

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY

March 19, 2020

A Special meeting of the MARTA Board of Directors was held on Thursday, March 29, 2020 at 10:06 a.m. via teleconference 1-866-432-9903, Atlanta, Georgia.

Board Members Present

Roberta Abdul-Salaam
Robert L. Ashe III
Jim Durrett
Roderick E. Edmond
William F. Floyd
Roderick A. Frierson
Ryan C. Glover
Jerry Griffin
Freda B. Hardage
Alicia M. Ivey
John 'Al' Pond
Rita Scott
Christopher Tomlinson*
W. Thomas Worthy

MARTA officials in attendance were: General Manager/CEO Jeffrey A. Parker; Chief of Staff Melissa Mullinax, Chief Counsel Elizabeth O'Neill.

Public Comment (via email) A copy of all emails are attached to and made part of the official record copy of these minutes)

Mr. Reggie White. Conveyed CIGNA's continued support of MARTA employees through the existing national emergency (Coronavirus).

Ms. Shameka Respress. Out of concern for MARTA bus operators, Ms. Respress submitted suggestions to keep operators safe, i.e., equip them with Lysol, gloves and masks; add protective shields to every bus; place hand sanitizer dispensers on every bus; place sanitizing wipes on every bus.

* Christopher S. Tomlinson is Executive Director of Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) and is therefore a non-voting member of the MARTA Board of Directors

**Commentary from the General Manager/CEO Jeffrey A. Parker –
Update on Coronavirus**

Management have established daily communication with staff, letting employees know we are following the directives of the Center for Disease Control (CDC). We are communicating with the media and informing the public that if they are sick, they should not ride the system. We are following the recommendation of the CDC in cleaning the system. MARTA received and distributed cleaning products to frontline staff. There is sufficient inventory . We are implementing work at home directives. We have instituted a Key Leadership Bifurcation System. The Union asked management to delay the markup and it is now on indefinite hold. We are maintaining communication with the jurisdictions. MARTA is involved in peer discussions. Delta Airlines gave MARTA great information on cleaning the system. We will reduce service levels, if necessary. There is strong consideration for policy to enter through the rear bus door. Management is working out the details to provide a stipend to clean work areas. We are continually assessing impact to revenue.

**Resolution Authorizing Award of a Contract for the Procurement of Group Health,
Wellness, Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance Coverages,
Request for Proposals Number P43938**

Ms. Borrero noted the current contract value is \$477.9M over five years. Upon review by the Source Evaluation Committee (SEC) there were seven final proposers:

- Aflac
- Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield
- CIGNA
- Delta Dental
- Kaiser
- Met Life
- Securian Financial

MARTA is self-insured. We contract with a third-party administrator.

Mrs. Dawkins reviewed the evaluation criteria in detail. At the conclusion of the evaluation the SEC Committee recommended:

- Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield - Medical, Pharmacy, Vision, Stop/Loss, FSA/HAS
- Kaiser – HMO Plan, Pharmacy/Vision, Stop/Loss
- CIGNA – dental;
- Aflac – critical illness
- Securian – life and AD&D

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To alleviate concerns of the Board, Segal was engaged to assess the work of the SEC – a detailed review of medical, pharmacy, vision, stop/loss and FSA/HSA. Seigel concurred with MARTA's SEC Committee.

Mrs. Dawson asked for approval of a 3-year base contract with a two-year option.

Ms. Abdul-Salaam asked about mental health.

Mrs. Dawson said it part of the bundle for health and wellness.

Ms. Scott asked if the new contract would void existing conditions.

Ms. Borrero responded no one would be penalized for pre-existing conditions.

Mrs. Dawkins informed Board members open enrollment would begin April 20 and end in mid-May. Employees will have coverage until June 30th under the existing contract.

Dr. Edmond said he understands the plan is to start negotiations with these companies once approved. He asked what is being negotiated.

Ms. Borrero said it would be claims negotiation. MARTA's Procurement and Legal team will assist as the contract is finalized.

Mr. Worthy asked if claims can be negotiated by April 20th.

Ms. Borrero said yes, it will be a tight deadline. It's important that MARTA avail a third party to help.

Ms. Scott said after concerns were voiced at the Board's last meeting, she reached out to AT&T. They had very positive comments about your negotiations. The Employee Union Advisory Committee were very happy with negotiations. This plan would support them wherever they live in the country.

Dr. Edmond pointed out we are in the midst of a pandemic and preparing to transfer employees to a new plan.

Ms. Borrero stated it is MARTA's obligation and responsibility to do this. Both BCBS and CIGNA are national service providers.

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Mr. Parker stated he shares everyone's concern about maintaining health insurance. Management have really focused on this. This transition is not simple, but we will be successful in implementing it. This will be a complex but successful endeavor.

Dr. Edmond thanked staff for getting the information to the Board, noting there is a lot of information coming to the Board at one time, for example, 11% DBE Goal & Initiative?

Ms. Borrero explained that the DBE compliance was discussed by Ms. Nash at the previous Board meeting. She assured Board members MARTA is 100% in compliance with DBE goals. The percentage associated with DBE's in the presentation are relative to administrative costs.

Ms. Ivey asked if 10% of the contract was being negotiated on the front end and 90% on the back end.

Ms. O'Neill responded it is not a negotiation of 90%. The money will be for provision of service.

On motion by Mr. Frierson seconded by Mr. Durrett, the resolution was approved by a vote of 8 to 4, with 14* members present. A copy of the resolution, **AS APPROVED, IS ATTACHED TO AND MADE PART OF THE OFFICIAL RECORD COPY OF THESE MINUTES.**

Ms. Ivey abstained.

Ms. Abdul-Salaam, Dr. Edmond, Mr. Glover and Mr. Worthy voted no.

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Adjournment

The Special meeting of the MARTA Board of Directors adjourned at 11:04 a.m.