Haynes gave a report on updated TIP information and the status of AARA projects. Jane Hayse reported on the 2040 update, and Todd Long gave a presentation on the strategic plan.

## **ELUC**

Narender Reddy reported that Dan Reuter presented a draft of the DCA Regional Work Program. Last year, ARC reviewed 10 DRI's. In comparison, ARC reviewed 44 DRI's in 2008 and over 70 DRI's in 2007. Several jurisdictions saw no DRI activity last year. The City of Atlanta had the greatest drop from 19 DRI reviews in 2008 to one DRI review in 2009. The total number of residential units reviewed under DRI also declined from 23,629 units in 2008 to 1,729 units in 2009. The LCI Breaking Ground Report revealed that approximately \$135 million is currently allocated for the preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition, and construction of 82 projects found in 48 LCI communities.

## **Land Development Committee Report**

Sonny Deriso reported that Bob Voyles was absent, and in his absence Mr. Deriso would give the report. The DRI Monthly Status Report reflects the same down trend as discussed in the ELUC report by Narender Reddy. Ted Tarantino from MARTA gave a presentation on MARTA's TOD Guidelines. A specific question to Mr. Tarantino was whether MARTA would be selling land around MARTA stations or long term leasing. Julie McQueen gave the DRI Annual Report. Mr. Deriso reported that the total number of DRIs was down significantly. Mixed use is at the forefront of development.

## **Operations and Finance Committee Report**

Alton Knight reported that the Monthly Operations Report showed that Xpress ridership is slightly down. Considering the economic conditions and unemployment, the decrease could attributed to those factors. Operations are good and continuing to thrive. Mark Peoples gave the monthly financial report. The cash position and financials are strong. A receivable on the balance sheet has now been collected and converted to cash. The fund balance is strong, and is slightly decreased due to payment of the McKinsey invoice. The Xpress Construction Report was presented by Crew Heimer. Progress is being made on all the park and ride lots. Weather conditions have slowed progress in some areas. Modern construction techniques that are green in nature are being used in many lots.

## **Convergent For Travel Info And Security Systems**

A sixth amendment needed to be added to the Convergent contract to add funds for security equipment at park and ride stations and for bus signage.

## **Formal Action**

A recommendation was made to authorize the Board Chair and Executive Director to execute Amendment #6 to GRTA Contract No. 07-010 with Convergent Technologies, LLC to increase the authorized total contract amount by \$310,000 for an amended total of \$2,010,000. As a Committee recommendation no second was required. The motion passed unanimously.

## **C Tran**

An intergovernmental agreement between Clayton County and GRTA was recommended by the committee to authorize three new Xpress routes to Clayton County

## **Formal Action**

A recommendation was made that contingent upon FTA and Clayton County approval, that the Executive Director be authorized to negotiate and execute an intergovernmental agreement between Clayton County and GRTA for three new Xpress routes using existing C-Tran appropriations, existing C-Tran grants, or other funds provided by Clayton County. As a Committee recommendation no second was required. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Award Xpress Coach Contract**

An action by the board was requested action to authorize the Executive Director to negotiate an agreement for the purchase of up to 21 new Xpress coaches from Motor Coach Industries, Inc. (MCI) through an existing state contract between MCI and the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). The price to be paid for each MCI coach is \$477,877.50. The cost of 21 MCI coaches would be \$10,035,427.50. The coaches will be paid for with a combination of FTA grant and State GO Bond funds.

### **Formal Action**

A recommendation was made for the Executive Director to be authorized to negotiate and execute a purchase agreement with Motor Coach Industries, Inc. for up to 21 new Xpress coaches in an amount not to exceed \$10,035,427.50 utilizing the current GDOT contract with Motor Coach Industries. As a Committee recommendation no second was required. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Emory Bus Transfer**

A resolution to transfer the federal interest in five electric buses purchased for Emory University to the Chattanooga Area Regional Transportation Authority (CARTA).

### **Formal Action**

A recommendation was made approve the resolution which authorizes the Executive Director to send a letter to the Federal Transit Administration transferring the five buses to CARTA. As a Committee recommendation no second was required. The motion passed unanimously.

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

J. T. Williams reported that the air quality report was given for November, December and January. No unhealthy days were reported. For the entire year of 2009 there were only two days with poor air quality. David Haynes presented a report on Breaking Ground. Jane Hayse from ARC gave a report on the timetable and content of preparing for 2040. The deadline is July of 2011. A possible amendment #8 to the TIP may not be required, but TIP #9 will be brought to the board. Action will on TIP #9 will be presented to the Board in March and possibly TIP #8 in the March meeting. A discussion of the TIP amendments was held among the Board members. John Sibley request that staff provide an explanation of TIP #8 and 9.

### **New Business**

Sonny Deriso mentioned that there was a vacancy on the Board, and that recommendations were welcomed to fill the position.

Sonny Deriso adjourned the meeting at 2:15 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**